

# **CRJ 204 1700: Criminal Justice and the Urban Community**

**SPRING 2021**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays from 5:30 – 6:45 pm in Zoom**

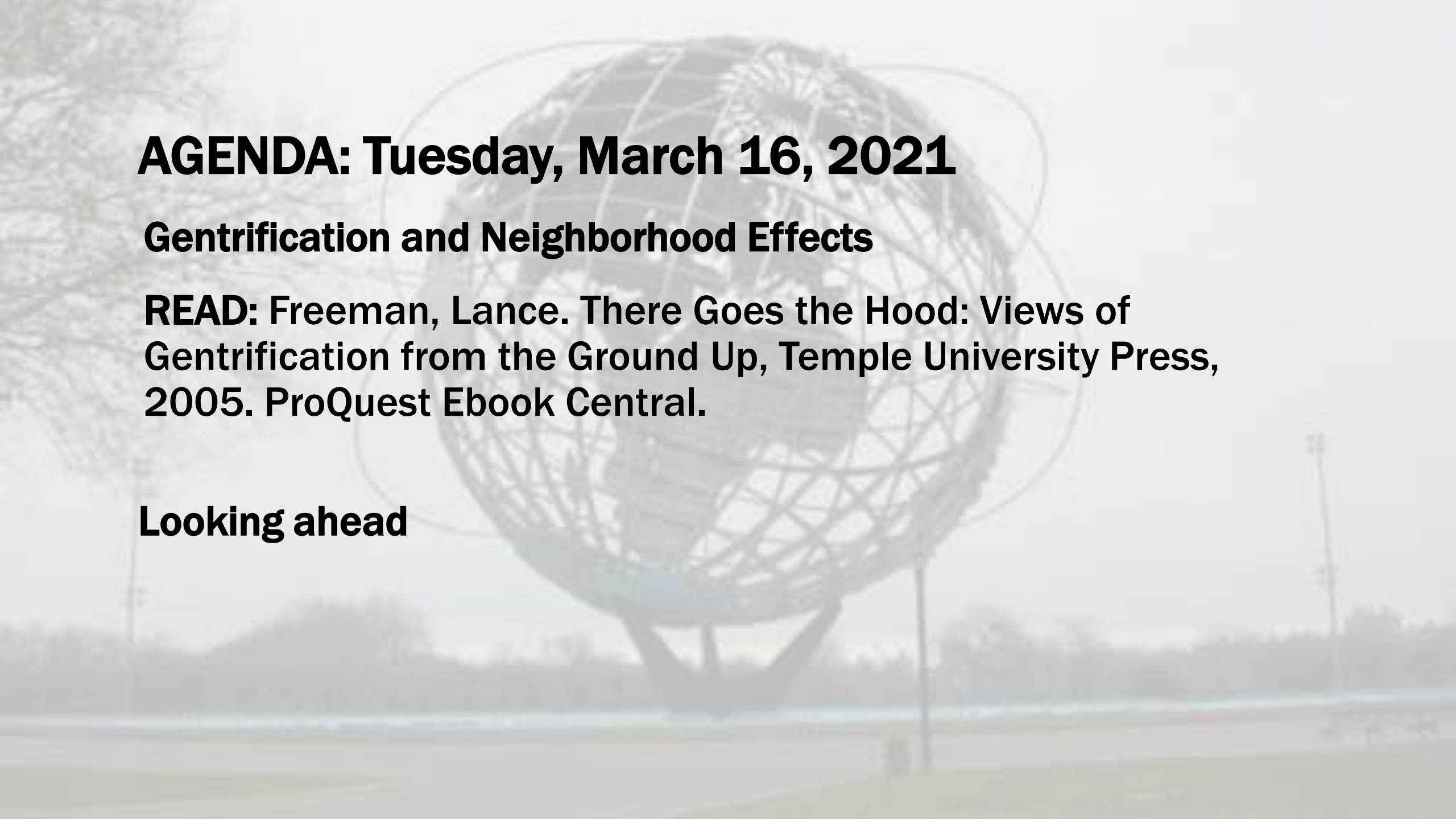
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# **AGENDA: Tuesday, March 16, 2021**

## **Gentrification and Neighborhood Effects**

**READ:** Freeman, Lance. *There Goes the Hood: Views of Gentrification from the Ground Up*, Temple University Press, 2005. ProQuest Ebook Central.

**Looking ahead**



# Looking ahead

<b>Class session 14: Th 3/18</b>	<b>Midterm exam review in Zoom class</b>
<b>Class session 15: T 3/23</b>	<b>Midterm exam review in Zoom class, Part 2</b>  The midterm exam for CRJ 204 0501 will be released on Tuesday, March 23 at 9 pm.  <b>Midterm exam is DUE on Thursday, March 25 by 9 pm.</b>
<b>Class session 16: Th 3/25</b>	<b>Urban inequality - Do Broken Windows lead to more crime?</b>  <b>READ:</b> Sampson, R. J., & Raudenbush, S. W. (2001). <i>Disorder in urban neighborhoods: Does it lead to crime</i> (pp. 1-6). US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice.  <b>Reminder 1: Neighborhood Assignment 2 is due on Tu 4/6</b> <b>Reminder 2: Midterm exam is due at 9 pm tonight</b>

# What is gentrification?

**It is difficult to find one, agreed-upon definition of gentrification. Here are a few:**

- “the transformation of neighborhoods from low value to high value”
- “neighborhoods that start off predominantly occupied by households of relatively low socioeconomic status, and then experience an inflow of higher socioeconomic status households.”
- “a range of neighborhood changes, including rising incomes, changing racial composition, shifting commercial activity, and **displacement** of original residents”
- **For your final paper, use the one from NYC Health:** “One measure that is used in NYC is to determine if a low-income neighborhood (those with the lowest 40% of average household income in 1990) saw higher than median rent growth over the past 20 years.”





Before



After



James and Karla Murray

James and Karla Murray

# Gentrification and criminalization

## 311 QUALITY-OF-LIFE COMPLAINTS | REFERRED TO THE NYPD (2011-2016) \*

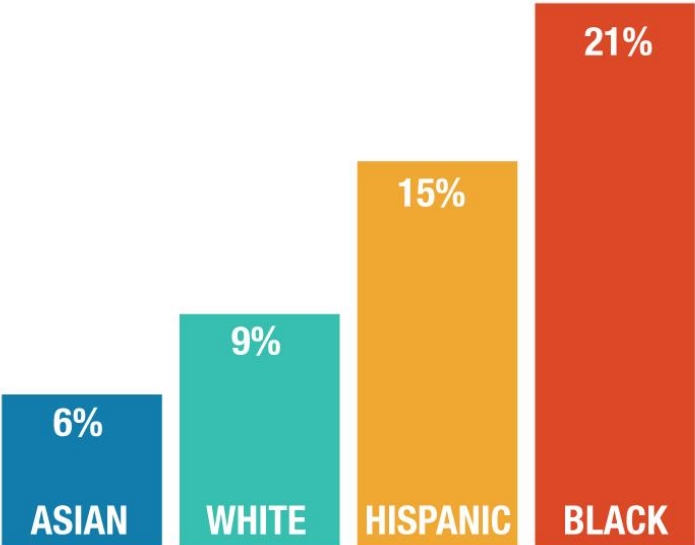


\*Only census tracts with median household income below the citywide average in 2011.



# Detachment from law enforcement

SHARE RESPONDING THAT THEY AVOIDED CONTACTING THE POLICE IN THE LAST YEAR BECAUSE **THEY MADE THEM FEEL LESS SAFE**



# Breakout: What does gentrification bring?

<https://forms.gle/qMWjAoRLo7dqWbS3A>



# Lance Freeman: Neighborhood Effects in a Changing 'Hood

- Harlem and Clinton Hill: both experienced gentrification
- Disinvestment: Financial institutions not making loans, landlords not maintaining buildings, stores closing
- Considering personal interactions between “gentry” and older residents
- William Julius Wilson – the flight of the Black middle-class was destabilizing to ghetto neighborhoods, so they could not withstand economic deprivation
- Everyone agrees: “concentrated poverty leads to deleterious consequences;” in other words, neighborhoods matter
- Policy approach: deconcentrate poverty
- That means either we move lower-income people to higher-income areas, or vice versa (this is gentrification)

# Neighborhood effects

- Peer effects
- Behavioral norms (socialization) and collective efficacy: neighborhood can set norms for behavior, protect its turf from threats, and secure resources for the neighborhood
  - In poorer communities, we see less collective efficacy because “disadvantage breeds cynicism and instability and undermines cohesion”
- Social ties
- Institutional resources

# Neighborhood effects

- **Social ties**
  - **Social capital:** Ties that provide support and help us cope with everyday life (ties that help us get by)
  - **Bridging ties:** Ties that help us get ahead (doesn't need to be intimate to matter)
- **Institutional resources**
  - **Institutions that provide services and amenities to a neighborhood**



## Is this really the solution?



# Class divisions matter

- There may be benefits to adding middle-class residents to a neighborhood, but there are also costs
- Costs: clashes over neighborhood norms, increased police harassment
- Role model thesis is not so realistic and is paternalistic
- Collective efficacy may or not be strengthened in gentrification (more likely if the goal is outside the neighborhood)
- Weak social ties may be more beneficial
- Most likely that gentrification will bring improvements to institutional resources that benefit everyone

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