



Chicago Facts

The Merchandise Mart is the world's largest commercial building and largest wholesale design center.

More than 200 parades take place in Chicago every year.

The Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT), established in 1848, is the world's oldest futures and options exchange.

The Tribune Tower contains fragments of rock and brick from the Alamo, Taj Mahal, Hagia Sophia, Notre-Dame, the Great Wall of China and the Berlin Wall.

Chicago is home to the world's largest population of Poles outside of Warsaw.



More questions? Contact:

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Studies



Contemporary Chicago:
The Interplay of
Economics, Community
and Politics in Urban
Development

Term 3
2009-2010

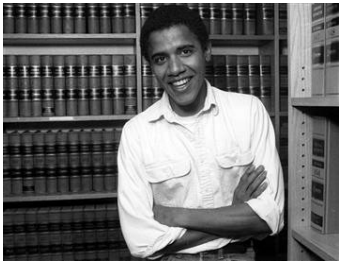


A global business center...

The work of community organizers



from Alinsky to Obama...



... and issues of gentrification and community in Pilsen.

Course Description

This course, taught by Les Garner and Mike Conklin, will focus on the relationship between economics, community and politics in the development of contemporary Chicago, examining the interplay of these three areas from the 1950s to today.

This course will examine:

- The evolution of Chicago into a global business community.
- The evolution of neighborhoods and the evolution of community action and community organizing into asset-based community development, reflected in the work of Saul Alinsky and Barack Obama.
- The evolution of ward politics, as reflected in the careers of Mayors Daley and Washington.

Course Logistics:

Approximately two weeks of the course will be taught in Chicago. Learning in Chicago will include a strong experiential component. In Chicago, students will be housed in shared accommodations and will be responsible for most meals. Registration entails additional cost, estimated at \$450

Prerequisites: Sophomore, junior or senior status, with at least two courses in economics, sociology or politics or permission of instructor.



Les Garner is in his fifteenth year as President of Cornell College. He holds a bachelor's degree in history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Master's and PhD in Public Policy from Harvard University.



Mike Conklin, a 1969 Cornell graduate, has worked for over 30 years as a reporter and columnist for the Chicago Tribune. He has a Master's degree in Chicago Studies from Loyola University and currently teaches a variety of courses for DePaul University.