**AMST 480/680**

**Community Research Seminar**

**Fall 2017**

**Learning from Lexington:**

***Public Markets and the Development of Downtown Baltimore***

Prof: Nicole King, Ph.D.

Office: Fine Arts 545-B

Office hours: Tuesday 10am – 12pm (UMBC) or by appointment

Wednesdays before or after class (by appointment)

Contact: nking@umb.edu (email is the best way to reach me) - *I do not check email after 6pm*

Class meets: Wednesday 3-5:30pm (downtown classroom)

[Lion Brothers Building](http://www.lionbrothersbaltimore.com/) – 874 Hollins St. (west side of downtown Baltimore)

**Course Catalog Description:** Intended for students undertaking advanced research, the seminar focuses on a particular issue in the study of American community. Special topics (listed for each semester offered) address questions of broad relevance to communities nationally or focus on studies of specific communities, many drawn from the Baltimore metropolitan area. In some semesters, the goal may be for public presentation of research findings. Recommended Preparation: Six credits in American Studies courses, 3 at the upper-level, or permission of the instructor.

**Topic for Spring 2017:** *Public Markets and the Development of Downtown Baltimore*

AMST 480 is a project-based course where the students collaborate with the professor, Baltimore Traces Fellows (UMBC alumni), and community partners (Lexington Market & Baltimore Heritage) on creating public humanities programming.

During the semester, students will learn about the history of the west side of downtown Baltimore and the city’s historic public markets, with a focus on the Lexington Market. Students will research the history and culture of the Market and its surrounding neighborhoods, produce a public history zine from student research, and make a podcast from interviews with people who use the market. Students will analyze past redevelopment projects in the area, the growing influence of tourism, the potential gentrification of downtown Baltimore, and how the Market has been witness to all of these trends. The course is part of the [Baltimore Traces](http://baltimoretraces.umbc.edu/): Communities in Transition project, which explores how places change over time in complex ways. Baltimore Traces Fellows, alumni of past Traces courses at UMBC, will work with current students on producing the project’s media. The goal of the course is a public presentation of student research at the Lexington Market at the end of the semester.

**Note on collaborative learning:** This course is designed for students to work collaboratively to develop the goals and themes for our research and public programming. Agency (both of the community members and UMBC students) is an important part of the learning process and its products. This model allows students the freedom to shape the trajectory of the project and also demands a great deal of responsibility. I expect students to be responsible to classmates and other collaborators for following through on all work. Always be professional and on time.

**Note on public transportation:** You can take the free UMBC shuttle from the Park and Commons stop on campus at 2:30pm and easily get to class on time. You would get off at the second stop (MLK blvd.) and then walk a few blocks (less than 10 minutes) to the Lion Brothers Building. If you drive, there’s generally parking west of MLK. Here’s the official information from UMBC:

Residential street parking is available around the [Lion Brothers' Building](http://imda.umbc.edu/facilities/) located in the Hollins Market|BioPark neighborhood.

IMDA and UMBC has 4 designated parking spaces on the Boyd Street alley side of the building, plus 6 visitor parking spaces. After 5pm the lot is open to everyone.

For a fee the [UMB Garage](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1%2BN%2BPoppleton%2BSt%2C%2BBaltimore%2C%2BMD%2B21201/%4039.289148%2C-76.6338617%2C17z/data%3D%213m1%214b1%214m5%213m4%211s0x89c80357c4fbd7a7%3A0x4948774a5734fbaa%218m2%213d39.289148%214d-76.631673) is available: [http://www.umbiopark.com/properties/garage-onehttp://www.umbiopark.com/properties/garage-one](http://www.umbiopark.com/properties/garage-one)

For the free bus shuttle from UMB|UMBC: <http://www.umbc.edu/transit/routes/downtown.php>

The building is also on the Orange route of free Charm City Circulator: <http://www.charmcitycirculator.com/content/route-maps>

The [Light Rail](https://mta.maryland.gov/light-rail) stop is the Baltimore Arena|University Center [walk west crossing MLK, about 10 min]

**Baltimore Traces Fellows:** Thanks to a BreakingGround grant, previous Baltimore Traces students will return to help teach skills of research, interviewing, and audio editing/producing from the perspective of students who have completed similar projects. The 2017 fellows include:

Christina Kwegan (AMST ‘16) and Calvin Perry (AMST ‘17)

Research Assistants: Markele Cullins (VARTS) and Adam Droneburg (AMST)

This cohort of students also created the [Baltimore Sound Society](https://www.facebook.com/bmoresoundsociety/), a media production team focused on creating and sharing stories that affect Baltimore.

**Note on technology:** We will be using Adobe Audition for the podcast. Students can get the Adobe Creative Cloud for $19.99 per month. If this is an issue, please let me know.

Podcast Suggestions: (local) [Out of the Blocks](http://www.npr.org/podcasts/451202110/out-of-the-blocks-on-w-y-p-r), [The Rise of Charm City](http://weaa.org/programs/baltimore-rise-charm-city) (national) [The Memory Palace](http://thememorypalace.us/), [Out on the Wire](https://jessicaabel.com/podcast/), …

**Assessment:** *how you earn your grade*

**Attendance & Participation: 20%** Participation is a central aspect of this course. Student must be committed and actively involved in the learning process of the class. The participation grade is comprised of coming to class with the assignments completed and being ready to discuss/plan.Students are allowed one absences in this class. More than two absences will begin to deduct from your overall participation grade by 10 points per day. Students are responsible for materials they miss due to an absence. Lateness is unacceptable. Three late arrivals equal an absence. ***This class demands solid attendance to complete the planning and execution of the project.***

**Small Assignments: 20%** All students will analyze the previous radio projects and develop a plan for our work this semester.

**RESEARCH PROJECTS**: ***50% total of final grade***

**Zine: 20%** Students will put together a zine presenting the semester’s research

**Podcast: 20%** Students will work with to collaboratively conduct interviews, transcribe, analyze and code, and edit/produce a radio series.

**Final Event:10%** InDecember students will organize a final event sharing their research with the public.

**Blog Responses: 10%** Each week students will respond to the class blog prompt. Here’s my blog with links to past student blogs so you can get a sense of what we will be doing: <https://wordpress.com/page/preservingplaces.wordpress.com/1>

**Final Reflective Essay:** Students will turn in a non-graded final reflective essay. While this essay is not graded, students who do not turn in the assignment on time they will lose a letter grade (-10 points from your final average in the course).

**Texts:** Bb = All readings posted on Blackboard. Recommended: *The Baltimore Book: New Views on Local History* (Temple University Press, 1991) and B*altimore ‘68: Riots and Rebirth in an American City* (Temple University Press, 2011).

**Course Guidelines:**

**Blackboard:**

Students are required to use Blackboard to keep up with the class schedule, announcements, discussion boards, and other ongoing aspects of the course. Students must use and regularly check their UMBC email. The class schedule is subject to change. We will also use google docs, which you can access through your umbc.edu email, for collaborative work.

**Respect:**

Students will respect the viewpoints of others and present their own viewpoints in a respectful fashion. This class will be a safe space for everyone. Neither rudeness nor disrespect will be tolerated. This class demands a great deal of collaboration with other students. You must respect the opinions of your classmates, even when you disagree.

**Writing Guidelines:**

All assignments (even blogs) must be thoroughly proofread and professionally written. If you are not a strong writer, VISIT THE WRITING CENTER. See information:<http://www.umbc.edu/lrc/writing_center.htm>

**Academic Integrity:**

By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behaviour are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. To read the full Student Academic Conduct Policy, consult the UMBC Student Handbook, the Faculty Handbook, or the UMBC Policies section of the UMBC Directory. I have a zero tolerance policy for academic dishonesty of any kind. Don’t cheat yourself out your education.

**Special Needs:**

If you have any special needs (learning disabilities, physical accommodations, language needs) which need to be met, please let me know as soon as possible but no later than the end of the second week of class.

**Religious Observances:**

Students will not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs. However, it is the student’s responsibility to make up any missed work and inform the instructor of any intended absences for religious observances in advance. Students should provide notice as soon as possible but no later than the end of the second week of class.

***Note on grading philosophy:*** Follow all guidelines, present solid work, and turn your assignment in on time = C (average). To receive a B on an assignment it must be great and As are reserved for excellent work. So, you do not start with an A and move down. You begin with a C and must move up to an A by presenting work of the highest quality with originality and a strong voice. For this course, writing assignments will involve intense revision. We will be writing for the public history zine.

**Course Schedule**

**Week 1: Wed. August 30**

***Introducing Baltimore***

- READ: On LM… Baynard Woods, “[The Battles of Lexington](http://www.citypaper.com/news/features/bcpnews-the-battles-of-lexington-city-paper-goes-deep-inside-and-under-baltimores-oldest-market-20150421-story.html),” *Baltimore City Paper*, April 21, 2015; HISTORY: “Introduction: Towards a New History of Baltimore,” *The Baltimore Book: New Views of Local History* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1991), vii-xviii; FUTURE: Natalie Sherman, “[Plan calls for razing, rebuilding Lexington Market](http://www.baltimoresun.com/business/bs-bz-lexington-market-plan-20161202-story.html),” *Baltimore Sun*, December 2, 2016; Baynard Woods, “[Conflicts of Interest: Lexington Market is not a shithole](http://www.citypaper.com/arts/art-seen/bcp-conflicts-of-interest-lexington-market-is-not-a-shithole-20150203-story.html),” February 3, 2015.

- LISTEN: Baltimore Traces podcasts 1) [Lexington Market](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLnj_pHJHgqkUh2n3u9OqaOLmVYAm4kwXU&v=IX-X7HJNZ8k), 2015 2) [A Tale of Two Markets](http://www.steinershow.org/podcasts/local-and-state-politics/downtown-voices-episode-1-a-tale-of-two-markets/), 2016

- DISCUSS (in class): What do you think about UMBC’s new downtown classroom? Baltimore? Lexington Market?

- LEARN (in class): **Sm. Assignment:** How to use historical newspaper databases.

*- Compare calendars for the final event, possible dates.*

*-* TAKE PRE-TEST ON SKILLS & EXPECTATIONS.

**Week 2: Wed. September 6**

***The Past and the Future: Mining the Databases***

**Sm. ASSIGNMENT 1: Research DUE (post on blog by noon)**

Look over [Lexington Market: A Collections of Sources](https://elipousson.github.io/bibliography/2017/06/23/lexington-market-sources/) (1878-1990) *Baltimore Sun*

Read three articles that interest you… be prepared to talk about them. (Historical database)

Read three articles that interest you in your assigned recent decade… add all article citations to the Collection of Sources doc (next step *Afro-American* coverage of the LM - library cards)

**READ:** P. Nicole King and Kate Drabinski, “Introduction: Why Revisit Baltimore Now?” Robert Gamble, “The City That Eats: Food and Power in Baltimore’s Early Public Markets,” *Baltimore Revisited: Rethinking a Right to the City* (Rutgers University Press, forthcoming).

**LISTEN:** LM catacombs tour, [listen](https://soundcloud.com/baltimore-sound-society/catacombs) Also, Out of the Blocks: [200 Saratoga St.](http://www.npr.org/podcasts/451202110/out-of-the-blocks-on-w-y-p-r) scroll down

*Sm. ASSIGNMENT 2 Assign* (zine/Place Story): Place Research Assignment: *discuss possible ideas and any questions*

**Week 3: Wed. September 13**

***The Present: Field trip to Lexington Market… meet in the classroom and then we walk to meet Stacey Pack at the market at 4pm.***

David Harvey, “[A View From Federal Hill](http://davidharvey.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/a-view-from-federal-hill.pdf),” *The Baltimore Book*, 1991; P. Nicole King, ““The [Superblock Downtown Development Debacle](https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B3S92YZ-fv9RbVRFRUprZGNHTzg): ‘It seems like it has taken so long to get nothing started,’” 2003-2015, from *Baltimore Revisited.*

Joshua Gordon, “[City design panel gets first look at Lexington Market redevelopment plans](https://docs.google.com/a/umbc.edu/document/d/1N1syIS8NbHPuKzR5aTSVd-zkYEgcg1BZCoOVQhH9mkI/edit?usp=sharing),” *Baltimore Business Journal,* June 29, 2017.

* *Work on Sm. Assignment 2*

**Week 4: Wed. September 20** (NK chairs meeting, 1-2:3pm UMBC)

***Project Planning Workshop*** (develop a plan) - **POTENTIAL TRACES PANEL**

FIELDWORK plan - PRODUCTION plan - build teams

**Sm. ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE:** Place Story… post in google docs

**\*\*\*FYI Bmore Historic “unconference” - Friday September 29 - 8:30am - 4pm @ Baltimore Museum of Industry\*\*\***

**Week 5: Wed. September 27: Research Skills**

On zines… interviewing skills

[A Brief History of Zines](http://mentalfloss.com/article/88911/brief-history-zines) - Chole Arnold, *Mental Floss*, November 19, 2016.

[Why the Internet Didn’t Kill Zines](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/28/magazine/why-the-internet-didnt-kill-zines.html?mcubz=3&_r=0) - Jenna Wortham, *New York Times*, February 28, 2017.

Fellows: On podcasts… **TK**

On interviews: Types: 1) oral history 2) ethnography 3) “on the street”

[Oral History in the Digital Age](http://ohda.matrix.msu.edu/featured-resources/shopes-web-guides/) - UCLA [guidelines](http://oralhistory.library.ucla.edu/interviewGuidelines.html), techniques, and tips

[On Interviewing](https://transom.org/2010/on-interviewing/) by Alex Blumberg, *Transom*, December 30, 2010.

*Sm. ASSIGNMENT 3: Interview assigned*

**PROFESSOR, STUDENTS, and FELLOWS MAP PART 2 OF THE SYLLABUS TOGETHER… TK**

**Week 6: Wed. October 4**

Discuss Assignment: Person Research 1 (interview someone)

READ: Jeff Towne, Podcasting Basics, Part 1: [Voice Recording](https://transom.org/2015/podcasting-basics-part-1-voice-recording-gear/) Gear, *Transom*, March 20, 2015.

Sm. ASSIGNMENT 3 assigned: 1. Listen to a Baltimore Traces interview (assigned) 2. Record on interview with a stranger.

**Week 7: Wed. October 11**

Person Research **Sm. Assignment 3 Due**: Listen in class

Place Research: Workshop & zine planning

**Week 8: Wed. October 18** (NK chairs meeting, 1-2:3pm UMBC)

Project team development… zine, podcast, event (all collaborate and connect)

**WE COLLABORATIVELY PLAN THE REST OF THE SYLLABUS**

*project style (see benchmarks below)*

**Week 9: Wed. October 25**

**Week 10: Wed. November 1**

**Week 11: Wed. November 8 -** workshop projects with MCS 380 (podcasting) students

**Week 12: Wed. November 15 -** zine draft due

**Week 13: Wed. November 22:** IN FINAL PRODUCTION (Thanksgiving, work day - no regular class)

**Week 14: Wed. November 29**

**Week 15: Wed. December 6 LAST CLASS!**

**Week 16: Final Event (date TK) -** Friday, Saturday (Dec. 9 or 16) ?