

Governance, Leadership and Ethics – GLE 3001G 550  
Canada's Housing Crisis  
Instructor: Dr. Jesse Helmer

The cost of housing in Canada, both ownership and rental, has increased rapidly over the past decade, outpacing increases in incomes. Housing has become unaffordable for many, but certainly not all, Canadians. This course explores several aspects of Canada's housing crisis.

First, the basics of Canada's housing system: who does what, what can be built where, and the roles of key public, nonprofit and private sector actors.

Second, the nature and extent of the housing affordability problem and how it varies (by region, generation, income).

Third, drivers of housing demand (migration to and within Canada, household formation).

Finally, housing and land use policy at the national, provincial and municipal levels and other factors affecting the supply and cost of housing.

The GLE learning strategy is grounded in case studies that allow up-close exploration of the ways in which 21st century policy issues play-out in theory and in practice. The course is designed to allow students to apply the concepts and material covered in the course to an in-depth case study of housing affordability in a specific Canadian city.

It will include field trips to meet with people involved in the housing system in London.