Reading Tips and Study Questions
CLASS 21

**Required reading**

1. Living Cities, The Integration Initiative
2. Living Cities, The Integration Initiative
3. Living Cities Integration Initiative, Final Outcomes Report

**Recommended reading**

1. (video) Learn from Three Years of Connecting People and Capital in Detroit (Living Cities, 2014)

**Session overview**

**Professor Karl Seidman** will join us for a special session on his work with the Integration Initiative of the Living Cities consortium of foundations. Karl has part of the team evaluating the results of the first five-year effort to coordinate community development investment in five urban communities across the U.S.

Living Cities is a joint effort of many of the largest social investment foundations in the country, including Ford, MacArthur, Annie E. Casey, and many bank foundations. Living Cities grew out of the [National Community Development Initiative](https://livingcities.org) (NCDI). NCDI, which included HUD and private funders in the 1990s, aimed primarily to build the capacity of the nonprofit affordable housing sector. But Living Cities has tackled broader, follow-on goals, including inclusive economic development.

The Integration Initiative encourages public, private, philanthropic and nonprofit leaders to work together to coordinate resources provided to improve the lives of low-income people and the cities where they live. The program served five urban regions in the first round of the Initiative: Baltimore, Cleveland, Detroit, Newark, N.J., and the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul, Minn.

**Study Question**

1. How clear are the goals of LC’s Integration Initiative, and what principal strategies does it rely on and why?