**(Dis)Placed Urban Histories, Spring 2017**

**Journal Assignment #1**

Now that we have reviewed several different approaches to thinking about place, space, and displacement, you are charged with discovering your own “place” in Melrose (or nearby since we have agreed that the boundaries are fuzzy and somewhat meaningless.)

For this journal assignment, you will go to Melrose and get a sense of what it’s like, how you fit in it (Malpas), what makes it both global and local (Massey), how capitalism presents itself in the environment in obvious and not-so-obvious ways (Harvey), and where you might “belong” here (Jones.) For the latter question, I’d encourage you to find a place that feels comfortable to you, whether it’s a McDonald’s, a bodega, a church, a park, or someplace entirely different.

Report on your findings, including your sensations, feelings, and thoughts as you become acquainted with the neighborhood.

This assignment should take 1-2 hours to complete, but feel free to spend more time than that. Also feel free to spend most of your time in the neighborhood at the place where you feel most comfortable.