

## **Economic Development Planning - URP 6541**

**Department of Urban and Regional Planning**

**University of Florida**

**Instructor:** Abhinav Alakshendra, Ph.D.  
ARCH 448  
352-294-1488  
alakshendra@ufl.edu

**Class Periods:** Monday 7-9 period (Online)

**Office Hours:** Wednesday 1.00-3.00 PM and/or by appointment. (Via Zoom)

### **Course Objective:**

This course offers an overview of selected important topics in economic development planning at the local, national, and international levels. Urban planning and economic development often intersect in the real world. Several economic development issues both at the micro and macro levels, such as employment, taxes, subsidy, human capital formation, investment, the influence of technology, rapid globalization, innovative entrepreneurship, and overall growth, significantly affect the built environment through many different channels. This course will evaluate some of these developmental issues and the channels using a theoretical and empirical perspective. This course also aims to give you an understanding of pressing issues in developing countries. The planning process in India (from 1950-current) will be discussed thoroughly and compared with different development models adopted internationally. This course will be applied in nature and will take an interdisciplinary approach.

### **Textbook:**

*Required:* Nancy Green Leigh and Edward J. Blakely, Planning Local Economic Development (5<sup>th</sup> Edition), Sage Publication.

### *Recommended Texts:*

Michael P. Todaro and Stephen C. Smith, Economic Development (11<sup>th</sup> Edition), Prentice Hall.

### **Course expectations:**

I don't assume prior knowledge of economics. Some class time will be used to cover basics of economics.

### **Instructional Methods:**

Classes will be conducted using lectures, discussions, and audio-visual presentations.

**Course Requirements:**

Weekly reading- you are expected to read and intellectually comprehend assigned readings for class discussion. 1-2 readings will be assigned each week (most of the weeks) for class discussion. Students are required to post their critical assessment of the readings by Saturday night (by 11:55 PM Saturday every week); prior to the class discussion on Monday. Article summaries will be discussed extensively in the class. The feedback on these readings will be given in class. However, the grades will be posted online within a week after the due date

Assignment- you are required to do 2 assignments. The assignments are an important component of the course and each will count toward your final grade. You will be given at least 7 days (announced in the class) to complete your assignments.

Class Presentation- each student is expected to present an assigned chapter from the textbook. Students will be notified in advance about the presentation. The instructor will present and discuss related material (not from the textbook) from various sources. These student presentations will count towards their final grades. The instructor and the fellow students will grade you on presentation clarity, depth, and on the ease of answering related questions.

Project- during the semester, students are expected to identify a research topic of their interest. The final project for the course includes a research idea (300-500 words), bibliography, a comprehensive research proposal/paper (not more than 10 double space pages including bibliography), and a presentation (20-30 minutes).

**Grading:**

- Assignment: 30% of the final grades (2X15%)
- Article Summary: 15% of the final grades (10 articles)
- Class Participation: 10% of the final grades
- Class Presentation: 5% of the final grades
- Final project:
  - Research Idea: 5% of the final grades (Due September 5)
  - Bibliography: 5% of the final grades (Due September 26)
  - Presentation: 10% of the final grades (To be scheduled)
  - Final Proposal/Paper: 20% of the final grades (TBA)

**Letter grades:**

Numeric Grade	93-100	90-92.9	85-89.9	82-84.9	80-81.9	77-79.9	73-76.9	70-72.9	67-69.9	63-66.9	60-62.9	Below 60
Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Quality Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0

### **Required readings:**

Fainstein (1991). "Promoting Economic Development", *Journal of the American Planning Association* 57(1): pp. 22-33.

Bradshaw, Ted K., and Edward J. Blakely. (1999). "What are "Third Wave" State Economic Development Efforts? From Incentives to Industrial Policy", *Economic Development Quarterly* 13(3): 229-244.

Wolman, Harold, and Gerry Stoker. (1992). "Understanding Local Economic Development in a Comparative Context", *Economic Development Quarterly* 6(4): 415.

Pritchett, L (1997). "Divergence, Big Time", *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 11(3): pp. 3-17, Summer.

Bolton, R. (1992). 'Place prosperity vs people prosperity' revisited: An old issue with a new angle. *Urban Studies*, 29(2), 185-203.

Krugman, P. (1992). "Towards a Counter-Counterrevolution in Development Theory", *Proceedings of the World Bank Annual Conference on Development Economics 1992*, The World Bank, pp. 15-38.

Bardhan, P. (1993). "Economics of Development and the Development of Economics", *Journal of Economics Perspectives*, 7(2): 129-142, Spring.

World Bank, (2013). "World Development Indicators", *World Bank*.

Berke, P. R., & Conroy, M. M. (2000). Are we planning for sustainable development? An evaluation of 30 comprehensive plans. *Journal of the American planning association*, 66(1), 21-33.

\* This list is not complete. I will add more readings in coming weeks.

### **Accommodation for students with disabilities:**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Disability Resource Center in the Dean of Students Office provides students and faculty with information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities in the classroom. Staff at the Disability Resource Center will assist any student who registers as having a disability.

### **Online Privacy:**

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who unmute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep

your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

### **Student Honor Code and Academic Honesty:**

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Students must follow the University's policy regarding cheating and the use of copyrighted materials. Please visit

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php> for more information.

### **NETIQUETTE: COMMUNICATION COURTESY:**

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all forms of communication.

Please visit <http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf> to know more.

### **Feedback:**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### **Disclaimer:**

1. Subsequent changes may be made to any aspect or detail of this syllabus if and when necessary. Any changes will be announced in class as soon as practical.
2. The online sessions will be recorded, and the recordings will be available to all participants. Please email me if you would like to know more or if you have questions/concerns.