

Course Syllabus

URP6042: Urban Economy

Faculty Contact Information

Abhinav Alakshendra, Ph.D.

alakshendra@ufl.edu

352-392-0997 Ext. 428

Office Location: ARCH 448

Course Website

<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>

Course Communications

Your instructor is always available by email, and you can expect a response to emails within 24 hours. The instructor is also available for phone calls or live chat by appointment. Please contact the instructor by email to arrange a call or chat.

Required Text

O'Sullivan, A.(2012). 1. Urban Economics (8th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill/Irwin.

Course Description

This course offers an overview of selected important topics in urban economics. Urban economics, as a discipline lies at the intersection of geography and economics. At a general level, urban economics brings space into economic considerations. Urban economics puts economics and geography together, exploring the geographical or location choices of utility-maximizing households and profit-maximizing firms. Urban economics also identifies inefficiencies in location choices and examines alternative public policies to promote efficient choices.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, you should be able to:

- Evaluate urban problems.
- Explain why cities differ from each other in size, structure, and other characteristics.
- Propose what makes some of the cities grow exponentially.
- Assess how firms and individual decide where to locate.
- Explain why firms cluster in urban locations.

- Discover how price of land is determined and how it varies across space.
- Breakdown what causes urban problems such as poverty, crime, housing, transportation, and pollution.
- Outline how urban government addresses the poverty, crime, housing, transportation, and pollution.
- Outline planning decisions.
- Develop a cost benefit analysis.
- Apply a concept and apply it to the real world setting.

Required Materials

Required Readings (Modules 1-4)

- O'Sullivan, Chapter 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and the Powerpoint presentations.
- Glaeser, Edward, Why economists still like cities," *City Journal* (Spring 1996): pp. 70-77.
- John Quigley, Urban diversity and economic growth. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Spring 1998, pp. 127-138.
- Saxenian, AnnaLee (1996); Inside Out: Regional Networks and industrial Adaptation in Silicon valley and Route 128". *Cityscape: A Journal of Policy Development and Research*, Vol 2, No 2, pp 41-60.
- Florida, Richard. (2005). *Cities and the Creative Class*. New York: Routledge.
- Glaeser, Edward L., Are cities dying? *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 12 (1998):, pp. 139-160.

Required Readings (Modules 5-8)

- O'Sullivan, Chapters 6, 8, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 17 (p. 431-434, 440-447) and the Powerpoint presentations.
- Paul Krugman, Space: the final frontier. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Spring 1998,. pp. 161-174.
- Cohen, M., R. Rust, S. Steen, and S. Tidd. Willingness-to-pay for crime control programs. *Criminology* 42(2004), pp. 89-109.
- Thalmann, Philippe. (1998). Identifying households which need housing assistance. *Urban Studies*, 36(11), 1933-1947.
- Chouinard, Hayley, and Jeffrey M. Perloff. "Incidence of Federal and State Gasoline Taxes." *Economic Letters* 83 (2004), pp. 55-60.

Course Outline

Module	Topics Covered
Module 1	Introduction to Urban Economics: Cities
Module 2	Why Do Cities Exist?
Module 3	Why Do Firms Cluster?
Module 4	City Size and Urban Growth
Module 5	Urban Land Rent
Module 6	Education, Crime and Neighborhood: The Nexus
Module 7	Urban Housing Policy
Module 8	Local Government

Make-up Work

No late work will be accepted. Computer problems that arise during submission will not be accepted as an excuse for late work. All work must be completed and submitted by the designated time in Sakai or you will

not receive credit for the assignment.

In the event that you have technical difficulties with e-Learning, please contact the UF Help Desk. If your technical difficulties will cause you to miss a due date, you MUST report the problem to Help Desk. Include the ticket number and an explanation of the issue based on a consult with Help Desk in an e-mail to the instructor to explain the late assignment/quiz/test.

The course faculty reserves the right to accept or decline tickets from the UF Help Desk based on individual circumstances.

Course Technology

In the event that you have technical difficulties with e-Learning, please contact the UF Help Desk. If your technical difficulties will cause you to miss a due date, you MUST report the problem to Help Desk. Include the ticket number and an explanation of the issue based on consult with Help Desk in an e-mail to the instructor to explain the late assignment/quiz/test. The course faculty reserves the right to accept or decline tickets from the UF Help Desk based on individual circumstances.

Course Communication

All communication with course faculty will take place within Canvas. All e-mails will be sent and received within Sakai. You should NOT be e-mailing the course instructors outside of the system. Any e-mails received outside of Sakai will not receive a response.

*To prevent an e-mail from being sent outside of the Canvas system DO NOT check the box within the option "Send Cc: Send a copy of this message to recipients' e-mail address(es)."

Student Support Services

As a student in a distance learning course or program, you have access to the same student support services that on campus students have. For course content questions contact your instructor.

For any technical issues you encounter with your course please contact the UF computing Help Desk at 342-392-HELP (4357), select option 2. For Help Desk hours visit: **[Information Technology–UF Computing Help Desk](#)** .

Other resources are available at **[Student Services|Distance Learning](#)** .

University Policies

University policies on such matters as add/drop, incomplete, academic probation, termination of enrollment, reinstatement, and other expectations or procedures can be found in the **[graduate student handbook](#)** and at the **[Dean of Students website](#)** .

University Policy on Academic Misconduct

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the **[UF Student Honor Code](#)** .

Netiquette: Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all e-mail messages, threaded discussions and chats. Course communication should be civilized and respectful to everyone. The means of communication provided to you through e-Learning (e-mail, discussion posts, course questions, and chats) are at your full disposal to use in a respectful manner.

Abuse of this system and its tools through disruptive conduct, harassment, or overall disruption of course activity will not be tolerated. Conduct that is deemed to be in violation with University rules and regulations or the Code of Student Conduct will result in a report to the Dean of Students.

Refer to the [Netiquette Guide for Online Courses](#) for more information.

Student Honor Code

In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action.

Student and faculty support are crucial to the success of the Honor Code. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon the community acceptance and enforcement of the [Honor Code](#).

The Honor Pledge

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.

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."

Special Accommodations

Students requesting disability-related academic accommodations must first register with the [Disability Resource Center](#).

The Disability Resource Center will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

Complaints

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit [Student Complaints](#) to submit a complaint.

Course Grade

Assignment	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
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Assignment	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussions and Participation	200	20%
Course Project: Submission of Topic (50 pts) Literature Review (50 pts) Presentation of Research (150 pts) Presentation Feedback (50 pts) Final Research Proposal/paper (200 pts)	500	50%
Assignments (4): Diversity and Urbanization(30 pts) Sports Stadium Impact (35 pts) Housing Policy (35 pts) City Profile : 4 parts (200 pts)	300	30%
Total:	1000	100%

Grading Scheme

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Points
A	93-100%	4.00
A-	90-92%	3.67
B+	88-89%	3.33
B	83-87%	3.00
B-	80-82%	2.67
C+	78-79%	2.33
C	73-77%	2.00
C-	70-72%	1.67
D+	68-69%	1.33
D	58-67%	1.00
D-	55-57%	0.67
E	Below 55%	0.00

For greater detail, see the Grades section of the [Graduate Catalog for the University of Florida](#) . It also contains the policies and procedures, course descriptions, colleges, departments, and program information for UF.

Course Summary:

Details

Research Proposal Method due by 11:59pm

Housing Policy due by 11:59pm

City Profile Part 1 due by 11:59pm

Diversity Urbanization due by 11:59pm

Submission of Topic due by 11:59pm

City Profile Part 2 due by 11:59pm

Literature Review due by 11:59pm

Sports Stadium Impact due by 11:59pm

City Profile Part 3 due by 11:59pm

City Profile Part 4 due by 11:59pm

Presentation of Research Proposal due by 11:59pm

Final Research Proposal/Paper due by 11:59pm

Presentation Feedback due by 11:59pm

Module 1: Why Economists Still Like Cities by Edward Glaeser

Module 2: Urban Diversity and Economic Growth by John M. Quigley

Module 3: Saxenian (1996) inside-out

Module 4: Florida (2006) Cities and the Creative Class

Module 5: Space - The Final Frontier by Paul Krugman

Module 6: Willingness-To-Pay For Crime Control Programs by Mark A. Cohen

Module 7: Identifying Households which Need Housing Assistance by Thalmann

Module 8: Incidence of Federal and State Gasoline Taxes

Course Evaluations

Students in this class are participating in the pilot evaluation of the new course evaluation system called GatorEvals. The new evaluation system is designed to be more informative to instructors so that teaching effectiveness is enhanced and to be more seamlessly linked to UF's CANVAS learning management system. Students can complete their evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Please note your other classes this semester may be evaluated in the current GatorRater online evaluation system at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Thank you for serving as a partner in this important effort.