Course Description

This course focuses upon the evolution and changing form of the metropolitan region, the linkages and interactions among centers and sub-centers of population and economic activity, and the relationships of the components of metropolitan areas to the regional systems of which they are a part. Some of these linkages and interactions are within the markets of land, labor, and capital. Others are between these traditional markets and space, government, neighborhoods, and elements within the natural environment. For the most part, these linkages will be framed spatially – we will learn a few basic concepts and tools of urban and regional analysis to help us to understand spatial decision-making and its implications for regional development. We will develop a way of thinking about cities and regions—we take a systematic approach to investigating the foundations of spatial economic decision-making in each of the above areas, and then consider how aggregates of individual-level decisions may promote or impede urban development. Major questions addressed include:

1. What determines the location pattern of urban places and urban regions within nations and geographical regions?
2. What is meant by a system of cities/metropolitan areas/regions across space?
3. What are the relationships of cities/metropolitan areas/regions one to another?
4. What is a hierarchy of cities?
5. What determines resource and commodity flows among economic regions?
6. What determines the characteristics and spatial distribution of economic and social spaces within urban areas?
7. What is the role of market forces in shaping the urban landscape?
8. What is the importance of these market forces?
9. Do market forces always result in the “highest and best use” of urban space?
10. What are the public tools for shaping and reshaping urban space?
Course Requirements


Access: Predictable and reliable use of internet and email

Prerequisite: Successful completion of UST300 (Economics of Policy Analysis) or ECN202 (Principles of Microeconomics)

Effort: As for all college and university courses, you should plan on a minimum of three hours outside of class for each credit hour (see CSU’s Hints on Planning a Better Time Schedule). Since this is a four hour course, some quick math reveals that this class will require a minimum of 12 hours of work outside of class every week. You should anticipate using all 12 of them – some weeks you might need more, some weeks you might need less

Course Method

The course consists of the following components (1) readings, (2) lectures and discussions, (3) urban development connections memos, and (4) examinations.

Readings: Prepare for each class by reading the assigned materials in advance of the lecture and identifying topics that may need additional clarification in class. This will constitute your first exposure to the course content. Make full use of this reading time by taking notes and forming questions to ask during lecture. Additional readings will be assigned periodically.

Lectures and Discussions: Students are expected to: prepare for and attend all classes, participate actively in discussions, ask clarifying questions, be prepared at all times to answer questions in class about the readings. Lectures and discussions serve to discuss and review the content of the assigned readings, not to introduce it. Lectures and discussions will constitute your second exposure to the course material. Feel free to raise questions to ensure that you thoroughly understand the material. Lectures will be the most valuable (and least stress-inducing to you) if you have done the assigned readings first.

Urban Development Connections Memos: Over the course of the semester you will write four (not more than 2-page) memos covering current urban or regional development issues within one or more of Ohio’s jurisdictions. In each memo you will connect a development issue to the topics covered in class. This will constitute your third exposure to the course content. The first half of the memo will summarize the issue. The second half will relate the course material to the issue. Considering the course material in the context of an applied issue or problem will provide a third exposure to the material.
Each memo should be neatly typed using a word processor. Hand-written memos will not be accepted. CSU has excellent computer resources – you should make yourself familiar with them and utilize them fully and frequently. Since memos also serve the goal of sharpening communication skills required to competently use the knowledge and information in this class, students are advised to pay attention to completeness, consistency and clarity. If you have difficulty expressing yourself in writing, you are strongly encouraged to seek help at the CSU Writing Center (http://www.csuohio.edu/academic/writingcenter/), 216-687-6981. A signed, dated note from a staff member at the Writing Center testifying that you visited and used the help available there for writing a memo for UST301 will earn you 2 points on the next exam. Grading is partially based upon soundness of analytical reasoning, effectiveness of interpretation, and communication of results.

Spill-chick end prufe reed ever thing ewe hand in. Note that spell-checking and proofreading are not the same things. Critically evaluate all work handed in for correctness, completeness, and clarity. Only memos that have perfect spelling and that are grammatically and syntactically error-free will earn a grade of ‘A.’

All memos must be handed in as a “hard copy.” No e-mail, e-mail attachments, faxes, etc. will be accepted.

**Examinations:** The course will include two exams, a midterm and a final. Exams are cumulative, and closed book. They will cover the material in the assigned readings as well as the lectures and discussions; copies of lecture notes other than those handed out in class will not be provided. As a rule, make up exams will not be offered. If a make up exam is offered it will take the form of an essay exam.

**Class evaluations:** Each component of class contributes to your final grade as follows:

- Participation and attendance: 10%
- Urban Development Connections Memos (4): 30%
- Midterm Exam: 25%
- Final Exam: 35%

Your participation grade is comprised of your physical attendance and your meaningful participation. Your exam scores can be improved by bonus quizzes. These are short (surprise!) quizzes given at the beginning of any class, covering only the previous class’s lecture material and the reading material for that day. You will always have the opportunity to ask questions before a bonus quiz. These quizzes will be comprised of one or two short questions, each graded in an “all or nothing” fashion. Any points earned on your bonus quizzes will be added to your next exam score. Bonus quizzes, if given, will take place at the beginning of class; if you arrive after the quiz has been handed out, you’ve earned a zero. If you are absent that day, you’ve earned a zero.
Final grade determination will depend upon the earned percentage of the total class points offered. You must earn at least 93 to get an A, 90 to get an A-, 87 to get a B+, 83 to get a B, 80 to get a B-, 77 to get a C+, 70 to get a C, and 60 to get a D. There is no “rounding up”. For instance, if you earned 82.8% of the total class points, you have earned a B-.

Class Policies

Extra credit: There is no “extra credit” in this class. No extra homework, reports, exam re-writes, or any such “bail me out at the end of the semester so I can get the grade I want” opportunities. Please do not bother asking.

Missed exams and quizzes: Only in cases of extreme and documented circumstances or documented illness will make-up exams be given. You must make these arrangements in advance of the exam. This is your responsibility: I will not seek you out to take a make-up exam. The make up will vary in form, content, and length from that given in class. Except in rare circumstances, students will earn a score of zero on missed exams. No make-up bonus quizzes will be given.

Late assignments and incompletes: Unless extenuating circumstances require otherwise and the instructor agrees beforehand to accept a late assignment, late work will not be accepted. Unless arranged in advance, you must be present in class to turn in your class project. A grade of “Incomplete” will not, as a rule, be assigned at the end of class.

Late arrivals to class: If you are not present when attendance is taken, you are marked absent. If you stay after class, I will change “absent” to “late.” Being late twice is equivalent to being absent once.

Cell phones and other classroom interruptions: Please be sure to turn your cell phone off before entering the classroom. Also, please be sure to notify the instructor if you must leave class in the middle of the period. Each violation of these two rules will cost you up to ten points on your next exam.

Attendance: Attendance is expected. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class period. An excused absence has three characteristics: (a) extreme events, (b) documentation that can be verified, (c) the instructor is notified in advance of the absence you hope to be excused. If

It is strongly recommended that you attend every class in its entirety, for the following reasons:

• Arriving on time allows you to ask questions and participate in the discussion;
• Arriving on time allows you to hear the lecture;
• Attending class provides you with an additional presentation of the material;
• Exam material will be drawn from the text and lecture material, and all lecture material does not originate from the text;
• Common problems and issues relating to course material and homework will be discussed;
• You are responsible for changes to this syllabus announced in class.

**University Policies**

**Academic Misconduct:** Any form of academic misconduct will potentially earn an immediate grade of F for the course. In addition, your name will be forwarded to the Academic Misconduct Review Committee, for a hearing concerning your suspension from the University. You should familiarize yourself with the various forms of academic misconduct in section 3.1.2 of the CSU Student Handbook, available at [http://www.csuohio.edu/studentlife/StudentCodeOfConduct.pdf](http://www.csuohio.edu/studentlife/StudentCodeOfConduct.pdf)

The most common academic misconduct infraction arises out of a failure to reference your information sources. When you use a piece of information in your writing that you learned from another source then that source must be cited. Information taken verbatim must be quoted to give the original author credit: information that is paraphrased must be referenced.

When writing in material to submit in class, students often find it difficult to distinguish between “helping out” a fellow student, or “working together” on a project and academic misconduct. These guidelines may be helpful:

• **Never share any of your written or electronic materials with another student.** This includes your homework, data, tables, files, etc. This is academic misconduct.

• **Work only at your own computer.** Do not sit in front of a classmate’s computer and “take control” by using the mouse, typing on the keyboard, etc. By doing so, you are actually doing the work that your classmate will hand in and take credit for.

• **Write independently.** When assignments are graded, sentences that are duplicated, or even highly similar, in more than one assignment are blatantly obvious. Writing up your answers without consultation avoids this situation. Handing in an assignment containing verbatim passages from another student’s work is academic misconduct.

• **Reference your information sources.** When you use a piece of information in your write up that you learned from another source (for example, your text book), that source must be referenced. Information taken verbatim must be quoted (to give the original author credit) and information that is paraphrased must be referenced. Failing to reference your sources is academic misconduct.
All the work that you hand in must represent your own independent and unique work. It should be distinct from that of every other student in the class. If you have questions about this, please ask – it is best to resolve these issues in advance.

**The Grade of “Incomplete”**: In accordance with university policy:

“The grade of Incomplete (I) is given when the work in a course has been generally passing, but when some specifically required task has not been completed through no fault of the student (Cleveland State Student Handbook, http://www.csuohio.edu/studentlife/StudentCodeOfConduct.pdf

To be clear, an Incomplete is not a way of avoiding a bad grade on your record, or lightening your academic workload after having missed the last drop date. An Incomplete will be granted only in those cases that fit the above guidelines.

**Important Registration Information**:

- Check the CSU Registrar’s website for the last date for dropping this course.
- Check with the Urban College’s Student Services office (687-3884) to see how dropping a course might impact your financial aid, assistantship, or scholarship.

**Cancellation of Class Due to Weather**: Class will not be cancelled due to weather unless the university is closed. CSU determines if evening classes will be held by 2pm daily. Check the CSU website (http://www.csuohio.edu) for the most up-to-date information. If CSU is open, class will proceed as scheduled, including any exams or deadlines that are scheduled for that class.

**Students with Special Needs**: Educational access includes the provision of classroom accommodations, auxiliary aids and services to ensure equal educational opportunities for all students regardless of their disability. Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based upon the impact of a disability should immediately contact the Office of Disability Services at 216-687-2015. The office is located in MC147. Accommodations need to be requested in advance and will not be granted retroactively.

**Affirmative Action**: Cleveland State University is committed to social justice: the university does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color or national origin. The instructor fully concurs with that commitment and expects to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Personal attacks of any form will not be tolerated.
**Tentative Schedule**

January 19:  
*Course Introduction*  
*Thinking about Urban Development*  
Reading: Preface and Chapters 1 & 2

January 26:  
*Local Economic Development in a Global Market*  
*Business Location, Expansion and Retention*  
Reading: Chapter 3

February 2:  
*Markets, Urban Systems and Local Development*  
Reading: Chapter 4  
Assignment: UDC #1

February 9:  
*Economic Interdependence and Local Structure*  
Reading: Chapter 5

February 16:  
*Regional Growth and Development*  
Reading: Chapter 6

February 23:  
*Additional Tools for Regional Analysis*  
Reading: Chapter 7  
Assignment: UDC #2

March 2:  
*Institutionalist Perspectives on Local Development*  
Reading: To Be Electronically Distributed

March 9:  
Midterm Exam  
*Environmental Justice*  
Reading: Chapter 8

March 16:  
Spring Break: No Class

March 23:  
*Local Economic Development*  
Reading: Chapter 9  
Assignment: UDC #3

March 30:  
*Land Use*  
Reading: Chapter 10

April 6:  
*Housing and Neighborhood Development*  
Reading: Chapter 11

April 13:  
*Poverty and Lagging Regions*  
Reading: Chapter 12
April 20:  
Local Governance, Finance, and Regional Integration  
Reading: Chapter 13

April 27:  
Planning, Futures Studies, and Development Policy  
Reading: To Be Electronically Distributed  
Assignment: UDC #4

May 4:  
Globalization, Sustainability and Global Cities  
Course Summary and Conclusion

May 11:  
Final Exam