

University of California, San Diego
Department of Economics
Summer Session I 2013

Economics 135: Urban Economics

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Lectures: MW 11:00-1:50 PM at Peterson Hall 104

Office Hours: MW 2:30-4:00 PM

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Text/Readings

• Arthur O'Sullivan, *Urban Economics*, 7th Edition, McGraw-Hill Irwin (OS).

Copies of the textbook are available on reserve at Geisel Library. The 6th edition of the textbook should work just fine.

Course Description

The course will cover economic issues that arise in cities. We will start by analyzing economic forces underlying the formation of cities. Then we will move to discussing economic problems in cities, as housing, zoning, transportation and public finance of local governments.

Grading

Midterm: 40%

Final: 60%

The midterm will be in lecture time on Wednesday, July 17. Please refer to Tritonlink for the date, time and location of the final exam.

Homework

Homework will be assigned but not collected. Solutions for each problem set will be provided at the course's web site. It is very important that you work on the problem sets and understand them, since they are the best preparation for the exams.

Administrative Issues

1. If you have a documented disability, please bring your documentation and come to talk to me as soon as possible so that I can make suitable accommodations for you.
2. If you arrive late to an exam, I will allow you to take the exam in the time that remains as long as no one has turned in his/her exam and left the room. If a classmate has already turned in his/her exam and you arrive late, you will earn a zero on the test.
3. **There will be absolutely no makeup exams.** If you have to miss the midterm **for a medical or other University approved reason**, the weight will be allocated to the final exam. In that case, you will need to provide proof of your situation. The weights will not be reallocated for any other reason.

4. All students must take the final exam at the scheduled date and time, so if you have any conflicts with other exams you are advised not to take this course (or the other courses that this course's exam conflicts with).

COURSE OUTLINE (the referenced chapters numbers correspond to the 6th and 7th editions)

PART I: Review of microeconomics
OS Appendix (end of the book)

PART II: City formation and development
OS Chs. 1-5

PART III: Land use
OS Chs. 6-7

PART IV: Zoning
OS Ch. 9

PART V: Transportation
OS Chs. 10-11

PART VI: Neighborhoods and housing
OS Chs. 8 and 12-14

PART VII: Local government
OS Chs. 8 and 15-16