

**University of California, San Diego**  
**Department of Economics**  
**Summer Session II 2014**

**Economics 135: Urban Economics**

Prof. Augusto Nieto Barthaburu

Email: [anieto@ucsd.edu](mailto:anieto@ucsd.edu)

Lectures: T-Th 11:00-1:50 PM at Warren Lecture Hall 2113

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

Office: Sequoyah Hall 231

Website: [ted.ucsd.edu](http://ted.ucsd.edu)

**Text/Readings**

Arthur O'Sullivan, *Urban Economics*, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, McGraw-Hill Irwin (**OS**). We will be using UCSD's custom version of O'Sullivan's textbook edited by Prof. Michelle White. Copies of the textbook are available on reserve at Geisel Library. The 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> editions 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 and urban agglomerations. Then we will move to discussing economic problems in cities, such as housing, the reasons and consequences of zoning laws, transportation and congestion, and public finance of local governments.

**Grading**

Midterm: 40%

Final: 60%

The midterm will be in lecture time on Thursday, August 21. 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**

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

PART II: City formation and development  
OS Chs. 1-4

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 14-15

PART VII: Local government  
OS Chs. 16-17