

SYLLABUS
URBAN STUDIES 301
URBAN SPATIAL SYSTEMS
Spring Semester 2006

Professor: Dr. Larry Ledebur
Class: Wednesdays, 6-9:50PM
Office Hours: By appointment
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Course Description: This course focuses on:

Evolution and changing form of the metropolitan region, the linkages among cities, their neighborhoods and suburbs, and the relationships of these components of metropolitan areas to the regional economies of which they are a part.

Major questions addressed:

1. Why do cities exist?
2. Where do firms locate?
3. What drives urban economic growth and decline?
4. What determines the spatial distribution of economic and social space?
5. What is the role of market forces in shaping the urban landscape?
6. What is the importance of these market forces?
7. Do market forces always result in the “highest and best use” of urban space?
8. What are public tools for shaping and reshaping urban space?

The following urban issues are also addressed:

1. Urban transportation
2. Household sorting by education, income and race
3. Urban poverty
4. Urban education
5. Urban crime
6. Housing and housing policies
7. Local government spending and local government revenues

Text: Arthur O’Sullivan, *Urban Economics*. Fifth Edition. McGraw-Hill. 2003

Project: Students must complete a class project addressing issues in the changing spatial structure of urban areas. A one-page project proposal must be submitted by February 22nd and approved by the instructor.

Evaluation:	First Exam	March 1	25%
	Final Exam	May 10	25%
	Class Project		30%
	Class Presentation		10%
	Class attendance and participation		10%

Policies: Students are expected to attend class, participate in the class discussion, and take exams at the scheduled times. The material discussed in class will be covered on the exams.

Resource: Copies of PowerPoint presentations will be placed on the Levin College intranet. On the N drive, click on the Ledebur folder, and go into the UST 301 folder.
On the internet, go to <ftp://urban.csuohio.edu/utility>, click on Ledebur, and then on UST 301.

ASSIGNMENTS

January 18	Chapter 1: Introduction: The Role of Cities in the Economy
January 25	Appendix: Tools of Microeconomics Chapter 2: Why Do Cities Exist?
February 1	Chapter 3: Big and Small Cities Chapter 4: Where Do Firms Locate?
February 8	Chapter 5: Market Areas and Central Place Theory Chapter 6: Urban Economic Growth
February 15	Chapter 7: Introduction to Land Rent Chapter 8: Land Use in the Monocentric City
February 22	Chapter 9: Land Use in Modern Cities Review Project proposal due
March 1	Exam
March 8	Chapter 10: Land Use and Zoning Chapter 11: Autos and Highways
March 15	Spring Break. No Class
March 22	Chapter 12: Mass Transit Chapter 13: Household Sorting

March 29	Chapter 14: Urban Poverty Chapter 15: The Urban Education Problem
April 5	Chapter 16: Urban Crime Chapter 17: Why is Housing Different?
April 12	Chapter 18: Housing Policies Chapter 19: Local Government
April 19	Chapter 20: Local Government Revenue Catch-up
April 26	Class Project Presentations
May 3	Class Project Presentations
May 10	Final Exam