

San José State University
College of Social Sciences/Department of Economics
ECON 166, Urban Economics, Section 1, Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: J. M. Pogodzinski

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Office Hours:

- Bookable Office Hours (via Google Calendar) will be available (via Zoom) in 15-minute slots on Tuesdays and Thursdays (and other days by appointment)
- Book 24 hours in advance of proposed meeting
- Office Hours will become available Friday by noon for the following week
- Tuesdays 10am-2pm; Thursdays 12:45pm-2pm
- Please respect other peoples' time slots – logon when it is your turn!

Prerequisites: ECON 1B or instructor consent

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU at <http://my.sjsu.edu> to learn of any updates.

Course Description

Analysis of major economic problems of metropolitan areas: taxation, financing of urban services, transportation, residential and industrial development, local growth controls, zoning and housing.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

PLO 4: Apply the concepts microeconomic analysis and international economic theory to urban problems and to a variety of public policy issues that arise in an urban context. This course relates most closely to PLO4: Specialist Area – Public Policy

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO1: Correctly apply location theory to households and firms;

CLO2: Explain the structure of urban areas, urban form, and how prices of land and housing are determined in an urban area;

CLO3: Analyze the role of scale economies in urban analysis;

CLO4: Analyze the role of externalities in urban analysis;

CLO5: Evaluate the spatial aspects of competition

CLO6: Discuss fiscal issues related to cities.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbooks

Jan K. Brueckner (B), *Lectures on Urban Economics*, MIT Press (2011) ISBN: 978-0-262-01636

Richard Florida (F), *The New Urban Crisis: How Our Cities Are Increasing Inequality, Deepening Segregation, and Failing the Middle Class and What We Can Do About It*, Basic Books (2018) ISBN: 978-1541644120

Edward Glaeser and Joseph Gyourko, *Rethinking Federal Housing Policy: How to Make Housing Plentiful and Affordable*, AEI Press (December 16, 2008) ISBN-13: 978-0844742731 (PDF: http://www.aei.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/-rethinking-federal-housing-policy_101542221914.pdf)

Course Requirements and Assignments

Assignments include timely completion of reading assignments, attendance at lectures, and completion of exams. These activities promote an understanding of the concepts underpinning urban economics.

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Grading Information and Determination of Grades

Grades will be determined by the following scheme:

- Mid-Term Exam 1 – 25%
- Mid-Term Exam 2 – 25%
- Final Exam – 25%
- Lab Assignments (Variable Weight - Total) – 25%

Determination of Grades

NO CREDIT FOR MISSED DISCUSSION DAYS

A+	100-97%
A	96-93%
A-	92-90%
B+	89-87%
B	86-83%
B-	82-80%
C+	79-77%
C	76-73%
C-	72-70%
D+	69-67%
D	66-63%
D-	62-60%
F	59-0%

Classroom Protocol

Each student is responsible for all material covered in class lectures, assigned readings from the textbooks and related articles, as well as all other problems or assignments given in class.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>"

ECON 166 / Urban Economics, Spring 2020, Course Schedule

This schedule is subject to change with fair notice via messages sent through MySJSU. See calendar posted to course website for exact dates.

KEY: B = Brueckner; F = Florida; G+G = Glaeser and Gyourko

Course Schedule

Date	Activity
8/20/20	Urban Economics - Course Administration and Policies
8/25/20	Basic Concepts in Urban Economics; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
8/27/20	Basic Concepts in Urban Economics (continued); Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
8/31/20	LAST DAY TO DROP
9/1/20	GIS and Urban Economics;; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
9/3/20	Lab 1 - Using ArcGIS; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
9/8/20	LAST DAY TO ADD; Lab 1 - Using ArcGIS (con'd); Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
9/10/20	Why Cities Exist (B Chapter 1); F 1-3; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
9/15/20	Models of the Housing Market (B Chapter 2); Rethinking Federal Housing Policy, Ch. 1-2; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
9/17/20	Lab 2; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
9/22/20	Lab 2 (continued); Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
9/24/20	Modifications of the Urban Model (B, Chapter 3); F 4-6; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
9/29/20	Modifications of the Urban Model - continued; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
9/30/20	MID-TERM EXAM 1 POSTED
10/1/20	Read B Chapter 4, Rethinking Federal Housing Policy, Ch. 3-4; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
10/2/20	MID-TERM EXAM 1 DUE
10/6/20	Read B Chapter 4, Rethinking Federal Housing Policy, Ch. 3-4; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
10/8/20	Lab 3; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
10/13/20	Lab 3; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
10/15/20	Read B Chapter 5 (Highway congestion); F 7-10; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
10/20/20	Read B Chapter 5 (Highway congestion); Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
10/22/20	Lab 4; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
10/27/20	Lab 4; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
10/29/20	Read B Chapters 6-7; Rethinking Housing Policy, Ch 5; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm

11/3/20	Read B Chapters 6-7; Rethinking Housing Policy, Ch 5; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
11/4/20	MID-TERM EXAM 2 POSTED
11/5/20	Lab 5; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
11/6/20	MID-TERM EXAM 2 DUE
11/10/20	Lab 5; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
11/12/20	Rethinking Housing Policy, Conclusions + Appendix 1 + Appendix 2; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
11/17/20	Recorded Lecture; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
11/19/20	Lab 6; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
11/24/20	Lab 6; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
12/1/20	TBD; Office Hour Slots 10am-2pm
12/3/20	LAST CLASS MEETING; Office Hour Slots 12:45pm-2pm
12/9/20	FINAL EXAM POSTED
12/11/20	FINAL EXAM DUE
12/18/20	GRADES DUE FROM FACULTY