

**San José State University**  
**College of Social Sciences/Department of Economics**  
**ECON 166, Urban Economics, Section 2, Fall, 2021**

**Course and Contact Information**

Instructor: Mike Pogodzinski

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Office Hours:

- ***In-person*** bookable (via Google Calendar) **Office Hours** will be available on campus at SJSU on a first come-first served basis in 15-minute slots on **Mondays and Wednesdays** between **12:15pm and 2pm** when booked 24 hours in advance of proposed meeting (I will confirm the meeting time by email).
- Bookable (via Google Calendar) **Online** (via Zoom) **Office Hours** will be available on a first come-first served basis in 15-minute slots on **Tuesdays** between **3:30pm and 5:30pm** when booked 24 hours in advance of proposed meeting (I will confirm the meeting time).
- **Other days or times** are also available by mutual agreement.
- *Initially, we will use the same Zoom login for Office Hours and class lectures. For Office Hours, please respect other peoples' time slots – logon when it is your turn!*
- *To book an appointment go to*  
<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/selfsched?sstoken=UVByS3ltMnBiZk42fGRlZmF1bHR8MDQxYzRmYTE3MTZkMzMwMzA4YTc4YWQ2ZmNjOTY5ZDM> and navigate to the correct date.

Class Days/Time: Online

Classroom: Online

**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 Format**

Online. Requires use of University-provided remote desktop software. Extra credit involves use of Esri-provided software.

**Canvas Messaging**

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU on Spartan App Portal (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates.

**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 (available in many formats)

Jan K. Brueckner, *Lectures on Urban Economics*, The MIT Press (September 9, 2011) ISBN-13: 978-0262016360

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](http://www.aei.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/-rethinking-federal-housing-policy_101542221914.pdf))

Alain Bertaud, *Order without Design*, MIT Press (2018) ISBN-13: 978-0262038768

### Other Readings

Occasional readings posted on Canvas.

## Course Requirements and Assignments

“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.”

### Final Examination or Evaluation

“Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.”

## Grading Information

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

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**

Follow University pandemic safety protocols; silence cell phones and related devices during class.

### **University Policies**

Per [University Policy S16-9](#) relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

## ECON 166 / Urban Economics, Fall 2021, Course Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
23-Aug	Introduction to Urban Economics
24-Aug	Basic Concepts in Urban Economics
30-Aug	Basic Concepts in Urban Economics continued
31-Aug	Introduction to GIS
7-Sep	Lab 1
13-Sep	Lab 1 continued
14-Sep	Why Cities Exist - Bru Chapter 1; Ber Chapter 1
20-Sep	Why Cities Exist - Bru Chapter 1; Ber Chapter 1 continued
21-Sep	Models of Housing Markets - Bru Chapter 2; Ber Chapter 2 Cities and Housing Markets continued - Rethinking Federal
27-Sep	Housing Policy, Ch. 1-2; Overcoming the Nation's Daunting Housing Supply Shortage
28-Sep	Lab 2
30-Sep	Exam 1 posted
3-Oct	Exam 1 due
4-Oct	Lab 2 (continued)
5-Oct	Bru Chapter 3; Ber Chapter 3
11-Oct	Bru Chapter 3; Ber Chapter 3 continued
12-Oct	Lab 3
18-Oct	Lab 3 continued
19-Oct	Ber Chapter 4; Bru Chapter 4
25-Oct	Ber Chapter 4; Bru Chapter 4 continued
26-Oct	Lab 4 Exam 2 posted
31-Oct	Exam 2 due
1-Nov	Lab 4 (continued)
2-Nov	Bru Chapter 5; Ber Chapter 5
8-Nov	Bru Chapter 5; Ber Chapter 5 continued
9-Nov	Lab 5
15-Nov	Lab 5 continued
16-Nov	Bur Chapters 6 & 7; Ber Chapter 6
22-Nov	NO CLASS MEETING
29-Nov	Bur Chapters 6 & 7; Ber Chapter 6 (continued)
30-Nov	Lab 6
6-Dec	Lab 6 continued
9-Dec	Final Exam posted
12-Dec	Final Exam due