

Module Outline

Course Code : RE2705
Course Title : Urban Economics
Semester : Semester 2, Academic Year 2023/2024
Faculty : A/P Liao Wen-Chi
Department : Real Estate
Email : wliao@nus.edu.sg

Overview

This course applies principles of economics to study the economics of cities. The module starts with the economic forces shaping the urban economy and forming the equilibrium market outcomes. Subsequent topics include urban spatial structure, determinants of urban growth, urban transportation, and cities in the context of globalization. The delivery emphasizes Singapore's contexts, while the elaboration may be supplemented with international examples.

Learning Outcomes

Students can apply urban economic theories to understand reasons contributing to growth or decline of world's important cities. They will be able to appreciate how Singapore worked through its journey and arrived at the current situation as a city state. They can comprehend the basics of Singapore's future growth strategy and understand the ways to shape a cities with productivity, movability, and livability.

Course Prerequisite(s)

NIL

Course Preclusion(s)

EC3381 Urban Economics

General Guide & Reading

Urban Economics (9th Edition) by Arthur O'Sullivan. McGraw-Hill Higher Education

Tentative Schedule & Outline

Week	Date	Topic	Activity
1	15 – 19 Jan	Introduction, preview, and project brief	
2	22 – 26 Jan	Why do cities exist? Natural and infrastructure advantages.	
3	29 Jan – 2 Feb	Why do cities exist? Agglomeration economies	Tutorial 1 <i>Odd week groups</i>
4	5 – 9 Feb	Determination of the city size	Tutorial 1 <i>Even week groups</i>

	<i>CNY: 10 – 11 Feb. Following Monday is a PH.</i>		
5	12 – 16 Feb <i>12 Feb PH (see above)</i>	No class (CNY holidays) <i>Extra consultation hours TBA</i>	
6	19 – 23 Feb	Urban growth	Tutorial 2 <i>Even week groups</i>
Recess Week			
7	4 – 9 Mar	Future of cities	Tutorial 2 <i>Odd week groups</i>
8	11 – 15 Mar	Cities in the global economy	Tutorial 3 <i>Even week groups</i>
9	18 – 22 Mar	Urban form and decentralization	Tutorial 3 <i>Odd week groups</i>
10	25 – 29 Mar <i>28 Mar: NUS Well-Being Day</i> <i>29 Mar: Good Friday</i>	Urban land rent	Project presentation <i>Even week groups</i>
11*	1 – 5 Apr	Automobiles and road use	Project presentation <i>Odd week groups</i>
12	8 – 12 Apr <i>10 Apr: Hari Raya Puasa</i>	Urban public transportation	Tutorial 4 <i>Even week groups</i>
13	15 – 19 Apr	Group consultation and exam preparation	Tutorial 4 <i>Odd week groups</i>
	20 – 26 Apr	READING WEEK	
	27 Apr – 11 May <i>1 May: Labour Day</i>	EXAMINATION (2 WEEKS)	

There will be a consultation hour each week. TBA in the first class.

Assessment

Assessment Components	Weightage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class and workshop participation • Group project • Formative assessments • Final (summative) exam, 30 April 2024, 1 PM (2-hr open book) 	15% 25% 10% 50%
Total marks	100%

Academic Honesty & Plagiarism

Academic integrity and honesty is essential for the pursuit and acquisition of knowledge. The University and School expect every student to uphold academic integrity & honesty at all times. Academic dishonesty is any misrepresentation with the intent to deceive, or failure to acknowledge the source, or falsification of information, or inaccuracy of statements, or cheating at examinations/tests, or inappropriate use of resources.

Plagiarism is “the practice of taking someone else’s work or ideas and passing them off as one’ own” (The New Oxford Dictionary of English). The University and School will not condone plagiarism. Students should adopt this rule - You have the obligation to make clear to the assessor which is your own work, and which is the work of others. Otherwise, your assessor is entitled to assume that everything being presented for assessment is being presented as entirely your own work. This is a minimum standard. In case of any doubt, you should consult your instructor.

Additional guidance is available at:

- <http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/administrative-policies-procedures/acceptance-record#NUSCodeofStudentConduct>
- <http://nus.edu.sg/osa/resources/code-of-student-conduct>

About the lecturer

<https://bizfaculty.nus.edu.sg/faculty-details/?profId=663>