

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS ANALYSIS

COURSE SYLLABUS
FALL 2007

COURSE NUMBER: ECO 363
COURSE TITLE: Urban and Regional Economics
PREREQUISITES: ECO 230 or ECO 233
INSTRUCTOR: George Samuels
OFFICE: BA 210B
OFFICE HOURS: MW 8:00-9:00
TTh 9:30-11:00
and by appointment
REQUIRED TEXT: None
SUGGESTED SUPPLEMENTS: Articles on library reserve
COURSE DESCRIPTION: Problems of metropolitan and rural areas, location theory, regional resources, transportation problems, crime, and poverty.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

The student will have learned to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the basis of urban areas--including economies of scale and problems of transport costs.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of metropolitan patterns and city shapes.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of urban economic conditions.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the process of urban expansion.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of location analysis of economic activity.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of location analysis of households.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the urban transportation problem.
8. Demonstrate an understanding of sources of the transit problem.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of solutions to urban transit problems.

EXAMINATIONS:

Course averages are determined on the following basis:

Exam I
Paper
Final

Each of the above will have equal weight, except the highest score will be counted twice. Therefore, 400 total points are possible. Only one (1) make-up exam allowed for the semester.

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY:

Students who are absent from class for observance of a religious holy day will be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within one (1) week of returning to class. The student, no later than the 15th calendar day after the first day of the semester must notify the instructor of each scheduled class day that he/she would be absent for a religious holy day.

HANDICAPPED STUDENT POLICY:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic, Student Life program, or activity. Handicapped students may request academic assistance when needed from a Committee for Continuing Academic Assistance for Disabled Students by visiting the Director of the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Building Annex, or by calling ext. 1720.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Regular and punctual class attendance is required. No penalty will be imposed for three hours of unexcused absence if exams are not missed. If more than three hours of unexcused absence occurs, the student will be penalized at the rate of one percentage point per excessive absence.

Should a student be late for class (i.e., arrive after the roll has been taken), that student will be counted as absent. If a tardy student informs me of their presence after class, the tardiness will count as one-half of an absence.

If an exam is missed, and the reason for the absence is deemed acceptable, a makeup exam will be provided. If the absence is not accepted, either:

1. The missed exam will be dropped for courses in which one exam grade is dropped, or
2. Exams taken will count extra, or
3. The missed exam will count as zero in the tabulation of the course grade.

COURSE OUTLINE

I. Introduction--The Metropolitan and Regional Economy

Introduction

Kevin Lynch, "The Pattern of the Metropolis"

G. Manners, "Urban Expansion in the United States"

Benjamin Chinitz, "Contracts in Agglomeration: New York and Pittsburgh"

II. Intrametropolitan Industry Location

Edgar M. Hoover, "The Evolving Form and Organization of the Metropolis"

leon Moses and Harold Williamson, "The Location of Economic Activity in Cities"

John Kain, "The Distribution and Movement of Jobs and Industry"

Review

Exam

III. Intrametropolitan Location and Travel Behavior of the Urban Household and Housing Markets

John Kain, "The Journey to Work as a Determinant of Residential Location"

Eugene Brigham, "The Determinants of Residential Land Values"

Paper Work Session

IV. Urban Transportation

William Vickery, "Pricing in Urban and Suburban Transport"

J. Meyer, J. Kain, and M. Wohl, "The Urban Transportation Problem"

G. Kraft and T. Domenick, "Free Transit"

Roger Sherman, "A Private Ownership Bias in Transit Choice"

Alan Tait and David Morgan, "Energy and the Role of Gasoline Taxation"

Peter Hall and Carmen Hass-Klav, "Can Rail Save the City"

Review (Papers Due)

Final