

**Class Syllabus - Preliminary**  
**UAP 5234: Urban Economy and Public Policy**  
**Fall Semester 2007**  
August 11, 2007

**Instructor: Terry Holzheimer, Ph.D.; AICP**

Preferred email: [holzheim@vt.edu](mailto:holzheim@vt.edu)

Alternate: [tholzheimer@arlingtonva.us](mailto:tholzheimer@arlingtonva.us)

(703) 228-0850

Office hours by appointment.

**Course Description**

This course combines urban economic and urban geographic perspectives to create a deep appreciation of how metropolitan areas form, grow, and change, and the role of policy in shaping future patterns. The purposes of the course are to:

- Describe the economic processes of urban and metropolitan growth;
- Analyze patterns of development and economic and fiscal outcomes; and
- Identify normative approaches to addressing perceived distortions in how the market operates and assess public policy intervention.

**Required Readings**

Required Text - Arthur O'Sullivan, *Urban Economics*, McGraw-Hill (New York), 2003.

Other required readings will be posted on Blackboard or provided through website reference. Most lectures will have PowerPoint presentations that will be posted on Blackboard following each class.

**Course Requirements**

The requirements and weight for grading purposes are as follows:

1. Participation & presentations (25%) – regular course attendance is required, with a maximum of two absences excused. Students are expected to have read all assigned materials before class so that they can take an active role in class discussions.
2. Research Assignments (65%) – two research assignments will be required for the semester. They will be provided at the first class session along with their due dates.
3. Quizzes (10%) – one or two pop quizzes on the readings will be given during the semester.

**Class Schedule**

**August 20, 2007: Overview of urban economics and public policy.**

O'Sullivan, Chapter 1

**August 27, 2007: The rise of cities and Central Place Theory.**

O'Sullivan, Chapters 2 and 4.

Hartshorn, Truman. 1980. Chapter 7 from *Interpreting the City: An Urban Geography*, Wiley (New York).

Knox, Paul. 1994. Chapter 2 in *Urbanization: An Introduction to Urban Geography*, Prentice Hall (Englewood Cliffs, NJ).

**September 3, 2007: Agglomeration economies and clusters.**

O'Sullivan, Chapters 3 and 5.

Hartshorn, Truman. 1980. Chapters 3, and 6 from *Interpreting the City: An Urban Geography*, Wiley (New York).

Porter, Michael. 1990. *The Competitive Advantage of Nations*. The Free Press (New York). Pp. 210-225.

Saxenian, Annalee. 1996. "Inside-Out: Regional Networks and Industrial Adaptation in Silicon Valley and Route 128." *Cityscape*. Pp. 41-60. <http://www.huduser.org/periodicals/cityscape/vol2num2/ch3.html>

**September 10, 2007: Land rent and urban form.**

O'Sullivan, Chapters 6 and 7.

Garreau, Joel. 1991. Chapter 1 from *Edge City: Life on the New Frontier*. Doubleday (New York).

Hartshorn, Truman. 1980. Chapter 11 from *Interpreting the City: An Urban Geography*, Wiley (New York).

Knox, Paul. 1994. Chapter 4 in *Urbanization: An Introduction to Urban Geography*, Prentice Hall (Englewood Cliffs, NJ).

**September 17, 2007: Density.**

Churchman, Azra. "Disentangling the Concept of Density." *Journal of Planning Literature*, Vol. 13, No. 4, 389-411 (1999)

Holzheimer, Terry. 2007. Urban Development Intensities in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area. <http://www.arlingtonvirginiausa.com/docs/UrbanDevelopmentIntensities.pdf>

**September 24, 2007: Job Dispersion, Sprawl and Suburban Dependence.**

Bingham, Richard D., and Veronica Z. Kalich. 1996. "The Tie That Binds: Downtowns, Suburbs, and the Dependence Hypothesis." *Journal of Urban Affairs* 18, no. 2: 153-71.

Brennan, John, and Edward W. Hill. 1999. *Where Are the Jobs?: Cities, Suburbs, and the Competition for Employment*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution. <http://www.brookings.edu/es/urban/hillexsum.htm>

Ewing, Reid. 1997. "Is Los Angeles-Style Sprawl Desirable?" *Journal of the American Planning Association* 63, no.1: 107-126.

Fulton, William, Rolf Pendall, Mai Nguyen, and Alicia Harrison. 2001. *Who Sprawls Most? How Growth Patterns Differ across the U.S.* Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution. [www.brookings.edu/es/urban/publications/Fulton.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/es/urban/publications/Fulton.pdf)

Glaeser, Edward L. 2001. *Job Sprawl: Employment Location in U.S. Metropolitan Areas*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution. <http://www.brookings.edu/metro/publications/glaeserjobsprawlexsum.htm>

Gordon, Peter, and Harry W. Richardson. 1996. "Beyond Polycentricity: The Dispersed Metropolis, Los Angeles, 1970-1990." *Journal of the American Planning Association* 62, no.3: 289-95.

Hill, Edward W., Harold L. Wolman, and Coit Cook III Ford. 1995. "Can Suburbs Survive without Their Central Cities? Examining the Suburban Dependence Hypothesis." *Urban Affairs Review* 31, no. 2: 147-74.

Lang, Robert E. 2000. *Office Sprawl: The Evolving Geography of Business*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution. <http://www.brookings.edu/es/urban/OfficeSprawl/Lang.pdf>

Mumphrey, Anthony J. jr. and Krishna M. Akundi. 1998. "The Suburban Dependency Hypothesis, Reconsidered." *Journal of Planning Literature* 13, no.2:146-157

Pivo, Gary. 1990. "The Net of Mixed Beads: Suburban Office Development in Six Metropolitan Regions." *Journal of the American Planning Association* 56, no.4: pp.457-69

**October 1, 2007: Evolution of the Washington Economy.**

Bowling, Kenneth. *Locating the Capital*. pp. 65-71.

Garreau, Joel. 1991. Chapter 10 from *Edge City: Life on the New Frontier*. Doubleday (New York).

Van Dyne, Larry. 1987. "The Making of Washington." *Washingtonian*, November 1987 pp. 161-320.

**October 5, 2007: First assignment due.**

**October 8, 2007: No Class – Fall Break.**

**October 15, 2007: Land use and the fiscal realities of development.**

O'Sullivan, Chapter 16.

Heilbrun, James. 1981. Chapter 14 from *Urban Economics and Public Policy*. St. Martins Press (New York).

Holzheimer, Terry. 1998. "How has fiscal impact analysis been integrated into local comprehensive planning? Case studies of Howard County, Maryland and Loudoun County, Virginia." *Planners Casebook*, American Planning Association. Spring. <http://design.asu.edu/apa/proceedings98/Holz/holz.html>

Ladd, Helen. 1998. Chapter 3 from *Local Government Tax and Land Use Policies in the United States: Understanding the Links*. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. (Northampton, MA)

Ladd, Helen and John Yinger. 1989. Chapters 3 and 4 from *America's Ailing Cities: Fiscal Health and the Design of Urban Policies*. Johns Hopkins University Press (Baltimore).

**October 22, 2007: Land use policies: regulation and negotiation.**

O'Sullivan, Chapter 9.

Altshuler, Alan A., and A. Gomez-Ibanez. 1993. Chapter 9 in *Regulation for Revenue: The Political Economy of Land Use Exactions*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.

Mildner, Gerard C. S. 2001. Chapter 7: "Regionalism and the Growth Management Movement" in *Smarter Growth: Market-Based Strategies for Land-Use Planning in the 21st Century*, 113-130. Greenwood Press. (Westport, CT).

Pendall, Rolf, Robert Puentes, and Jonathan Martin. 2006. *From Traditional to Reformed: A Review of the Land Use Regulations in the Nation's 50 largest Metropolitan Areas*. The Brookings Institution. ( Washington, DC) [http://www.brookings.edu/metro/pubs/20060810\\_landuse.htm](http://www.brookings.edu/metro/pubs/20060810_landuse.htm)

Muro, Mark and Robert Puentes. 2004. "Investing in a Better Future: A Review of the Fiscal and Competitive Advantages of Smarter Growth Development Patterns." *A discussion paper prepared for The Brookings Institution Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy*.  
[http://www.brookings.edu/metro/publications/200403\\_smartgrowth.htm](http://www.brookings.edu/metro/publications/200403_smartgrowth.htm)

Nelson, Arthur C., "Growth Management" in *Principles of Local Government Planning*, Third Edition, American Planning Association.

Staley, Samuel R. 2001. Chapter 11: "Markets, Smart Growth, and the Limits of Policy" in *Smarter Growth: Market-Based Strategies for Land-Use Planning in the 21st Century*, 201-218. Greenwood Press (Westport, CT).

**October 29, 2007: Externalities, efficiency and equity.**

Steinemann, Anne C., William C. Apgar, James H. Brown. Chapters 6 and 9 in *Microeconomics for Public Decisions*.

**November 5: The economics of housing.**

O'Sullivan, Chapters 13 and 14.

Tiebout, Charles. 1956. "A Pure Theory of Local Expenditures." *The Journal of Political Economy*, V.64, No.5: 416-424.

**November 12, 2007: Social equity and diversity in the Washington, DC Region .**

Brookings Institution Center on Metropolitan Policy. *A Region Divided: The State of Growth in Greater Washington DC*. <http://www.brookings.edu/ES/urban/webregiondivided.pdf>

Rivlin, Alice. 2003. *Revitalizing Washington's Neighborhoods: A Vision Takes Shape*. The Brookings Institution. Washington, DC.  
<http://www.brookings.edu/es/urban/qwrp/publinks/2003/rivlinrevitalizing.pdf>

Singer, Audrey, Samantha Freidman, Ivan Chung and Marie Price. 2001. *The World in a Zip Code: Washington, D.C. as a New Region of Immigration*. The Brookings Institution. Washington, DC.  
<http://www.brookings.edu/es/urban/immigration/immigration.pdf>

**November 19, 2007: No class – Thanksgiving Break.**

**November 26, 2007: Case study presentations**

**December 3, 2007: Case study presentations and the second assignment is due**