

Urban and Regional Economics (ECON-L6000)

Prottoy A. Akbar & Pablo E. Warnes

Period V, Spring 2024

OVERVIEW

Class Times	Tue & Thu 10.15 - 12.00	Instructors	Prottoy A. Akbar (prottoy.akbar@aalto.fi) Pablo E. Warnes (pablo.warnes@aalto.fi)
Locations	T003 or U121a (lectures) V301 (TA sessions)	TA	Tuomas Markkula (tuomas.markkula@aalto.fi)

Course Description: This course will introduce students to the foundational work in urban and regional economics, as well as an overview of the more recent work in these fields. By the end of this course, students should be well acquainted with the tools and methods used to study explicitly spatial problems in the economic geography of regional and urban economics. They should also understand the key questions that drive these fields, and recognize the academic research done at the frontier of these fields.

Contact hours for the course will be composed of 12 lecture sessions and the following 2 TA sessions:

1. May 7, 13:00-14:30, V301 BIZ Lounge
2. June 4, 13:00-14:30, V301 BIZ Lounge

EVALUATION

Grading: The final grade will be based on the following:

Reading Assignments	20%
Paper replication report 1	20%
Paper presentation	30%
Paper replication report 2	30%

Reading assignments: Starting from lecture 3, before each lecture, students have to read a paper on the corresponding lecture topic and submit a short assignment summarizing the major points of the paper. See further guidelines on MyCourses. These assignments will be due at the beginning of the lecture.

Paper replication: Every student will have to replicate the results of a quantitative paper. There will be a guide (in the form of 2 problem sets) that will help you through the replication process. All the questions in the guide must be answered in full in order to earn full marks. The first part of the replication is due on **May 16.** and the second part will be due on **June 11.**

Paper presentation: Each student will have to present a published paper during one of the last two lectures. Students will be able to choose which paper they want to present from a list of papers that will be provided on the first day of classes. The goal of the presentation should be to present the paper as if the student had written it.

COURSE OUTLINE (TENTATIVE)

The schedule of lectures is as follows:

Lecture	Date	Topic	Location
1	23 Apr	Introduction to Urban and Regional Economics	T003
2	25 Apr	Spatial equilibrium: canonical urban models	T003
3	30 Apr	Land use and slums	T003
4	2 May	Housing markets	T003
5	7 May	Location sorting and preferences over amenities	U121a
TA-1	7 May	TA session 1	V301
6	14 May	Migration and urbanization	T003
7	16 May	Quantitative spatial equilibrium models	T003
8	21 May	Segregation and neighborhood effects	T003
9	23 May	Regions, cities, and the environment	T003
10	28 May	Transportation	U121a
11	30 May	Topic of popular interest, Student presentations	T003
12	4 Jun	Student presentations	U121a
TA-2	4 Jun	TA session 2	V301

COURSE POLICY

Academic Integrity: Students in this course will be expected to comply with the Aalto University Code of Academic Integrity.

Disability Information: If you have a disability that requires special testing accommodations or other classroom modifications, you need to notify the instructor no later than the first week of the course period. You may be asked to provide documentation of your disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations.

Classroom Recording: To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students *may not* record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student's own private use.