

Urban economics

Degree : Bachelor – 3rd year

Minor speciality: Regional Analysis

Semester: 5

Total teaching hours: 18 hours

Lecturer : Nelly EXBRAYAT

Contact : nelly.exbrayat@univ-st-etienne.fr

Aim of the course: This introductory course to urban economics explores the main mechanisms underlying residential choices, as well as their consequences for city dynamics and urban forms.

Outline of the course:

The course is structured in two parts. The first part defines the concept of economic density and the main stylized facts regarding economic density. We also develop the main statistical measures of urban areas and their commuting zone. The second part takes a close look at the monocentric city model and its main theoretical extensions. Then, we examine specific urban models allowing to analyze some of the most important issues for cities (environment, inequalities, or crime for example).

Learning objectives (skills):

At the end of the course, you will be able to:

- use various statistical indicators to measure urban areas, their size and commuting zone;
- describe the main stylized facts about cities in rich or developing countries;
- solve a residential choice model and use it to explain stylized facts about cities;
- discuss the main public policy issues at urban or metropolitan level.

Evaluation :

Written exam at the end of the course

Prerequisites :

Microeconomics I, II and III ; quantitative methods I.

References :

J. Brueckner (2011). Lectures on Urban economics. MIT press

A. O'Sullivan McGraw-Hill (2018). Urban Economics 9th edition

P. McCann (2013). Modern Urban and Regional Economics, Oxford University Press.

E. L. Glaeser (2011). Triumph of the City, Macmillan, Londres.

Fujita, Thisse (2013). Economics of Agglomeration: Cities, Industrial Location, and Globalization. Cambridge University Press