Regional and Urban Economics

ECTS : 6

Enseignant responsable : Michail DIMOU

Langue du cours : Français

Volume horaire : 36

Description du contenu de l'enseignement :

The course aims to provide an analysis of regional and urban economics. The course addresses several issues, including households' and firms' location strategies, urban development, urban policies, local taxation, urban transport, real estate prices, and sustainable city projects. The course offers students a comprehensive theoretical analysis of regional and urban development mechanisms, complemented by essential empirical work, including numerous examples and case studies. This course is on Moodle. **1** Introduction **2** History of urban economics **3** Theories of location **4** Theories of location **5** Urban sprawl - measures and examples **6** History of urban planning and architecture **7** Urban policies - taxation **8** Urban policies - land competition **9** Regional and urban disparities **10** Regional and urban transport **11** Environment and sustainable city **12** Final assessment session

Compétences à acquérir :

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Identify the economic forces and principles that explain the existence and growth of cities;
- Analyze firms' and households' location choices;
- Explain how land and housing markets function;
- Describe and interpret urban equilibrium models;
- Evaluate urban policy outcomes and taxation mechanisms;
- Assess environmental and transportation challenges in urban areas.

Pré-requis obligatoires

Students eligible to take this course may come from various academic backgrounds, including economics, management, business administration, political science, mathematics, sociology, geography, or regional studies. As the course adopts a quantitative and analytical approach, participants are expected to have completed introductory courses in microeconomics and macroeconomics, or to demonstrate equivalent foundational knowledge in these areas. Prior coursework in economic analysis and mathematics is also recommended to facilitate understanding of the course material.

Mode de contrôle des connaissances :

Group project and presentation (50%): Teams work on a specific topic related to urban or regional economics and present their analysis in class. **Final exam (50%):** Individual written exam covering theoretical and applied topics discussed during the course. The numerical grade distribution will dictate the final grade. The passing grade for a course is 10 out of 20. **Attendance** Attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to attend all classes, arrive on time, and stay for the entire session. Repeated absences or lateness may affect the final grade. **Class Participation** Active participation is encouraged, as it contributes to making classes more engaging and instructive. Students are expected to come prepared and contribute thoughtfully to discussions. When participation is part of the course assessment, it is evaluated based on the quality of contributions rather than their quantity. **Exam Policy** Students are not allowed to bring any materials into exams, except those explicitly authorized by the instructor. Unexcused absences from exams or failure to submit assigned cases will result in a grade of zero when calculating final averages. All exams must be submitted at the end of the examination period. **Communication and Grading** All questions or concerns regarding grading or course policies must follow the official procedures. No direct negotiation with instructors about grades or assessments is permitted. Be aware of the rules in Université Paris Dauphine about plagiarism and cheating during exams. All work turned in for this course must be your own work or that of your own group. Working as part of a group implies that you are an active participant and fully contribute to the group's output.

Bibliographie, lectures recommandées :

It is pretty challenging to provide references for a course that covers all aspects of urban and regional economics. Interesting books are the following:

- P. McCann, Urban and Regional Economics, 2001, Oxford University Press;
- P. McCann, Modern Urban and Regional Economics, 2013, Oxford University Press;
- A. O'Sullivan, Urban Economics, Latest Edition, 2019 McGraw-Hill;
- M. Dimou, A. Schaffar, 2026, Économie urbaine, La Découverte (forthcoming).

Michel Dimou is a Professor of Economics at the University of Toulon. His research focuses on urban and regional development, migration dynamics, and socioeconomic inequalities. He currently serves as the Honorary President of the French-speaking section of the International Regional Science Association. He is also a member of the National Council of Universities (CNU) in Economics and of the French High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (HCERES). Since 2018, Michel Dimou has been teaching the Economic Globalization course at Université Paris-Dauphine.

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