ECO 4935-002 Regional Economics (3 credits)  
MW 3:30–4:45 p.m., CMC 204  

"Course Syllabus"  

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Spring Semester 2014  
J. S. DeSalvo  

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1. Introduction to Regional Economics (0.5 class periods)  


2. Location of the Individual Producer: Locational Independence (3.5 class periods)  

a. Transport-Cost-Minimizing Location on a Line  


b. Transport-Cost and Total Cost-Minimizing Location on a Plane (Weberian Location Theory)  


c. Extensions to Modern Production Theory and Profit Maximization  


d. Extensions to Variable Transport Rates, Modal Interchange, and Route Structure  

Hoover and Giarratani, Ch. 3, pp. 58–65.  
Alonso, pp. 343–347.  

e. Assessment  


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FIRST EXAMINATION: Monday, January 22, 3:30–4:45 p.m., CMC 204, Sections 1–2
3. Interdependent Firm Location: Dispersive Forces (2 class periods)

Alonso, pp. 354–357.
Hoover and Giarratani, Ch. 4, pp. 75–90.

4. Interdependent Firm Location: Cohesive Forces (2 class periods)

a. The Hotelling Model of Spatial Competition

Hoover and Giarratani, Ch. 4, pp. 96–99.

b. Agglomeration Economies

McCann, Ch. 2, pp. 51–56.
Hoover and Giarratani, Ch. 5, pp. 119–126.

SECOND EXAMINATION: Monday, February 10, 3:30–4:45 p.m., CMC 204, Sections 3–4

5. Central Place Theory and the Urban Hierarchy (2 class periods)

a. Traditional Central Place Theory

McCann, Ch. 3, pp. 79–86, 89–92.
Hoover and Giarratani, Ch. 8, pp. 203–234.

b. Modern Central Place Theory: A Brief Introduction

McCann, Ch. 3, pp. 86–89.

6. The Spatial Structure of the Urban Economy (4 class periods)

a. The von Thünen Model and Modern Non-Residential Land-Use Theory

McCann, Ch. 4, pp. 107–120, 139–141.

THIRD EXAMINATION: Monday, March 3, 3:30–4:45 p.m., CMC 204, Sections 5a–6a
b. Modern Residential Land-Use Theory

McCann, Ch. 4, pp. 120–126, 132–138.

7. Regional Income Determination: Demand-Side Theory (4 class periods)

a. Economic Base Model (1 class period)

McCann, Ch. 5, pp. 154–166.

b. Keynesian Model (1 class period)

McCann, Ch. 5, pp. 166–173.

FOURTH EXAMINATION: Monday, March 24, 3:30–4:45 p.m., CMC 204, Sections 6b–7b

c. Input-Output Model (1.5 class periods)

Joseph S. DeSalvo and Debra L. Fuller, *The Economic Impact of the Port of Tampa* (Tampa, FL: Center for Economic and Management Research, College of Business Administration, University of South Florida, CEMR-RR-8801, July 1988), Ch. 5, pp. 105–119.
McCann, Ch. 5, pp. 175–181; App. 5.3, pp. 190–192.

d. Economic Impact Analysis (0.5 class periods)


8. Regional Income Determination and Interregional Migration: Supply-Side Theory (2 class periods)

DeSalvo and Fuller, Ch. 5, pp. 119–124.
Miller and Blair, Ch. 9, pp. 317–322.
McCann, Ch. 6, pp. 209–220.

FIFTH EXAMINATION: Monday, April 14, 3:30–4:45 p.m., CMC 204, Sections 7c–8
9. Policy Analysis (4 class periods)

McCann, Ch. 10, pp. 330–351.

FINAL EXAMINATION: Wednesday, April 30, 8–10 p.m., CMC 204, Section 9 (note the time)

—Additional Information—

Readings: There is no textbook.

Course Description: This course surveys regional economics at an advanced undergraduate level. It has a prerequisite of ECO 3101, Intermediate Price Theory, or the equivalent. We draw on consumer-choice theory, demand theory, production and cost theory, and the theory of competitive and imperfectly competitive markets. You are expected to know this material, and it will not be reviewed in class. Some calculus is used, but you will not be held responsible for that on exams. The course covers theories of the location and land use of households and firms, the hierarchy of urban areas in terms of spatial size, population, and products (called central place theory); the spatial structure of the urban economy; regional income determination; interregional migration; and urban and regional policy analysis.

Course Objectives: This course is intended to increase your understanding of regional growth and development by exposing you to the major theories and methods of regional analysis as well as to provide you with the basis for making sound judgments about regional policy issues.

Learning Outcomes: You will learn the major factors leading firms and household to locate where they do; how land is allocated to different types of firms and households; what factors determine the spatial and economic structure of regions; applicable models of regional economic development, such as economic base analysis, the Keynesian model, the input-output model, and economic impact analysis. Using these models and theories, you will be able to analyze governmental policies intended to benefit regions, such as traditional zoning, land-use controls, and regional development initiatives. Students who have taken this course have found jobs in urban and regional planning agencies and economic development agencies.

Class Attendance: I've noticed that undergraduate students often do not regularly attend class. It has been documented, however, that students who attend class (controlling for other factors) make on average a letter grade higher than students who do not attend class. Nevertheless, although I strongly encourage attendance, I do not require it. Since I do not require attendance, there is no need to seek permission to miss a class, other than a class on an exam day. To receive permission to miss a scheduled exam, I require notification in advance, except when this is impossible, with a verifiable reason that is acceptable to me. If excused from a scheduled exam, I normally expect you to take the exam before its scheduled date. I follow USF policy on missing exams for religious observance: Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent from class due to a major religious observance must provide notice of the date(s) to the instructor, in writing, by the second class meeting.

Exams and Grading: There are six equally weighted and non-cumulative multiple-choice exams, including the final. The dates of these exams are included in the course outline and readings. The grading scale is 89.5–100 = A, 79.5–89.4 = B, 69.5–79.4 = C, 59.5–69.4 = D, 59.4 or below = F. No plus or minus grades will be given. Grades will not be curved. There is no S/U option for this courses, and no I grade will be given.

Recording of Lectures and Use of Lecture Notes: I don't mind if you record my lectures, but only for your personal use and not for sale. The same restriction is placed on the lecture notes that I post on Canvas.
Canvas: I will use Canvas to post course materials. If you have not accessed the myUSF web portal before, follow these steps: (1) Open a web browser and go to https://my.usf.edu; (2) in the USF NetID text box, enter your USF NetID in lowercase; (3) in the password text box, enter your NetID password; (4) click on the login button; (5) your personal myUSF page should appear. USF IT will assign you an e-mail address. If you want to use another one, you can request that the assigned one be changed. My postings to Canvas are in PDF format, so you will need to have Adobe Reader on your computer. You may download Adobe Reader free of charge at www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html.

Contact Information: My office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:15–3:30 p.m. and 4:45–6:00 p.m., in CMC 207E. My office phone number is 813-974-6388, and my home phone number is 727-866-9685. I work at home much of the time and do not mind being called there by students. However, I would appreciate it if you did not call after 5 p.m. You can also contact me via e-mail. My e-mail address is jdesalvo@usf.edu.

USF Policies on Academic Integrity, Academic Disruption, and Grievance Procedures: Familiarize yourself with these policies, which can be found at http://www.ugs.usf.edu/catalogs/0708/adapap.htm and at http://www.ugs.usf.edu/catalog/0708/arcsap.htm.

Emergencies: In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for USF to suspend normal operations. During this time, USF may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Canvas, Elluminate, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It's the responsibility of the student to monitor the Canvas site for each class for course-specific communication, and the main USF, College, and department websites, e-mails, and MoBull messages for important general information.

Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities are responsible for registering with Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) in order to receive academic accommodation. SDS encourages students to notify instructors of accommodation needs at least 5 business days prior to needing the accommodation. A letter from SDS must accompany the request.