GEOGRAPHY 3465: URBAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY

Course Outline
Fall Term 2016

Instructor: Dr. Godwin Arku
Email: within OWL
Office: SSC 2427
Office Hours: Thursday 2:30 – 4:30pm (or by appointment)

TA: Evan Cleave. Office Hours: Tuesdays 2 – 4pm. Office Number: SSC 2436


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OVERVIEW:
The promotion of economic development is an important item on the policy agendas of regions and communities around the world. Communities of various sizes are adopting a wide range of policies aimed at promoting economic growth and enhancing the economic and fiscal health of their communities. This course takes an interdisciplinary approach to examine economic development policies—ranging from “traditional” to more recent “innovative” practices. Topics include concepts and theories of urban economic development, analytical techniques for describing and evaluating urban economies, development strategies and tools, technology policies, and place-based economic development strategies.

COURSE FORMAT:
The course will combine formal lectures, seminar presentations, guest presentations from economic development experts, and class discussions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
The intent of the course is to geographically survey, conceptually situate, and critically analyze the recent economic development programs and policies that are being implemented in urban communities. Case studies will be drawn from various advanced economies (e.g. Canada, the United States, and Western European countries). The course is designed for third and fourth year students and the objective is to support students’ preparation for: i) career in urban and regional economic development policy and planning, ii) graduate work in the area of urban geography and economic development. By the end of the course students will:
1. Gained a thorough understanding of classical and contemporary literature, theories, and debates in economic development policy in urban and regional settings;
2. Sharpened skills of selected methods and analytical tools frequently used in economic development planning, including practical applications;
3. Obtained Hands-on experience in developing an economic development profile of selected geographical localities.
4. Developed an in-depth knowledge of recent ‘innovative’ economic development practices of communities, processes involved in developing these strategies, and their spatial impacts;
5. Familiarized themselves with economic development policies of municipal, provincial and federal governments
6. Learned to work in a team to achieve a research or policy goal as well as obtained presentation skills

PREREQUISITE: Third or fourth year status; At least one of Geography 1400F/G, 2210A/B, 2220A/B, 2420A/B, 2460F/G

OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON PREREQUISITES: “Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”
COURSE READINGS:
Selected textbooks will be used throughout the course although students will not be required to purchase them. Relevant articles on various topics will be posted on the course’s webpage. In addition, relevant published reports by various levels of government will be made available to students for consultation.

COURSE EVALUATION:
Course assessments and grades for the course are as follows:

- Assignment # 1: 15% Due: September 29th
- Assignment # 2: 25% Due: October 20th
- Research Presentation: 5% Due: December 1st
- Major Paper: 35% Due: December 1st
- A Reflection paper: 10% Due: December 8th
- Class Participation: 10%

COURSE POLICY STATEMENTS
Class Participation is Absolutely Essential in this Course: Attendance of the lectures and tutorials is not optional. Your participation mark of 10% is based on regular attendance, active contributions in lectures and tutorials, and individual presentation of reading materials and information from local news media. Students are expected to attend all lectures and tutorials and are strongly encouraged to read relevant articles/chapters before coming to these classes. For each tutorial session, selected students will be tasked to summarize the readings for the day and also lead the discussion of these materials. The teaching assistant will keep track of attendance at all lectures and tutorials.

Missing Classes: Unless permission is granted students cannot absent themselves from GUEST LECTURES. Failure to attend guest lectures will attract a heavy penalty, mostly likely zero score for class participation mark. For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf. Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

Late Submission: One percent point (1%) per weekday (weekends count as one weekday) will be deducted from late assignments. Assignments will not be accepted if handed in more than one week after the due date.

Emails: All emails should be sent within OWL. Please DO NOT use my regular UWO email address.

COURSE WEB PAGE (OWL)
During the term, information pertaining to lectures, assignments and other course-related matters will be posted on the course web page (OWL). Please note that copies of my lecture overheads/ppt presentations will also be posted a day before the lectures. These are for review purposes only. The overheads provide only a very condensed overview of the material covered in class. They do not constitute adequate notes by themselves, and are no substitute for regular attendance of lectures.

PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
“Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotations marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).”

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Use of electronic devices: Please note that no electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations. As well, uses of electronic devices are not permitted during lectures and tutorial sessions.
**SCHEDULE OF TOPICS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sept 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th><strong>Topic: Introductory overview</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lectures</strong></td>
<td>- Introduction and course overview&lt;br&gt;- The economic and political context of urban economic development&lt;br&gt;- What is economic development?&lt;br&gt;- Why should urban government do economic development?&lt;br&gt;- The economic development problem</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tutorial</strong></td>
<td><em><strong>No Tutorial This Week</strong></em></td>
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<tr>
<th>Sept 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th><strong>Topic: Concepts &amp; Theories of Economic Development</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lecture</strong></td>
<td>- Fundamental concepts and issues of urban economic development&lt;br&gt;- Classical theories on urban economic development&lt;br&gt;- Neo-classical economic theory&lt;br&gt;- Economic base theories&lt;br&gt;- Current perspectives on urban economic development</td>
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<td><strong>Tutorial</strong></td>
<td>- Profiling localities/communities: questions, unit of analysis, data sources&lt;br&gt;- Assignment #1 introduced</td>
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<tr>
<th>Sept 22th</th>
<th>Topic: Introduction to Analytical Methods for Local/Urban Economic Development Planning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>▪ Information and analytical requirements for local economic planning</td>
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<td>▪ Understanding an economy’s strength and weaknesses</td>
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<td>▪ Analytical techniques</td>
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<td>▪ Economic base analysis (location quotients)</td>
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<td>▪ Dynamic analysis (shift-share)</td>
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<td>▪ Cluster analysis</td>
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<td>▪ Labour flow analysis</td>
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<td>▪ Business sector analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>▪ Class discussion – Dynamic global forces and economic development</td>
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*Lecture*

- Information and analytical requirements for local economic planning
- Understanding an economy’s strength and weaknesses
- Analytical techniques
  - Economic base analysis (location quotients)
  - Dynamic analysis (shift-share)
  - Cluster analysis
  - Labour flow analysis
  - Business sector analysis

*Tutorial*

- Class discussion – Dynamic global forces and economic development

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<tr>
<th>Sept 29th</th>
<th>Topic: Economic Development Approaches</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>▪ Differences in approaches to economic development policy in US, Canada and Europe</td>
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<td>▪ Industrial Recruitment and Retention Strategies</td>
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<td>▪ Supply-side approaches to economic development: competing for businesses</td>
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<td>▪ Criticisms of recruitment strategies</td>
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<td>▪ Demand-side approaches to economic development: indigenous development</td>
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<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>▪ Class Discussion</td>
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<td>▪ Assignment #2 introduced</td>
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<tr>
<th>October 6th</th>
<th>Topic: Economic Development in Ontario - I</th>
<th>Adrian Buttazzoni – Undergraduate Project Presentation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>▪ Institutional environment for economic development in Ontario/Canada</td>
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<td>▪ Levels of economic development delivery in Canada</td>
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<td>▪ Some recent economic development approaches</td>
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<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>▪ Discussion</td>
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<th>October 13th</th>
<th>Topic: Economic Development in Ontario - II</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lecture</strong></td>
<td>▪ Trends in Ontario municipalities’ economic development approaches, problems, challenges and responses</td>
<td>GUEST LECTURER: TBA.</td>
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<td><strong>Tutorial</strong></td>
<td>▪ Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<th>October 20th</th>
<th>Topic: Economic Development in Ontario - III</th>
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| **Lecture**  | ▪ Ways of attracting, retaining and promoting business growth  
  ➢ Case Study | GUEST LECTURER: TBA |
| **Tutorial** | ▪ Discussion  
  ▪ Major Project introduced |  |


| Oct 27th | FALL STUDY BREAK  
***NO CLASS*** |  |
Nov 3rd | Topic: Creative Economy
---|---
Lecture | - What is the new economy?
- The Creative class, human capital in economic development
- Creative cities: What are these cities doing?
- Quality of life policies
Tutorial | - Discussion


November 10th | Topic: Technology & Economic Development
---|---
Lecture | - Technology and urban economic development
- Cluster strategy, Networks and Linkages
- Business incubators
- High-tech parks
- Industry targeting
Tutorial | - Class Discussion


November 17th | Topic: Place Branding and Economic Development
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**Lecture** | - What is place branding?
- Why place branding?
- What are the types of place branding?
- Integrating place branding into economic development strategy
- Evidence of place branding

**Tutorial** | - Discussion
- Major Project Review

Guest Lecturer: Evan Cleave—Ph.D student and TA.


**November 24th** | **Topic: Place and Project-Based Economic Development Strategies**
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**Lecture** | - Empowerment zones  
- Enterprise zones  
- Neighbourhoods (e.g. BIAs)
**Tutorial** | - Class Discussion


**December 1st** | **Topic: Presentation/Wrap-up**
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**Lecture** | - Individual/Group research presentations
**Tutorial** | - Course Overview  
- Final Project Due
Relevant websites

1. American Council for Community and Economic Research (ACCRA)
3. Economic Development Association of Canada
5. International Economic development Council (IEDC)
6. Ontario Association of Community Futures Development Corporations
8. Ontario Municipal Information Network ([www.OMKN.ca](http://www.OMKN.ca))
9. Rural Economic Development Data and Intelligence (REDDI) - REDDI can help with your local economic development planning from strategic planning to downtown revitalization and project financing
10. [www.investinontario.com](http://www.investinontario.com)- Ontario Government website for comparative investment data, real estate and community information