

AECO 4080.090
Principles of Economics and Community Development

Spring 2009

Instructor: Mr. Paul Hendershot
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Class Location:
UNT Dallas Campus
Room 336
Meeting Time: Tuesdays 6:30-9:20

Office Hours: By Appointment

Class website: www.unt.edu/aeco/hendershot/econcommdev.htm

Course Description

This course acquaints students with the theory and practice of local and regional economic and community development. We will consider how local and regional development economic development is pursued by practitioners, policy makers, and local elected officials. The course goal is for students to gain a basic understanding of development theory and how theory leads to practice, and perhaps most importantly, to the creation and implementation of strategies to enhance local development. In achieving the learning objectives described below, we will use a combination of textbook readings, lectures, class discussion, case studies, exercises, and guest speaker presentations.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify basic theories of regional growth
2. Understand the differences between regional/local economic growth and economic development.
3. Understand sources and uses of data describing economic and community development.
4. Recognize the political context of the practice of economic and community development.
5. Identify and understand the logic behind the most common economic development strategies undertaken by cities and other local governments.
6. Have a basic understanding of approaches used to finance economic and community development strategies.
7. Identify and understand metrics used to assess the performance/value of economic and community development efforts.

Course texts:

Blakely, E. & Bradshaw, T. (2002). *Planning Local Economic Development: Theory and Practice* (3rd Ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Course Structure, Requirements, Grading Criteria

We will use a combination of lectures, guest presentations, and class discussions to achieve our learning goals, the course will primarily be conducted in a seminar format. If you have not participated in a seminar class before, I will introduce topics and offer guidance, but students are expected to participate. Students will use class readings from texts and other sources and any lectures I offer as the basis for discussion. As such, it is imperative that you read each week's reading assignments before coming to class. My lectures will augment the readings, not parrot them. {Please note that there will be subjects, such as data analysis and techniques that will be much more weighted towards a lecture/training approach.) Your grades will consist of 4 components: 1) two quizzes, 2) class participation/news articles, 3) case study and, 4) final

In addition to text chapters, I will post links to articles, case studies, and other materials to the class website. Check the class website each week for a list of possible additional readings. The additional readings will be posted by class time the week before they are to be covered.

There will be two quizzes during the semester on March 3rd and April 14th. Each quiz will cover materials from the weeks preceding the quiz and are not cumulative. For example, quiz 1 will cover materials from 1/20 through 2/24. The quizzes will be a combination of short answer and multiple choice questions. The quizzes will be designed to take no more than 30 minutes of class time.

Class participation is based on quality, not just quantity of participation. Participation also assumes attendance. Attendance is mandatory; however, I realize that professional or personal obligations may require you to miss a class. I expect the courtesy of prior notification if you are to miss class by email. Each week we will also review relevant news stories from the North Texas region. These can include but not limited too; company relocations/expansions, incentives, public works projects (transportation, education), public initiatives, economic and market trends, organizational structures, ect. Students are required to provide a short 2-3 paragraph or approximately 3/4 a page write-up summarizing the main points of the article, typed, double spaced. The article must be attached and sourced.

Each student will be required to present a review of a case study relevant to economic and community development. Your written report will be 3-5 pages summarizing the case. The case study should address specific economic and community development objectives/goals, the strategy employed to achieve the objectives, and the outcome. Each student must have their topic approved by the instructor.

Grading

Quizzes: 30% (15% each)

Final : 30%

Participation/Current Events: 20%

Case study: 20%

Class conduct

I expect all students to conduct themselves in a professional manner with courtesy shown to the instructor and your fellow students. This includes arriving to class on time and not being disruptive to the class. You may bring drinks into the classroom, but food is not permitted.

ADA and Religious Holiday Notice

If you have a disability that requires some accommodation in course materials, procedures or exams, you should inform me no later than the 12th class day as specified in the academic calendar. Similarly, if you must miss class due to the strictures of a religious holiday, you must give me notice no later than the 12th class day. For Spring 2009, the 12th class day is February 2nd.

Course calendar

This is the course calendar as planned. We may change some topics and dates if the need arises. However, I will not change quiz dates. Reading assignments represent chapters in Blakely (B). Do not forget to check the website each week for additional readings.

Date Topic

- 1/20 Introductions. What is economic and community development?
- 1/27 Theories of regional development. B-1, B-3
- 2/03 Policy framework for economic development. B-2
- 2/10 Planning for economic development. B-4, B-6
- 2/17 Data sources and uses. Handouts
- 2/24 Data analysis and techniques in economic development. B-5
- 3/03 Development organizations and practitioners. B-7, B-8, B-12, B-14 QUIZ 1
- 3/10 Development Incentives. Handouts
- 3/17 Spring Break
- 3/24 Special areas: Brownfields, distressed, and urban redevelopment. Handouts
- 3/31 Tourism, gaming, and sports as economic development. Handouts
- 4/07 Faith Based Development Initiatives. Handouts
- 4/14 Workforce development, community development, micro-enterprise, entrepreneurship. B-9, B-10, Handouts QUIZ 2
- 4/21 High tech as a development strategy B-13 CASE STUDY DUE
- 4/28 Measuring Regional Development in the Global Context
- 5/05 Dead Week/Review
- 5/12 Final

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM**

Notice of this policy shall be given in all public administration classes each semester, and written copies shall be available in the applied economics departmental office.

DEFINITIONS

The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline defines cheating and plagiarism “as the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test; copying others’ tests, assignments, reports, or term papers; representing the work of another as one’s own; collaborating without authority with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work; or otherwise practicing scholastic dishonesty.”

PENALTIES

Normally, the minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a grade of “F” in the course. In the case of graduate departmental exams, the minimum penalty shall be failure of all fields of the exam. Determination of cheating or plagiarism shall be made by the instructor in the course, or by the departmental faculty in the case of departmental exams.

Cases of cheating or plagiarism on graduate departmental exams, papers, theses, or dissertations shall automatically be referred to the departmental Curriculum and Degree Programs Committee. Cases of cheating or plagiarism in ordinary course work may, at the discretion of the instructor, be referred to the Curriculum and Degree Programs Committee in the case of either graduate or undergraduate students. This committee, acting as an agent of the Department, shall impose further penalties, or recommend further penalties to the Dean of Students, if they determine that the case warrants it. In all cases, the Dean of Students shall be informed in writing of the case.

APPEALS

Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.