Late problem sets will be marked down a full letter grade for the first week late and you will receive a zero on problem sets handed in more than one week late.

Only valid medical or family emergencies will be accepted as excuses for missing an exam. A signed note from a pertinent authority figure will be required to validate your absence. In the absence of a valid excuse you will receive a zero grade for the exam.

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Department of Geography

University of California at Santa Barbara

GEOG 108
Urban Economic Geography
Fall 2003
Dr. Stuart Sweeney

Lecture Time: Monday & Wednesday 3:30-4:45
Office Hours: Ellison 5718
Lecture Location: Phelps Hall 1508
Office Hours: M 9:00-10:30
Recitation Time: According to Section
T 12:30-2:00

Web page: www.geog.ucsb.edu/~sweeney/g108/g108.html

Section T.A.: Nick Nagle (Office hours TBA)

Course Readings
Optional readings available from the T.A. or as PDF documents on the course web page.

Course Description
This course provides an introduction to selected topics in urban geography. The emphasis in the course will be on understanding the basic economic forces that give rise to, and continually shape, urban economic and social activity. As such, the course will explore the history of cities and settlement systems, land use patterns within cities, zoning and growth control, and transportation systems. The course will also balance abstract economic theories against real world applications. The three application modules will include: (1) Economic development issues in California and Santa Barbara, (2) Land use preservation and the Gaviota Coast, and (3) Affordable housing and long-distance commuting. Each of the three modules will progress from relevant economic theories to issue specific readings and will close with a guest speaker. The guest speakers are all professionals working in either the government or private sectors. The course web page has brief bios for the guest speakers. Geography 108 is a prerequisite for the urban and regional modeling sequence of courses in geography: 185A, 185B, 185C, and 185D. The material covered in this course is designed to provide exposure to the analytical frameworks in that sequence.

Evaluation criteria
Student performance in the class will be based on two in-class exams (25 percent each), four problem sets (5 percent each), a term paper (30 percent), and a poster presentation based on the term paper (5 percent - extra credit). The exams will be short-answer essay questions based on the reading and lecture material. The problem sets provide excellent preparation for the in-class exams.*

The course will cover several fascinating topics but there are other interesting topics within urban geography that we will not be able to cover. The term paper provides an opportunity to pursue a topic of your own choosing in greater depth. Details regarding the term paper will be provided on a separate handout. The poster presentation should be viewed as a fun way to share your term paper research with your classmates. The posters should summarize the key findings of the paper using pictures, graphs, and text. Beyond that you have complete creative license.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Lab/Other</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>22-Sep</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Introduction to urban geography</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>24-Sep</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>29-Sep</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Urbanization, city systems, and regional economic development</td>
<td>Problem set 1 assigned (due 10/9)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>1-Oct</td>
<td>W</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6-Oct</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td>Problem set 2 assigned (due 10/16)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>8-Oct</td>
<td>W</td>
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<td>Term paper topic is due</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>13-Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>15-Oct</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Guest speaker: Dr. Edward J. Feser, North Carolina Asst. Secretary of Commerce - Regional Economic Development and Policy</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>20-Oct</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Discussion and review</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>22-Oct</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>MIDTERM EXAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>27-Oct</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Land economics and growth control</td>
<td>Problem set 3 assigned (due 11/6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>29-Oct</td>
<td>W</td>
<td></td>
<td>Term paper bibliography due</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>3-Nov</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>5-Nov</td>
<td>W</td>
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<td>Problem set 4 assigned (due 11/13)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>10-Nov</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>12-Nov</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Guest speaker: Adrienne Domas, Santa Barbara County, Dept. of Planning and Design - Land Preservation and the Gaviota Coast</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>17-Nov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Affordable housing and long-distance commuting</td>
<td>Draft of term paper (due 11/21)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>19-Nov</td>
<td>W</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>24-Nov</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>26-Nov</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Guest speaker: T.B.A., Santa Barbara Council of Governments</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>1-Dec</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Discussion and review</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>3-Dec</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Student poster session</td>
<td>Final term paper (due 12/2)</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>11-Dec</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM, 12:00-3:00pm</td>
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* Dead week is Tuesday, 11/25 through Wednesday, 12/3. Thursday, 12/4, is a study day.
TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

O'Sullivan is the main course text and the major chapters emphasized in each lecture are detailed below. In most cases you will not be responsible for the whole chapter. In class I will indicate the subsections where you should focus your efforts. The readings with asterisks are optional. You can check out copies of the optional readings from the T.A., Nick Nagle. I will also be posting issue specific readings on the web in preparation for each of our guest lecturers.

I. INTRODUCTION

1-2 Introduction to urban geography
Read:
O'Sullivan - Ch. 1 “Introduction” and “Appendix: Tools of Microeconomics” pp. 557-575.

II. URBANIZATION, CITY SYSTEMS, AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

3-4 The history and function of cities.
Read:
O'Sullivan - Ch. 2 “Why do cities exist?”
- Ch. 3 “Big and small cities.”
* “Does it matter where you are?” The Economist, July 30, 1994.

5-6 Urban economic growth and regional development
Read:
O'Sullivan - Ch. 4 “Where do firms locate?”
- Ch. 6 “Urban economic growth.”
* Muller, Peter (1986) “Transportation and urban growth: The shaping of the American metropolis.”

7 Regional development issues in California and the Santa Barbara vicinity
Read:
* Follow web links to readings on the course web page.

8 Guest Speaker: Edward J. Feser, North Carolina Asst. Secretary of Commerce and Asst. Professor of City and Regional Planning, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
“Regional Economic Development and Policy Formation: Prospects for the Southeast”

9 DISCUSSION AND REVIEW

10 MIDTERM - short answer essays.

III. LAND ECONOMICS AND GROWTH CONTROL

11-12 Land rent and land use patterns
Read:
O’Sullivan - Ch. 7 “Introduction to land rent.”
- Ch. 8 “Land use in the monocentric city.”

3
13-14 Suburbanization and growth controls
Read:
O’Sullivan - Ch. 9 “Land use in modern cities.”
- Ch. 10 “Land use controls and zoning.”

15 Land use and preservation issues in Santa Barbara county
Read:
* Follow web links to readings on the course web page.

16 Guest Speaker: Adrienne Domas, Planner, Santa Barbara County, Department of Planning and Design, “Land Preservation and the Gaviota Coast.”

IV. AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND LONG-DISTANCE COMMUTING

17-18 Housing, transportation, and public policies
Read:
O’Sullivan - Ch. 11 “Autos and highways.”
- Ch. 17 “Why is housing different?”
- Ch. 18 “Housing policies.”
* “The rhetoric of freedom.” from Unsettling Cities

19 Housing and transportation issues in Santa Barbara.
Read:
* Follow web links to readings on the course web page.

20 Guest Speaker: T.B.A, Santa Barbara Council of Governments.

21 DISCUSSION AND REVIEW

22 STUDENT POSTER SESSIONS

23 FINAL EXAM: Thursday, 12/11, 12:00-3:00PM - short answer essay.