

GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

SURP 842 – Economics of Land Development and Planning



Course Instructors	Dr. Maxwell Hartt	Email: m.hartt@queensu.ca
Offices		
Contact Time	TBD	
Format	TBD	
Class Assessment	Class participation	10%
	Mid-term paper	20%
	Term paper	50%
	Class presentation	20%

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course examines the structure of cities and the factors that give them shape. The main objective is for students to understand, explain, and predict changes in land-use patterns as they are influenced by land markets and planning efforts. The course will help students assess the economic, socioeconomic, social, political and cultural implications of changes in city structure and the role of planning in urban development. During the course we will explore the interconnections within the complex systems that make up the modern city.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the course, a student should be able to:

1. Critically review academic literature related to urban and regional economies and inequalities
2. Analyze contemporary urban economic issues at multiple spatial scales
3. Present and analyze complex concepts in written and verbal formats

COURSE TOPICS

The course will present the concepts that explain the spatial structure and development of cities. The economics of land development and planning will be examined through a range of issues and topics including: the causes and consequences of gentrification, studentification, suburbanization, and vacant and abandoned land, and the effects of globalization, short-term rentals, changes in transportation costs and options, and migration. Topics will be discussed in a range of Canadian and international urban contexts including global, shrinking, and gateway cities. Throughout the course we will consider how the economics of land development and planning are associated with, driven by, and perpetuate racial, ethnic, gender, age and other inequalities.

SELECTED COURSE READINGS

- Clark, J. and Christopherson, S. (2009) Integrating investment and equity: A critical regionalist agenda for progressive regionalism, *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 28(3): 341-354.
- Johnson, M., Hollander, J.B. and Hallulli, A. (2014) Maintain, demolish, re-purpose: Policy design for vacant land management using decision models, *Cities*, 40: 151-162.
- Rodriguez-Pose, A. and Storper, M. (2020) Housing, urban growth and inequalities: The limits to deregulation and upzoning in reducing economic and spatial inequality, *Urban Studies*, 57(2): 223-248.
- Skaburskis, A. and Moos, M. (2020) "The economic value of urban land" in M. Moos, T. Vinodrai and R. Walker (eds.) *Canadian Cities in Transition: Understanding Contemporary Urbanism*, Oxford University Press 6th Edition.