OVERVIEW:
The study of regions in economics is an old tradition whose value has recently been rediscovered, due to recognition of differing regional growth patterns, advances in economic modeling, as well as the increasing responsibility of local and state governments for development issues. In that spirit, this course investigates how space influences economic decisions and outcomes, which in turn help shape regional economic development. The course will be divided into five parts. The initial three sections will address the 3 key questions raised by introducing spatial aspects into economic analysis. In effect, each is based on the regional facets of economic demand, supply, and externalities. Applied regional analysis techniques will be surveyed in the fourth section. The final section will then explore the history, recent policy debates, and frontier topics of regional economics. Each section will first introduce core topics, then consider foundational theories and issues in the field, and finally consider samples of cutting-edge current inquiry. Student research pursued over the course of the semester will be an important part of the course by integrating and applying regional methods to areas of individual interest.

READINGS:
Background reading is based on chapters from McCann, Philip (2013) Modern Urban and Regional Economics. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Students will be responsible for short summary presentations of selected additional articles.

RESEARCH PAPER:
A research paper will be developed alongside the core curriculum, emphasizing the applications of the tools of regional analysis to a topic of personal interest. Papers are due on Wed Nov 18 at 12n. Presentations of student research will take place during the final two weeks of the course.

EXAM (Week 11):
An exam in the eleventh week will survey both understanding and synthesis of topics presented over the first two-thirds of the semester.

GRADING:
The Research Paper and its presentation will be worth 40% of the course grade, as will the Exam. Class participation along with reading presentations will constitute the remaining 20%. The +/- system will be used for final course grades. Accommodations are made for students with disabilities in conjunction with the Resources for Disabled Students (http://rds.colostate.edu/). The course will adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy of the Colorado State University General Catalog and the Student Conduct Code. You can find further useful information on academic integrity at http://learning.colostate.edu/integrity/index.cfm
Weeks 1-2: WHERE? Firm Location and Supply

Core Topics: McCann Chapters 1 (except 1.4) and 4

Recent Research:


Weeks 4-5: HOW MANY? Market Areas and Demand

Core Topics: McCann 1.4 and Chapter 3

Recent Research:


Weeks 5-8: WHY? Agglomeration Externalities

Core Topics: McCann Chapter 2

Recent Research:


Weeks 8-10: APPLICATIONS

* Basics: McCann Chapter 5
  - Stages & Flow
  - Export Base
  - Location Quotients

* Shift/Share Analyses:


* Input/Output Models: Chapter 5

Beyond Rock and Roll: The Economic Impact of the Grateful Dead on a Local Economy; By Gazel, Ricardo C.; Schwer, R. Keith; *Journal of Cultural Economics*, 1997, v. 21, iss. 1, pp. 41-55


* Regional Labor Markets: McCann Chapter 6

The Spatial Mismatch Hypothesis and Black Youth Joblessness: Evidence from the San Francisco Bay Area; By Raphael, Steven; *Journal of Urban Economics*, January 1998, v. 43, iss. 1, pp. 79-111


Week 11: EXAM

Weeks 12-15: HISTORY, POLITICS, AND FRONTIER TOPICS

Core Topics: McCann Chapters 7-10

Recent Research:


Student Presentations