



# EXTENDED CAMPUS

COLLEGE of PROFESSIONAL  
*and* CONTINUING STUDIES

## **ECON 5453-101: Advanced Urban Economics**

### **Course Description:**

We conceive the course as a dialogue on the plight and prospects of American cities. Some would say that to focus on city problems ignores the good aspects of cities. I do not ascribe to that view. Almost every city has some difficulties, but all cities do not have the same ones. Thus, each city has strengths and weaknesses. To study problems is to study solutions, both in theory and in practice.

We do not intend to fall into the trap of teaching economics as a cure-all science. Economics alone will not save the city; but cities cannot be improved with a knowledge of economics any more than city betterment can be found in the absence of awareness about relevant disciplines such as public administration, public planning, political science, and human relations, among others. (The textbook has been chosen with this attitude in mind.)

### **Class Dates, Location and Hours:**

Dates: August 10 – 12 & 17 – 19, 2018  
Location: OCCE, Norman, Oklahoma. Classes are held at the Thurman White Forum Building of OCCE, 1704 Asp Avenue.  
Hours: Friday 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Saturday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: July 12, 2018

### **Site Director:**

Email: [apnorman@ou.edu](mailto:apnorman@ou.edu). Phone: 405-325-3333.

### **Professor Contact Information:**

Course Professor: Alexander Holmes, Ph.D.  
Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma  
Economics Department  
729 Elm Ave., Room 329  
Norman, OK 73019  
Telephone Number: (405) 325-2861  
E-mail Address: [aholmes@ou.edu](mailto:aholmes@ou.edu)  
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

### **Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:**

Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at <http://www.bkstr.com/oklahomastore/home> is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email [0831mgr@fhg.follett.com](mailto:0831mgr@fhg.follett.com). Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.

O’Sullivan, A. (2011). *Urban economics* (8<sup>th</sup> ed.). Columbus, OH: McGraw-Hill. ISBN 9780073511474.

Note: Professor has approved the use of previous editions.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

### **Course Objectives:**

The student will be able to:

1. build and analyze urban location models; and
2. analyze public policy options concerning:
  - a) racial discrimination,
  - b) allocation of city government services, and
  - c) housing and renewal.

### **Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

#### **Reading Assignment: (Due Prior to Class Lecture)**

You may use any recent edition of the text *Urban Economics*. The syllabus therefore needs to be more general and thus chapter titles are listed along with the major material in each rather than the chapter numbers, which have changed from edition to edition.

1. Role of cities.
2. What is urban economics?
3. Part I - all of this material. Of particular importance are chapters that deal with firm location using the Muth model
4. Part II - all of this material. Of particular importance is land rent, monocentric cities, and residential location using the Alonso model
5. Part IV - Here we are going to look at demand for public goods and racial sorting, and urban crime
6. Part VI - Here we will look at the Tiebout model in particular.

#### **Post Seminar Assignment:**

The student is to write a paper on a topic to be determined with the professor during the lecture period. The paper will allow the student to demonstrate applied knowledge from the class to a particular public policy problem. Due Date: 21 days from the last day of class, **September 9, 2018**.

#### **Grading:**

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. Performance on comprehensive written examination on the last day of class will determine 80 % of the grade of the student. The remaining 20% will be determined by the written paper discussed above.

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Percent of Grade</b>
Final Examination	Last class session	80
Post Seminar Assignment	<b>September 9, 2019</b>	20

**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

## **POLICIES AND NOTICES**

### **Attendance/Grade Policy**

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution's policy regarding "I" (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any "I" (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on "financial aid probation." If the "I" grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student's Financial Aid may be suspended making the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

### **Academic Integrity and Student Conduct**

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore, all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc...in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc...; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at [http://integrity.ou.edu/students\\_guide.html](http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html)

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at <http://studentconduct.ou.edu/>

### **Accommodation Statement**

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

### **Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues**

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html>.

## **Title IX Resources**

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at [smo@ou.edu](mailto:smo@ou.edu) or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615 -0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office's website at <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html>

## **Course Policies**

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: <http://www.goou.ou.edu/>

## **INSTRUCTOR VITA**

**Alexander Holmes, Ph.D.**

### **Education**

1970 Ph.D. in Economics, SUNY/Binghamton

### **Current Positions**

- Advanced Programs Professor since 1974
- Regents' Professor of Economics, University of Oklahoma

### **Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses**

- ECON 5453 Urban Economics
- ECON 5023 Statistics for Decision-Making

### **Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest**

- Microeconomic Principles
- Statistics
- Applied Public Policy Research

### **Representative Publications and Presentations**

- "An Analysis of the Presumptions of Circuit Breaker Statutes," (with Thomas J. Parliment), *The Appraisal Journal*, Vol. XLVI, No. 4, (October 1978), pp. 499-508.
- "Union Activity and Teacher Salary Structure," *Industrial Relations*, 18, No. 1, (February, 1979), pp. 79-85.
- "The Oklahoma Ethics Commission: Toward Greater Confidence in the Public Sector," and "Tort Reform and Insurance Rates," *State Policy and Economic Development in Oklahoma: 1986, Oklahoma 2000, Inc.*, December 1986.
- "State Government Finance in Oklahoma After SQ-640," *State Policy and Economic Development in Oklahoma; 1994*, with Donald Murry, Kent Olson, and Larkin Warner, *Oklahoma 2000, Inc.*
- *Ethics in Higher Education: Case Studies for Regents*, University of Oklahoma Press, 1996.
- *The Search for Limited Government: Lessons from Oklahoma Public Finance*, with Donald Murry, Kent Olson, and Larkin Warner, *Oklahoma 2000, Inc.*, 1997.

### **Representative Honors and Awards Received**

UOSA Professor of the Year, 1997

### **Major Professional Affiliations**

- Microeconomic Principles
- Statistics
- Applied Public Policy Research