This course uses economic analysis to study the spatial structure of cities, as well as economic policies relevant to cities, including transportation, housing, education, and crime. The course presumes a basic understanding of microeconomic principles. All readings are from the following text:


**Grading:** All students are required to write three 5-7 page papers. The due dates for the initial drafts are as follows: **September 28, October 31, and November 30.** Further details on the papers and related material are provided in a separate handout. Each of the papers is worth 25% of the course grade. A final exam is worth 20%. The final 5% is based on class participation. This involves three components: regular class attendance, participation in class discussions, and in-class critiquing of papers (which will occur on the days that the first draft of each paper is due).

**Course Outline and Readings:**

I. Introduction  
Chapters 1, 2, 4

II. Internal Structure of Cities  
A. Rent Gradients  
Chapters 6, 7  
B. City Sizes and Types  
Chapter 5  
C. Urban Transportation  
Chapters 16

III. Housing  
A. The Basic Model  
Chapter 9, 10  
B. Housing Policies  
Chapter 11

IV. Local Public Finance  
Chapters 14

V. Other Topics  
A. Urban Crime  
Chapter 20  
B. Urbanization and Growth  
Chapter 24