

Department of Economics  
Hacettepe University  
**ECO 336 Urban Economics**

*Spring 2009*

**Course Information**

- Instructor** Dr. Shihomi Ara-Aksoy  
Office: Department of Economics  
Office Phone: 297 86 50 / ext 122  
Email: sara@hacettepe.edu.tr
- Time/Place** **Thursdays 9:00 – 11:45 @ İİBF D2**
- Office Hours** Mondays, 16:00 – 17:00, Tuesdays 16:00-17:00 or by appointment
- Course Website** <http://yunus.hacettepe.edu.tr/~sara>
- Course Description** This course introduces the economics of agglomeration, urban spatial structure and housing market. The interaction among individuals' utility maximization, firms' profit maximization and local government's housing/land use policies and regulations are considered. We also analyze the urban transportation system and explore urban problems such as urban poverty, crime, and environment.
- Course Objectives** The objective of this course is to introduce theoretical tools in the economics of urban cities, transportation, housing and the role of local government. Students are expected to thoroughly understand the urban economic theory, develop a capacity to analyze contemporary urban problems, and apply the theory to assess the policy options.
- Class Participation** Discussion is a very important component of this class, therefore your class attendance is highly expected.

**Course Requirements**

|    |              |     |
|----|--------------|-----|
| 1. | Midterm Exam | 50% |
| 2. | Final Exam   | 50% |

**Textbook**

- Arthur O'Sullivan, "*Urban Economics*" 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, McGraw-Hill/Irwin, 2006.

**Make-up Exam** **No makeup exam will be given** unless a legally acceptable document (such as medical report) is submitted. Validity of such document will be examined.

**Grading**

Final grade will be given entirely based on your scores under a fair and single grading policy. None of students' "special situations/needs" (e.g. scholarship, graduation, financial condition, family situation etc.) will affect the grade. If you need a certain grade, work hard.

### Academic Misconduct

Please read the relevant material at <http://www.plagiarism.org/>. Detected plagiarism throughout the coursework will cause the student to be punished according to the University rules. The students are expected to know what plagiarism is and lack of knowledge is not an acceptable excuse.

### Disabilities

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific need.

|                       | Date            | Topics  | Textbook   |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---|------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> week  | Feb. 12         | Introduction, What is Urban Economics?            | AS Ch.1    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> week  | Feb. 19         | Development of Cities: Why Do Cities Exist?       | AS Ch.2    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> week  | Feb.26          | Development of Cities: Why Do Firms Cluster?      | AS Ch.3    |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> week  | Mar.5           | Development of Cities: City Size                  | AS Ch.4    |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> week  | Mar.12          | Development of Cities: Urban Growth               | AS Ch.5    |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> week  | Mar.19          | Urban Land Rent                                   | AS Ch.6    |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> week  | Mar.26          | Land-Use Patterns                                 | AS Ch.7    |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> week  | To be announced | <b>Midterm Exam</b>                               |            |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> week  | Apr.9           | Neighborhood Choice<br>Zoning and Growth Controls | AS Ch.8, 9 |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> week | Apr.16          | Urban Transportation: Externalities from Autos    | AS Ch.10   |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> week | Apr.23          | <b>Holiday, No Class</b>                          |            |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> week | Apr.30          | Mass Transit                                      | AS Ch.11   |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> week | May.7           | Crime   | AS Ch.12   |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> week | May.14          | Local Government: The Role of Local Government    | AS Ch.15   |
|                       | To be announced | <b>Final Exam</b>                                 |            |