



Instructors Susan Chen, Raymond Florax, Brigitte Waldorf
Location Rawls, 2079
Time Spring 2008, Friday 12:30 – 1:30 PM

Course Description

This seminar is designed to introduce students to advanced research in space, health and population economics (*SHaPE*) including state-of-the-art research tools. The seminar also serves as a forum for students to present their own work and receive critical commentary from faculty as well as their peers. In addition, there will be guest-speakers addressing topical areas in space, health and population economics. There is sufficient flexibility in the program to allow for adjustments in the curriculum in order to better tailor its contents to student needs and preferences.

The seminar is organized as a brownbag seminar. Feel free to bring lunch. The emphasis is on open dialogues, stimulating discussions, and exploration of new research ideas rather than lengthy lectures and presentations. The seminar will also give students a chance to actively explore their own research ideas. Thus, active student participation is essential, including the willingness to present/discuss research articles, and share research ideas. Outlined below is a “flexible” schedule that can be changed as opportunities and suggestions arise during the semester.

Grades

The main goals of the *SHaPE* brownbag are to teach students how to think critically, engage in intellectual discussions, learn new software and tools, and to become an active and cohesive group of researchers in the area of space, health and population economics. Formal testing and evaluation of such skills on a nuanced grading scale does not match the intention and scope of the course. Grades will therefore be based on participation and performed activities. Students who actively contribute to the class will receive the highest passing grade. Note that apologies are in order if you cannot attend a meeting.

Credits and Rewards

The class is rewarded with 1 credit, but you can take it repeatedly throughout your graduate studies. Typically, we organize one or more social events, such as an outing to the theater (last year we went to see the “Japanese Drummers”), a dinner party, or something similar. Your creativity and help are welcomed. Organizers are Amanda Leister and Kosuke Tamura.

Website for the class

The website for the class is available at <http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/academic/agec691T/>, and is developed “as we go”. Webmaster is Samantha Snyder. The readings mentioned in the course outline are all available from the intranet part of the website. You will need a username-password combination, provided to students registered for the class, to access the intranet.

Course Outline and Readings

JANUARY 11, INTRODUCTION

Orientation and administrative issues, including determining the content of the seminar series for the spring semester.

JANUARY 18, REGIONAL CONCENTRATION AND LOCAL SPRAWL

Paper Discussion. Readings:

Rappaport, J. and J.D. Sachs (2003) The United States as a Coastal Region. *Journal of Economic Growth* 8: 5–46.

Burchfield, M., H.G. Overman, D. Puga and M.A. Turner (2006) Causes of Sprawl: A Portrait from Space. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 121(2): 587–633.

Presenter: *Mesbah Motamed*

JANUARY 25, MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT

Paper Discussion. Readings:

Lambert, D. M., K.T. McNamara and M. Garrett (2006). An Application of Spatial Poisson Models to Manufacturing Investment Location Analysis. *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*, 38(1): 105–121.

Presenter: *Jason Brown*

FEBRUARY 1, GIS IN PRACTICE

Invited Speaker: *Indraneel Kumar*, Purdue Center for Regional Development.

‘The use of GIS at the Purdue Center for Regional Development

Discussants: *Samantha Snyder* and *Tani Lee*

FEBRUARY 8, SPATIAL VECTOR AUTOREGRESSION

Paper Discussion. Readings:

Beenstock, M. and D. Felsenstein (2005) Spatial Vector Autoregressions. Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Working Paper. The slightly shorter published version appeared in *Spatial Economic Analysis*, 2(2): 167–196, in 2007.

Presenter: *Todd Kuethe*

FEBRUARY 15, IMMIGRATION AND LABOR MARKET IMPACTS

Discussion. Readings:

Borjas, G.J. (2003) The Labor Demand Curve Is Downward Sloping: Reexamining the Impact of Immigration on the Labor Market. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 118(4): 1335–1374.

Longhi, S., J. Poot and P. Nijkamp (2008) The Impact of Immigration on Employment of Natives in Regional Labour Markets: a Meta-Analysis. In J. Poot, B. Waldorf and L. van Wissen (eds): *Migration and Human Capital*. Edward Elgar, Chapter 11 (forthcoming).

Lowenstein, R. (2006) The Immigration Equation. *New York Times*, July 9, 2006.

Convener and chair: *Benoit Delbecq*

FEBRUARY 22, GRAVITY MODELS

Paper Discussion. Readings:

Roy, J. and J-C. Thill (2004) Spatial Interaction Modelling. *Papers in Regional Science* 83(1): 339–363.

LeSage, J.P. and R.K. Pace (2007) Spatial Econometric Modeling of Origin-Destination Flows. State University of Texas San Marcos, Working Paper.

Presenters: *Amanda Lester* and *Valerien Pede*

FEBRUARY 29, SPACE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Paper Discussion. Readings:

Anselin, L. and N. Lozano (2007) The Valuation of Environmental Disamenities in Spatial Hedonic House Price Models: An Empirical Comparison. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Working Paper.

Presenters: *Julia Beckhusen* and *Kosuke Tamura*

MARCH 7, SAMPLE SELECTION MODELS

Understanding the basics and intuition of sophisticated models. Readings:

Breen, R. (1996) *Regression Models: Censored, Sample Selected or Truncated*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Presenter: *Susan Chen*

MARCH 14, SPRING BREAK

MARCH 21, HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Invited Speaker: *Philip Troped*, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Health and Kinesiology, Purdue University.

‘Examining Environmental Correlates of Physical Activity with Accelerometers and Portable Global Positioning System (GPS) Devices’.

MARCH 28, REGIONAL CLUSTERS OF INNOVATIVE ACTIVITY IN EUROPE

Invited Speaker: *Laura de Dominicis*, postdoc at the VU University in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, supported by a prestigious Marie Curie Fellowship from the European Union. Laura will be a visiting scholar in our department from mid-March through the end of April.

‘Regional Clusters of Innovative Activity in Europe: Are Social and Geographical Proximity the Key Determinants?’

APRIL 4, HEALTH AND NUTRITION IN PRACTICE

Invited Speaker: *Pauline Shen*, Epidemiologist, Tippecanoe County Health Department ‘Research Ideas for Economists: Suggestions from a Real World Practitioner in the Field of Nutrition’.



APRIL 11, MIDWESTERN GRAD STUDENT SHAPE SUMMIT

This is a half-day and evening event in which we bring together grad students from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC; Depts. of Agricultural Economics, Geography, and Urban and Regional Planning, and the research lab REAL), The Ohio State University (OSU; Dept. of agricultural economics) and the Purdue SHaPE group.

Organizers: *Todd Kuethe, Benoit Delbecq, Valerien Pede, and Brigitte Waldorf*

APRIL 18. LONGITUDINAL MODELING

Understanding the basics and intuition of sophisticated models. Readings:

Kiefer, N.M. (1988) Economic Duration Data and Hazard Functions. *Journal of Economic Literature* 26(2): 646–679.

Presenter: *Brigitte Waldorf*

APRIL 25 EVALUATIONS, CONCLUDING DISCUSSION, PLANS FOR NEXT SEMESTER