This course represents the second half of the urban/regional sequence. The present course is rather less structured than is ECON 625, with the emphasis being on the development of a research paper of publishable quality. There will, in addition, be more active student involvement through presentations of the student papers and of critiques of the work of others.

As to content, we shall begin where ECON 625 left off. The first general topic will be the traditional intraurban location model of Alonso, Muth, and others. This will be extended somewhat to include both a broad range of amenities in addition to CBD access and people-differences (income, presence of children, and so on). Studies of rent capitalization of spatial advantages will add empirical richness to the theoretical material. Following this, further information, both descriptive and analytical, will be presented on intrametropolitan location patterns and broader regional patterns. The latter topic will provide the lead-in to an extensive discussion of regional and migration modeling, culminating in a presentation of a regional projection methodology which interacts economic and demographic variables.

Approximately midway through the course a rough outline of the research paper is to be presented. At about this time, each student is to present and critique an article in the urban/regional literature of their choosing (this task might usefully be tied to the research paper--the critique might lead to an interesting research idea). Toward the latter part of the course, the final research papers will be presented formally. Throughout the semester several guest lecturers will make presentations which can be fruitfully integrated into course materials.