I. Introduction

The introductory lecture focuses on the types of data with which urban/regional economists work. Because these data relate to certain boundaries that define a city or a region, we also discuss what an economist means when using terms like "city" or "region."

II. Urban and Regional Growth

A. Contemporary Patterns of U.S. Urban/Regional Growth and Decline

In this part of the course, we examine several alternative data sources with a view to better understanding current patterns of regional and urban growth and change in the U.S. Some historical perspective is provided here, but particular emphasis is placed on the period since approximately 1970 relative to the period roughly from 1950 to 1970. Thus, this part of the course provides some practical experience in working with regional/urban data, and it also provides a useful background for the more technical information that follows. Assignments: [1], plus tabular material in handouts.

B. The Productivity of Cities

Here we ask why cities exist. The answer is essentially that cities are more efficient places for firms to carry out productive activities, which makes their profits higher and which allows them to offer higher wages because their workers are more productive. The higher wages in turn provide an incentive for workers to locate in cities.
The lectures here focus on both theoretical and empirical work dealing with the productivity of cities.

Assignments: [10], [12], [13], [16], [17], [18], [20], [23]

C. **The Location of Economic Activities**

Here we consider various theories regarding the location of economic activities, which for us means the location of cities. Many economists and regional scientists see the emphasis on space and location, as distinct from the emphasis on time that characterizes traditional neoclassical theory (such as Marshallian microtheory), as the truly distinguishing aspect of regional economics as a discipline.

Assignments: [26]

D. **Urbanization and the Growth of Cities and Regions**

In this section we consider how and why a society becomes urbanized. Essentially, urbanization occurs because of rural-to-urban migration. This introduces the topic of migration, which also serves as an important determinant of urban/regional growth/decline. Several theories of urban/regional growth are also discussed. These include the "neoclassical" theory, central place theory, and export base theory, the last of which is discussed in some detail in Section IV of the course.

Assignments: [34], [35], [36], [38], [41], [45], [48], [50], [53], [58], [59], [62]

III. **Intraurban Location**

In Section II we discussed the economic advantages of cities, why they are located where they are, and how and why cities and regions grow or decline. In this major section we focus on cities and specifically how and why they take their observed form.
A. Development of the Mononuclear City
   Assignment: Lecture notes

B. Theories of Intraurban Location
   Assignment: None

C. Empirical Evidence on Intrametropolitan Location
   Assignment: [67], [70], [73], [78], [82]

IV. Tools of Regional/Urban Analysis

   This part of the course is the core. In it we consider several techniques that are commonly used in regional and urban economic analysis. These techniques include economic base analysis, economic/demographic simulation models, the input-output approach, regional/urban econometric models, computable general equilibrium models, and shift-share techniques.

   A. Economic Base Analysis:              Assignments: [88], [89], [90], [91]
   B. Economic/Demographic Simulation Models: Assignments: None
   C. Input-Output Techniques:              Assignments: [93], [99]
   D. Regional/Urban Econometric Models:    Assignments: [100], [101], [104], [115]
   E. Computable General Equilibrium Models: Assignments: [119]
   F. Shift-Share Techniques:               Assignments: None
   G. Population Estimation Techniques:     Assignments: [123]
Course Requirements

1. A survey paper dealing with a topic in regional economics. Select 10 to 15 key articles or books and prepare a paper about 15 pages in length that:
   a. Summarizes what the profession appears to know about the topic, and
   b. Attempts to assess the state of knowledge on the subject, perhaps pointing to potentially fruitful avenues for future research.

   The idea behind this exercise is to give the student experience in finding and organizing the literature on a topic and then distilling what is most essential about each article. Moreover, in preparing such a paper, the student must be somewhat critical about the articles he/she reads. Please check with Professor Greenwood concerning your topic. We want to be sure you select a manageable part of the literature to study.

   (25% of weight)
   DUE: April 10, 1992

2. Theoretical or empirical paper dealing with a topic in urban/regional economics.

   This paper is to be prepared by two-person teams. The idea here is to excite your originality and give you experience in working with others. If the paper is empirical, it will also give the student valuable experience in developing an estimable model, preparing a data base, using econometric tools, and creating a research paper. Please inform Professor Greenwood concerning how you pair up and discuss with him your topic.

   (35% of weight)
   DUE: May 10, 1992

3. Mid-term examination: (1 hour, 15 min.) (10% of weight)

4. Final examination: (3 hours) (30% of weight)