University of California, Irvine

UPPP 110: Urban Economic Development Policy

Class Hours: Tue & Thu 11:00~12:30

Classroom: 228 Social Science Lab

Instructor: Jae Hong Kim (jaehk6@uci.edu) Mon 9:00~10:30 or by appointment (206E SEI)



COURSE DESCRIPTION

While some cities grow rapidly, many others fail to attract new investment or sustain their economic prosperity. Why does such variation exist? What drives (or constrains) urban economic growth and/or economic development? How can cities achieve certain economic goals more effectively? This course provides an opportunity for students to examine these questions and understand the complex and dynamic nature of urban economic development by exploring various development and policy issues. Emphasis is placed on both theoretical and practical aspects of urban economic development.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

It is expected that every student will acquire knowledge in

- concepts of economic growth/development and relevant theoretical issues
- key drivers and constraints of urban economic development
- rationales for planning and policy interventions
- various economic development strategies including both traditional programs and relatively new policy instruments

COURSE ORGANIZATION & MATERIALS

This course consists of two parts covering the theoretical and practical aspects of (urban) economic development, respectively. In the first part, students will discuss key concepts and theories of urban economic growth and/or development. Then, in the second half of the course, students will explore a broad range of economic development policies and their applications. It should be noted that the goal is not to find a panacea but to understand under what circumstances a certain policy action is more likely to be effective and why. Real-world examples as well as other course materials will be used to facilitate this learning process. Furthermore, adequate time and opportunity for discussion will be provided. All readings and other course materials will be available on the course website.