

Issues in Urban Economics (ECON 248)

Instructor: Syed Muhammad Hasan

Pre-Req: Principle of Economics (ECON 100) OR Economics for Non-Economists (ECON 102)

Credit Hours: 3

Schedule: Monday to Friday (8:00AM to 10:00AM)

Urban economics typically focuses on four areas, and this course is organized accordingly to answer relevant broad questions. The first area is regarding the development of urban areas. Why do cities exist and why do some grow more rapidly? The second is about the patterns of land use within cities. How do firms and households decide where to locate within given urban settlements? What determines the price of land, and how do these prices vary across space? The third area and its set of questions concern the spatial dimensions of urban problems. In this part, we will focus on planning mass transit, location of affordable housing, congestion and urban sprawl. Finally, in the last part of the course, we will briefly study the spatial aspects of local governance regarding provision of public services and generation of local public finances.