

**Hunter College**  
**Department of Urban Affairs and Planning**  
**ECONOMIC PLANNING & POLICY**  
**URBG 743 (3725)**

Spring Semester 2008  
Monday, 1:10-3:00 p.m.  
Room: HW1639  
Email: mccormil@aol.com;  
Office hours: Mondays, 11 a.m.-noon, or by appointment.

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**Course Description**

In this course, we examine community and citywide economic development planning and policymaking in the context of shifts in the larger macroeconomic environment. Today's restructuring of the global economy sets the stage for understanding how New York City's economy is faring today.

In this course, students first develop an understanding of the structure of neighborhood, metropolitan, and regional economies by examining the geography of production internationally, nationally and in New York. Topics include a variety of economic research methods (location quotients, shift-share analysis, input-output analysis, economic base multipliers, firm interviews, cluster analysis) for investigating neighborhood, metropolitan, and regional economic structures. Students will gain practice downloading and manipulating various economic data. Following a look at economic structure, students then study how this economic structure grows, declines, and changes over time.

In the 1990s and early 2000s, the economies of the United States and the rest of the world have been restructuring to accommodate the increasingly interconnected and "flexible" global economy. Both "low road" or "sweatshop" policies that exploit labor and "high road" ones, which aim to strengthen workers' skills, are examined. Speakers from New York area organizations offering such policies will come to class. Students will also study how globalization affects the firms and workers in a local New York industry, such as garment and movie production, or financial and other services.

The class will operate as a seminar. Therefore, students are required to participate in class discussion of the readings. This class will emphasize the quality of the research we produce as much as the readings, so we will devote class time to sharing and discussing our research methods.

**Course Objectives**

This course aims to offer students:

- (1) a theoretical understanding of regional economics;
- (2) appropriate skills and economic methods for diagnosing a local, regional, or national economy;
- (3) practice in sector analysis research on projects focused on the New York region;

(4) a review of effective research, writing, and composition methods.

**Required Readings**

The following are required for this course:

- A reading packet (available through Blackboard, online, or in library).

**Assignments**

The assignments for this course are listed below. They consist of class readings, class participation, a four-part research paper and a class presentation.

I expect students to complete the assignments on time. All assignments can be revised until the last week of classes (those turning assignments in late forfeit this opportunity). Written assignments must be typed and double-spaced. I will accept either a paper copy or email text.

- Individual Research: short paper.
- Class Readings: each week.
- IRB Training.
- Research Paper—Pt. 1: Structure of New York City’s economy, due March 17.
- Research Paper—Pt. 2: Composition, growth and change of targeted industry, due March 31.
- Research Paper—Pt. 3: Industry stakeholders, needs, and challenges, due April 28.
- Research Paper—Pt. 4: Policy solutions for targeted industry, due May 19.
- Class Presentation: On targeted industry study.

**Course Grading Policy**

Grading for the course is designed to reflect the major substantive and pedagogical objectives of the course and will consist of the following components:

Individual Research:	5 percent
Class Readings:	15 percent
IRB Training:	5 percent
Paper—Pt. 1:	15 percent
Paper—Pt. 2:	15 percent
Paper—Pt. 3:	15 percent
Paper—Pt. 4:	15 percent
<u>Presentation:</u>	<u>15 percent</u>
Total:	100 percent

If work remains uncompleted at the end of the course, students will be graded on that portion which has been completed. Incompletes will be given only after consulting the instructor and will be based on her discretion.

**Class Schedule & Topics**

## **January 28—INTRODUCTION**

### **February 4—WHAT IS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT?**

Stewart E. Perry, *Some Terminology and Definitions in the Field of Community Economic Development*, Making Waves, v. 10, no. 1.

Kent Davis Sensenig, *Community Economics in an Age of Globalization*, The Mennonite, August 17, 1999.

Jeremy Nowak, *Neighborhood initiative and the regional economy*, Economic Development Quarterly, v, 11, issue 1, 1997.

David C. Ranney, *Seeking new paradigms for economic development*, Economic Development Quarterly, v. 11, issue 2, 1997.

### **February 11: INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH**

### **February 18: PRESIDENT’S DAY—COLLEGE IS CLOSED**

### **February 25—REGIONS & GLOBALIZATION—IRB Training due.**

Peter Dicken. 1998. *Chapter 2—The global economic map: trends in production, trade and investment*, in Global Shift: Transforming the World Economy, 3rd ed. (New York: Guilford Press), pp. 24-67.

Chris Gingrich, *The Impact of Globalization on Low-Income Countries: What is the Evidence?*, Mennonite Central Committee website.

John O’Loughlin. 1997. *Economic Globalization and Income Inequality in the United States*, in State Devolution in America: Implications for a Diverse Society.

ILO, *World Commission Says Globalization Can and Must Change, Calls For Urgent Rethink of Global Governance*.

### **March 3— ECONOMIC DATA**

Penn State, College of Agricultural Sciences, Agricultural Research and Cooperative Extension, *Using Employment Data to Better Understand Your Local Economy—Introduction & Tool 1: Develop a “Snapshot” of Important Local Economic Indicators*.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2005. *County Business Patterns, Frequently Asked County Business Patterns (CBP) Questions, and CBP Definitions and Information*.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2005. *Guide to the 2002 Economic Census*.

U.S. Census Bureau, 2005. *Nonemployer Statistics*.

CTRE, Iowa State University, *Covered Employment and Wages (ES202)*.

### **March 10—ECONOMIC METHODS—QUANTITATIVE**

Avrom Bendavid-Val. 1991. Regional and Local Economic Analysis for Practitioners, 4th Ed., Chapter 6 & 7, New York: Praeger, pp. 67-85.

University of Minnesota, State and Local Policy Program, *Understanding Your Industry: Quantitative Analysis Techniques for Identifying Key Industries*.

Northwest Income Indicators Project, Washington State University. 2005. *NIIP shift-Share Analysis Applications of County Employment Growth within Washington State*, <http://niip.wsu.edu/washington/ssharewa.htm>.

John C. Leatherman. 1994. *Input-Output Analysis of the Kickapoo River Valley*, Staff Paper 94.2, Center for Community Economic Development, Dept. of Agricultural Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison/Extension.

**March 17— ECONOMIC METHODS—QUALITATIVE—Paper #1 due.**

Ann Markusen. 1994. *Studying Regions by Studying Firms*, Professional Geographer, vol. 46, no. 4.

Erica Schoenberger. 1991. *The Corporate Interview as a Research Method in Economic Geography*, Professional Geographer, vol. 43, no. 2, pp. 180-189, available in EBSCO—Academic Search Premier, Hunter Library Database online.

University of Minnesota, State and Local Policy Program, *Understanding Your Industry: Qualitative Approaches to Identifying Key Industries*.

Herbert J. Rubin & Irene S. Rubin, *Chapter 9: Topical Interviewing, Chapter 10: What Did You Hear? Data Analysis, Qualitative Interviewing: The Art of Hearing Data* (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 1995), pp. 196-256.

**March 24: COLLEGE IS CLOSED**

**March 26—(Wednesday is a Monday)—INDUSTRY STUDIES—CLUSTER ANALYSIS**

Adam Friedman. 2002 (December 16). *Succeeding With Sectors*, on Center for an Urban Future website.

Stuart Rosenfeld & National Governors Association. 2002. *A Governor's Guide to Cluster-Based Economic Development*, Chapter I-IV, pp. 7-20, see also Chapters VIII & IX.

University of Minnesota Extension Service. 1999. *Industry Clusters: An Economic Development Strategy for Minnesota*.

Empire State Development. 2005. *Industry Clusters List*, see various NYS industry studies.

Khalid Nadvi & Stephanie Barrientos. 2004. *Industrial Clusters and Poverty Reduction*, UNIDO.

**March 31—STUDENT PRESENTATIONS—Paper #2 due.**

**April 7— INDUSTRY STUDIES—SUPPLY CHAINS**

Timothy J. Sturgeon. 2001. *How Do We Define Value Chains and Production Networks*, IDS Bulletin, vol. 32, no. 3.

Hubert Schmitz. 2004. *Local Upgrading in Global Value Chains*, [www.druid.dk/uploads/tx\\_picturedb/ds2004-1422.pdf](http://www.druid.dk/uploads/tx_picturedb/ds2004-1422.pdf).

Jennifer Bair & Gary Gereffi. 2001. *Local Clusters in Global Chains: The Causes and Consequences of Export Dynamism in Torreon's Blue Jeans Industry*, World Development, vol. 29, no. 11, pp. 1885-1903, available in Hunter library, Academic Search Premier.

Raphael Kaplinsky & Mike Morris. 2005. *A Handbook for Value Chain Research*, University of Sussex—IDRC.

**April 14— INDUSTRY STUDIES—SUPPLY CHAINS (continued)**

**April 21—SPRING BREAK—NO CLASS**

**April 28— STUDENT PRESENTATIONS—Paper #3 due.**

**May 5—ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY SPEAKER**

Readings will be assigned appropriate to the speaker.

**May 12—LAST CLASS & STUDENT PRESENTATIONS—Paper #4.**

**May 19—FINAL WEEK (PAPER #4 AND ALL REVISED PAPERS ARE DUE)**