

Economic geography, regional and urban economics (03.897.1130/1135)

TUE 2:15 - 3:45 pm, 00 251 HS V

THU 4:15 - 5:45 pm, 00 251 HS V

---

**Instructors:**

Prof. Dr. Andrea Lassmann and Shiyun Hu

Chair of International and Economic Policy

JGU, Jakob-Welder-Weg 4, 02-166

Email: LSLassmann(at)uni-mainz.de

**Office Hours:** by appointment.

**Prerequisites:** Students should be familiar with intermediate microeconomics and international trade theory.

**Content and objectives:** One of the questions Brexit has raised is “Will businesses move to continental Europe?” This course uses theory and empirical patterns to understand the geographic distribution of economic activity and the consequences of regional clustering. In the tutorial, we will plot (geovisualize) simple spatial data and patterns in R and deepen our understanding of lecture theory.

We will shed light on the following and more questions. Why is economic activity unequally distributed in space? Which factors determine the international distribution of production, trade and investment? What are the welfare effects thereof? Why do agglomerations emerge, and what are the factors that lead to their emergence? Why is economic activity unequally distributed within cities and agglomerations?

**Grading:** E-exam (60 minutes) on the basis of the aim of this course (see course content and objectives). Successful students will receive 6 ECTS.

**Academic Honesty:** As a JGU student, I expect you to abide by the University’s Examination Code and a culture of honesty. Lack of knowledge thereof is not a reasonable explanation for violation. Questions related to course exams and the Disciplinary Code should be directed to the *Studienbüro*. For information see [https://studienbuero.rewi.uni-mainz.de/downloads/?folder=Wii/WiWi\\_Master/Master%20International%20Economics%20and%20Public%20Policy/Program%20Information](https://studienbuero.rewi.uni-mainz.de/downloads/?folder=Wii/WiWi_Master/Master%20International%20Economics%20and%20Public%20Policy/Program%20Information). See also here <http://mediatum.ub.tum.de/1225458>.

**Extra Help:** We will make the materials available to all enrolled students via LMS Moodle. Do not hesitate to pass by our offices during office hours (by appointment) to discuss your questions concerning the course. You can obtain R and RStudio via the ZDV apps. There are many online tutorials, for instance here: <https://ignaciomsarmiento.github.io/2017/02/07/An-Introduction-to-Spatial-Econometrics-in-R.html>.

## Course Outline:

26.04.2022	.....	Stylized facts about spatial patterns (LE)
28.04.2022	.....	Introduction to geovisualization (TU)
03.05.2022	.....	The core-periphery model I (LE)
05.05.2022	.....	The core-periphery model I (TU)
10.05.2022	.....	The core-periphery model II (LE)
12.05.2022	.....	The core-periphery model II (TU)
17.05.2022	.....	The core-periphery model III (LE)
19.05.2022	.....	The core-periphery model III (TU)
24.05.2022	.....	The core-periphery model IV (LE)
31.05.2022	.....	Discussion of core-periphery model (LE)
02.06.2022	.....	The core-periphery model IV (TU)
07.06.2022	.....	Gravity and trade costs I (LE)
09.06.2022	.....	Gravity and trade costs I (TU)
14.06.2022	.....	Gravity and trade costs II (LE)
21.06.2022	.....	Empirics of EG: Redding & Sturm (LE)
23.06.2022	.....	Gravity and trade costs II (TU)
28.06.2022	.....	Introduction to urban economics (LE)
30.06.2022	.....	Empirics of EG: Redding & Sturm (TU)
05.07.2022	.....	Size distribution of cities (LE)
07.07.2022	.....	Size distribution of cities (TU)
12.07.2022	.....	Benefits and costs of cities (LE)
14.07.2022	.....	Benefits and costs of cities (TU)
19.07.2022	.....	Summary of course (Q&A) (LE)
21.07.2022	.....	Summary of course (Q&A) (TU)
TBA	.....	Exam

## Books used in this course (optional):

*Economic Geography*, by Pierre-Philippe Combes, Thierry Mayer, and Jacques-François Thisse (2008)

*Economic Geography and Public Policy*, by Richard Baldwin, Rikard Forslid, Philippe Martin, Gianmarco Ottaviano, and Frederic Robert-Nicoud (2003)

*Geography and Trade*, by Paul Krugman (1991)

**General Support:** Students with disabilities - <https://www.barrierefrei.uni-mainz.de/>; Students in need of psychological support - <https://www.pbs.uni-mainz.de/beratung/>; general health - <https://www.studium.uni-mainz.de/gesund-studieren-in-mainz/>.