

Advanced Urban Economics - Spring 2018

The exams consist in a **written essay in two parts**, in English, to be sent as a single pdf document named *StudentNameAUEOslo.pdf*.

First part. The grade obtained will count for 50% of the overall evaluation. The first part should not be longer than 5 pages (Calibri 11pt, 1.5 spacing). It will consist in a critical reading of a paper chosen in the list below. The first part will necessarily require **contribution on two dimensions**, which will enter with equal weights into the total grade:

- The intuitions and the logic of the paper have to be presented as an executive / non-technical summary, ie appealing the least as possible to equations, tables, and figures. A simple summary, or the simple listing of all equations/ propositions/ results of the paper, will not be enough. And the whole the presentation has to be wrapped in a consistent way.
- The first part will relate the paper to what has been presented in class.

Second part. The grade obtained will count for 50% of the overall evaluation. The second part should not be longer than 3 pages. It consists in a series of possible research projects elaborated from the paper read. It will present some weaknesses of the paper and propose possible solutions to address them and present ideas for possible extensions and / or variants of the paper.

The essay has to be sent by email **before Sunday May 20, 2018** to **ppcombes@gmail.com** as a single pdf file with the two parts. The file will be named *StudentNameAUEOslo.pdf*. I will acknowledge the receipt of the essay in following days, if not please send it again.

Topics will be attributed according to the following procedure:

Step 1: Each student has to send an email **before Sunday April 29, 2018** telling:

- The name of the student,
- The **number** (not the title) of the preferred topic,
- The number of the second preferred topic,
- The number of the third preferred topic.

Step 2: If the preferred topic is chosen by one and only one student, it will be attributed to him/her.

If many students chose the same topic, the procedure will consider the second choice, possibly the third choice such that minimizing global dissatisfaction.

An email will be sent on **Monday April 30, 2018** giving the result of this step of the procedure.

Step 3: If some students have no topic attributed, they will have to send new choices, and a similar procedure will be applied such that rapidly converging to the allocation of the topics.

Topics below are listed more or less by alphabetical order. All papers should be available directly through the Internet. For working papers, go to the authors' web page to get the latest version.

Topic 1: Ahlfeldt, Gabriel, Redding, Stephen, Sturm, Daniel, and Wolf, Nikolaus, 2015. "The economics of density: Evidence from the Berlin wall", *Econometrica* 83 (6), 2127–2189.

Topic 3: Albouy, David and Andrew Hanson, 2014. "Are Houses Too Big or in the Wrong Place? Taxes Benefits to Housing and Inefficiencies in Location and Consumption", *NBER Tax Policy and the Economy*.

Topic 4: Albouy, David and Gabriel Ehrlich 2016. "Housing Productivity and the Social Cost of Land-Use Restrictions", *Mimeo*.

Topic 6: Albouy, David and Bert Lue, 2015. "Driving to Opportunity: Local Rents, Wages, Commuting, and Sub-Metropolitan Quality of Life", *NBER WP 19922, Journal of Urban Economics*, 89, 74-92.

Topic 7: Albouy, David and Bryan Stuart, 2014. "Urban Population and Amenities", *NBER WP 19919*, revised November 2015.

Topic 9: Arzaghi, Mohammad and J. Vernon Henderson, 2008. "Networking off Madison Avenue," *Review of Economic Studies* 75(4), 1011-1038.

Topic 10: Au, C.-C. and Henderson, V., 2006. Are chinese cities too small?, *Review of Economic Studies* 73(3): 549-576.

Topic 13: Baum-Snow, Nathaniel, and Ronni Pavan, 2012. "Understanding the City Size Wage Gap", *Review of Economic Studies*, 79(1), pages 88-127.

Topic 15: Beaudry, Paul, Green, David A., and Sand, Benjamin M, 2014. "Spatial equilibrium with unemployment and wage bargaining: Theory and estimation". *Journal of Urban Economics* 79, 2-19.

Topic 20: Briant, Anthony, Lafourcade, Miren, Schmutz, Benoît, 2015. "Can Tax Breaks Beat Geography? Lessons from the French Enterprise Zone Experience", *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 7(2), 88-124.

Topic 26: Combes, P.-P., Sylvie Démurger and Shi Li, 2015. Migration externalities in China, *European Economic Review* 76, 152–167.

Topic 30: Criscuolo, Chiara, Ralf Martin, Henry Overman, and John Van Reenen, 2012. "The causal effect of an industrial policy", *CEP DP No 1113*.

- Topic 31: Desmet, Klaus, and Esteban Rossi-hansberg, 2013. "Urban Accounting and Welfare", *American Economic Review* 103(6), 2296–2327.
- Topic 32: Duranton, Gilles, and Hubert Jayet, 2011. "Is the division of labour limited by the extent of the market? Evidence from French cities", *Journal of Urban Economics* 69, 56–71.
- Topic 33: Givord, Pauline, Roland Rathelot and Patrick Sillard, 2013. "Place-based tax exemptions and displacement effects: An evaluation of the Zones Franches Urbaines program", *Regional Science and Urban Economics* 43, 151–163.
- Topic 37: Fu, Shihe and Ross, Stephen L., 2013. "Wage premia in employment clusters: How important is worker heterogeneity?", *Journal of Labor Economics*, 31(2), 271-304.
- Topic 38: Gibbons, Stephen, Overman, Henry G., and Resende, Guilherme, 2011. "Real earnings disparities in Britain", DP 65, Spatial Economic Research Center.
- Topic 41: Gobillon L., Magnac T. and H. Selod, 2012. "Do Unemployed Workers Benefit from Enterprise Zones: the French experience", *Journal of Public Economics*, 96 (9-10), 881-892.
- Topic 42: Gobillon L., Magnac T. and Selod H., 2011. "The effect of location on finding a job in the Paris region", *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, 26(7), 1079-1112.
- Topic 47: Larson, William and Anthony Yezer, 2015. The energy implications of city size and density. *Journal of Urban Economics* 90(1): 35–49.
- Topic 48: Holmes, Thomas J. and Sanghoon Lee, 2012. "Economies of density versus natural advantage: Crop choice on the Back Forty". *Review of Economics and Statistics* 94(1), 1-19.
- Topic 49: Lee, Sanghoon, 2010. "Ability sorting and consumer city", *Journal of Urban Economics* 68(1), 20-33, 2010.
- Topic 56: Redding, S. and D. Sturm, 2005. "The Costs of Remoteness: Evidence from German Division and Reunification", *American Economic Review*, 98, 1766–1797.
- Topic 60: Rossi-Hansberg, Esteban, Pierre-Daniel Sarte, and Raymond Owens III. 2010. "Housing externalities", *Journal of Political Economy* 118(3), 485–535.
- Topic 61: Saito, Hisamitsu and Gopinath, Munisamy, 2009. "Plants self-selection, agglomeration economies and regional productivity in Chile", *Journal of Economic Geography*, 9(4), 539-558.
- Topic 62: Wahba, Jackline and Yves Zenou, 2005. " Density, social networks and job search methods: Theory and application to Egypt", *Journal of Development Economics*, 78, 443-473.