**Syllabus: Advanced Regional Economics 2**

This course is one of two that comprise the graduate sequence in regional economics. The goal of the course is to provide limited coverage of standard theory and to expose you broadly to common research techniques within the literature. There is no required text for the course as we will primarily cover journal articles, most of which are available through online retrieval services offered through the university library.

**Grading and Assignments**

Assignments and grading in this course are geared towards the development of critical skills related to professional responsibilities in the economics profession: i.e. discussant presentations and referee reports. Specifically, everyone will be responsible for two referee reports and one discussant presentation. These assignments should be based on a paper from the reading list that is NOT designated as one of the core readings. Details related to each assignment:

**Referee Reports (2 at 30%):**

The peer review process is an important part of professional service in the economics discipline. In this course, you will be responsible for conducting two mock peer reviews. The format of the referee reports should follow the outline discussed in class and be between 2 to 3 pages in length. These assignments will receive a weight of 30 percent each, totaling 60 percent of the final course grade.

AEA Guidelines: [https://www.aeaweb.org/content/file?id=222](https://www.aeaweb.org/content/file?id=222)

**Discussant Presentation (1 at 40%)**:

Conference presentations, both of your own work and as a discussant for others, are crucial aspects of professional development within the economics profession. In this course, you’ll be expected to present one paper throughout the course when it is your group’s week. The format of the presentation should follow the outline discussed in class and be 10 to 15 minutes in length. This assignment will receive a weight of 40 percent of the final course grade.

Helpful Resource: [http://sites.utexas.edu/ecoadvising/files/2012/05/ESP-Tips-on-being-a-good-discussant1.pdf](http://sites.utexas.edu/ecoadvising/files/2012/05/ESP-Tips-on-being-a-good-discussant1.pdf)
Topical Overview

Week 1: Machine Learning Approaches

Week 2: Spatial Labor Dynamics
 Assignments: Group 1 presentation due, Groups 3 and 5 referee reports due

Week 3: Agglomeration and Spillovers
 Assignments: Group 2 presentation due, Group 4 referee reports due

Week 4: Technology, Innovation, and Growing Inequality
 Assignments: Group 3 presentation due, Groups 1 and 5 referee reports due

Week 5: (1) Immigration (2) The Effects of Segregation
 Assignments: Group 4 presentation due, Group 2 referee reports due

Week 6: Networks and Neighborhood Effects
 Assignments: Group 5 presentation due, Groups 1 and 3 referee reports due

Week 7: (1) Understanding Tests of Discrimination (2) The Effects of Crime
 Assignments: Group 2 and 4 referee reports due

Detailed Outline and Assigned Readings

Machine Learning Approaches


Spatial and Regional Labor Dynamics


**Agglomeration and Spillovers**


**Technology, Innovation, and Growing Inequality**


**Immigration**


The Effects of Segregation


Networks and Neighborhood Effects


**Understanding Tests of Discrimination**


The Effects of Crime


