

MARCIN BARON
ARTUR OCHOJSKI
ADAM POLKO

University of Economics in Katowice

URBAN ECONOMICS NEW RESEARCH TRENDS AS A CHALLENGE TO UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

Abstract: Urban growth is currently at the heart of multiple studies, as towns and cities face various challenges of economic, social and spatial nature. Consequently, new research trends and theories emerge in urban economics. They are pinpointed and briefly described in the paper. As a result, the authors focus on possible implications of the contemporary theoretical findings for education in Spatial Economics and Economics. A brief description of the study curriculum is proposed in order to initiate discussion on the necessary content adjustments in university education related to urban economics.

Keywords: University education, urban economics, urban studies.

Introduction

Urban economics has been broadly defined in literature as exact science that forming part economics, which describes and explains the processes of functioning and development of cities [Bury *et al.* 1991]. Given the growing importance of multi-dimensional processes taking place in urban areas, it seems reasonable and justified to put forward a question on the new principles of urban economics. It is high time to emphasize the need for the development of new methods and research tools oriented towards the challenges of the local economy and the phenomena and processes taking place in functional areas and urban areas [OECD 2012, 2015]. In this context, urban studies - with the interdisciplinary nature of research typical of them - are something else altogether. Both practice of local government units and academic research suggest numerous changes that have taken place and require cities to redefine innovation processes and competitiveness (smart cities, adaptive cities, creative economy), as well as cooperation processes to in order to favour and encourage urban and regional projects (clusters, innovation environments, entrepreneurship in local government, open innovation platforms, thriving cities and regions). Sustainable development and ideas

on how to improve the attractiveness and functionality of cities and regions are other important trends that have been increasingly incorporated in the practical aspects of the functioning and development of cities (compact cities, sustainable development, new urban spaces). Due to depopulation and deurbanization processes, cities are becoming settlement units with very diverse areas (yet larger in terms of surface), generating new infrastructure costs (efficiency of the local public sector). Thus, the concept of the city and urban economics need redefining in order to conceptually categorize territorial development and a new formula of urban and regional policies. The relevance of such theoretical reflection finds practical confirmation in foresight studies, urban planning studies, specialized projects and research on spatial transformation, entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity in urban and regional economies, carried out in cooperation between academia and the public sector.

The present paper aims to identify new research trends in urban economics and prove their relevance to university education. Thereby, it is assumed that traditional trends and concepts of urban research need to be complemented by current and potential research areas, to be developed within the next several years. The paper is also to organize knowledge about new phenomena and processes that determine urban economics. The utilitarian objective, targeted at the education sector, lies in defining a new qualification framework for comprehensive university training to be provided to future analysts, managers and change leaders in cities and regions; it is expected to help them function in the European labour market.

The study was drawn up on the basis of literature studies and the results of research and implementation projects carried out for the local government sector in relation to the teaching experience acquired by authors in the context of *Spatial Economics* and *Economics* courses at the University of Economics in Katowice.

1. New research trends in urban economics

Local governments throughout Europe – also in Poland - seek their own model of economics and public service management. Essential in this area are the following issues: effectiveness of municipal investment [Drobniak 2012] and effectiveness of services provided by local governments [Baron *et al.* 2014, pp. 14-28], extraurban scale of measures and project sustainability [Osborne *et al.* 2014, pp. 165-172], also in the face of the growing importance of institutions and the unreliability of infrastructure investments that are to ensure the development of cities and regions [Rodríguez-Pose 2013, pp. 1034-1047]. These issues are and will remain valid for at least several years.

At present, two thirds of the European population live in cities. Urban areas are service hubs and centres of economic development. At the same time, it is recognized that the European model of sustainable development, in which cities play a key role,

is under threat due to various negative trends: demographic, social, economic and environmental [*Cities of Tomorrow...* 2011, p. 15].

Causes and consequences of processes taking place in today's cities have been classified according to the categories of challenges in response to which specific solutions should be developed. On the basis of literature studies, key development challenges faced by cities have been identified, indicating the latest methodologies implemented in the framework of urban studies.

Urban development challenges are identified from the European, national and regional perspective. This approach is appropriate given the diversified settlement structure and a great variety of national and regional circumstances [Baron, Ochojski 2013]. At the level of the European Union, [*Cities of Tomorrow...* 2011, pp. 15-30] it is assumed that the main factors limiting the model of sustainable development include:

- demographic changes, among which the most important are depopulation and the related phenomenon of shrinking cities and aging population;
- economic stagnation associated with a decrease in the competitiveness of urban economies, observed particularly in traditional industrial centres, as well as medium-size and small cities of Central and Eastern Europe;
- social polarization, which manifests itself spatially as a segregation of urban communities and divisions between rich neighbourhoods (in many cases forming gated communities), and those with substandard buildings, whose residents suffer from social exclusion and various social problems;
- depletion of urban ecosystems associated with excessive consumption of green-fields and uncontrolled urban sprawl;
- excessive diversification of urban management systems, related to the limiting of decision-making capacities due to the creation of administrative boundaries of municipalities, which is inconsistent with the currently observed phenomenon of strengthening of relationships between urban centres forming functional urban areas.

Facing challenges that have their origin in limitations defined above means, in particular, the need to explain the mechanisms that govern the process of "embedding" of key competences and resources in local economies (based on the concept of resilient cities) and determine the processes of social participation and cultural, ethnic and generational diversification as a source of innovation (based on the concept of cohesive cities). A key challenge consists also in boosting the attractiveness of cities and ensuring that they offer their residents a high quality of life. Focus is on identifying the interdependence of determining factors: improved housing, reconstruction or creation of public spaces, developing a range of leisure activities, improving the natural and cultural assets of cities. In turn, sustainable territorial development requires thorough studies, based on the use of tools related to geographic information systems, studies

that would examine and elucidate processes taking place in the European settlement structure.

From the national perspective [*Krajowa Polityka Miejska...* (National Urban Policy) 2014, pp. 11-12], several developmental challenges can be attributed to large urban centres (with metropolitan aspirations). They include in particular:

- poor progress in the development of metropolitan functions,
- low level of innovation and limited share of the knowledge economy,
- low level of functional interconnections, not conducive to the creation of an integrated labour market and inhibiting the development of complementary functions.

In light of the above issues, foresight studies applied to regional policy and urban policy [Klasik, Kuźnik, 2013, pp. 147-162; Klasik *et al.* 2014] and research on the territorialisation of enterprises [Jewtuchowicz 2005] acquire a new meaning.

The second group of challenges is related to the deteriorating quality of life in cities. Technical, economic and social degradation is observed primarily in inner-city neighbourhoods, which are being outpaced by suburbs in the process of residential development. In the light of these challenges, it seems necessary to study the uncontrolled urban sprawl that contributes, *i.a.*, to the failure of transport systems, loss of recreational areas and increasing costs of services provided by the city. In the normative sphere, it is important to recognize and assess the orientation of measures aimed at enhancing the attractiveness of central areas through revitalization of public spaces, greater efforts expended to maintain spatial order, upgrading the public transport system, increasing energy efficiency and improving environmental conditions.

The last category of challenges focuses on governing urban areas. Independent performance of tasks by municipalities is often inconsistent with real processes occurring within a given urban functional area. Thus, knowledge and decisions taken by stakeholders and pertaining to the development of urban areas - given the complexity of problems and challenges - requires constant (systemic) learning of governance and co-management mechanisms [Barczyk, Ochojski 2014, pp. 36-53; Ochojski 2014, pp. 219-236], although public services provided by local governments are of interest to urban development policy, targeted *inter alia* at positive effects of structural changes and the professionalization of public service management [Kuźnik 2012, p. 83]. Finally, we must not overlook dynamic approaches in economic studies of urban structures, for which current trends and global trends are of utmost importance [Domanski 2012].

Challenges outlined above, as well as research trends that describe and explain them have been reflected in numerous practical applications. Not only have these issues and methodologies found their practical application, but they are also essential for the emerging research trends in urban economics. Literature studies allow us to identify trends in three key dimensions: quality of life in the city, competitiveness of urban economy and sustainable development of cities (Table 1).

Table 1

Selected research strands as an answer to urban development challenges

Dimension	Research strands	Concepts/examples
Quality of life in the city	Leisure economy development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24-hour city • urban tourism • consumer city
Competitiveness of urban economy	Development of creative and cultural industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creative industry clusters • culture quarters
	Smart growth Adaptive cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • smart cities • urban resilience
	Urban regeneration and inner-city management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TCM (Town Centre Management) • BIDs (Business Improvement Districts)
Sustainable development of cities	New urbanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compact city • Eco-towns • new pedestrianism • Copenhagization

Source: Own study based on [Polko 2012a, p. 33].

The transformation of urban economies, in particular the shift from the industrial to the post-industrial stage is often based on the development of creative industries and on cultural economy, as well as the so-called leisure economy. In the most general terms, it is recognized that creative industries involve activities that are based on the production and use of intellectual property [DCMS 2001]. This means that a significant part of the value added of its products is immaterial (i.e. design, brand, artistic value) and a result of the creativity and innovation of the creative community [Lash, Urry 1994]. Many authors emphasize the importance of cultural and scientific products in shaping the socio-economic development, e.g. the competitive advantage of cities and regions. Among the most frequently cited are studies by Florida [2002], who coined the term of *creative class* and Landry [2008], whose research and practical activity are focused on the transformation of urban areas based on creativity originating from the cultural sector and the knowledge sector. Research on the role and development prospects of creative industries is also carried out in Poland [Strykiewicz 2010; Klasik 2012].

The practice of urban regeneration observed in European countries involves transition from local management to local governance [Tallon 2010, p. 134]. The following concepts are examples of urban planning approaches that take into account the mechanisms of partnership and participation, particularly important for governance:

Town Centre Management (TCM) as a set of proactive measures aimed at increasing the attractiveness of city centres. TCM initiatives are implemented and coordinated through partnerships between the public, business and civil sector [Coca-Stefaniak *et al.* 2009, p. 75]. The use of TCM requires a team approach due to the wide range and combination of measures and actions, based on close cooperation in the process of planning, implementation and financing of specific projects [Tallon 2010, p. 189]. TCM is characterized by a great diversity of projects that take into account various economic, environmental, socio-cultural and technological needs.

Business Improvement District (BID) - an area with established boundaries, within which businesses pay specific fees (contributions) subsequently invested in improving business operation conditions. The available funds can be used to finance measures aimed at improving public security, order and aesthetic qualities of the urban space, marketing campaigns etc. Decisions on how the money is spent are taken by entrepreneurs participating in the BID. Services provided under the BID complement municipal services that remain the responsibility of local authorities. As part of the BID zone, the city can also create a system of incentives, such as tax breaks, rebates etc. [Bradley 2001, p. 119].

Taking into account the inevitable and increasingly fast-paced social, economic, technological and political changes, approaches related to the adaptability of cities are becoming increasingly important. In this context, we should mention first of all the concepts of urban resilience and smart cities. While urban regeneration is the process of renewal of the urban fabric and the socio-economic structure, urban resilience seems to have a more preventive character, as it is aimed at increasing resilience and adaptability of urban structures. In general, cities are confronted with two types of crises. The first category relates to sudden and random events, such as floods, droughts, epidemics, construction and transport disasters, terrorist attacks. The second category of crises is associated with long-term and slow changes, such as de-industrialization, depopulation or urban sprawl. With regards to the first category of crises, we can apply a simpler definition of urban resilience, rooted in environmental science, where resilience means resistance and the ability to quickly regain equilibrium following an adverse incident. Through comparing specific indicators (*e.g.* the level of employment, or the degree of water pollution) from the period before, during and after the crisis, we can assess the resistance of the city and its capacity to overcome the crisis. In relation to the second category of crises, a better solution seems to be the evolutionary approach, according to which the city is a complex system, constantly adapting itself to the situation and never attaining the state of perfect equilibrium. Thus, assessing the city's adaptability means assessing whether the city is capable of remaining on the growth path that it has chosen for itself or of transitioning to a more favourable path (*e.g.* a complete change of the urban function profile, and thus of the city's image: Bilbao, which has undergone

a transformation from an industrial city to a city of culture is a flagship example of this process) [Polko 2012b, pp. 4-5].

- Smart cities are usually defined in six dimensions: economy, mobility, environment, social capital, living conditions and governance. Considering the above, the city can be referred to as “smart” if investment in social capital, as well as modern infrastructure and information and communication technology (ICT), are conducive to sustainable development, and consequently to improved quality of life, greater environmental awareness of local residents (the importance of natural and cultural assets) and to more participatory governance of the city. Narrowing the concept of smart cities to infrastructure and technologies would be inaccurate, as they only represent the form, or serve as tools. A city is, more than anything else, its residents, and therefore smart cities are an emanation of the human:
- creativity and innovation,
- entrepreneurship and willingness to take on challenges,
- flexibility in the labour market,
- ability and willingness to participate in life-long learning,
- openness to change and tolerance toward others,
- environmental awareness and appreciation of the role of culture,
- willingness to participate in governance.

When referring to the new and trendy concepts of urban resilience and smart cities, one should be wary of overusing these terms. Not all cities are “smart” or rather capable of quickly acquiring resilience and adaptability. If we assign the attributes of smart cities mainly to city users, it becomes clear that boosting creativity or increasing the level of tolerance is a long-term process, which does not lend itself easily to arbitrary external influence, and which can never involve the entire population [Baron 2012, p. 31-46; Polko 2012b, pp. 4-5].

Another research strand focuses on improving the quality of life in cities by applying the principles of sustainable development. Several concepts related to sustainable urban development are already firmly established in literature. The first is the new urbanism, or the return to the traditional rules of urban planning. It advocates the comprehensive revitalization of city centres and increasing their attractiveness through the creation of multifunctional areas, abstaining from the development of suburban areas and replacing expressways cutting through the city with newly built pedestrian zones. The principles of new urbanism can be applied to both small individual projects and projects involving the entire community. The basic principles include walkability (most things within a 10-minute walk of home and work), connectivity (ease of movement, lack of barriers), variety of functions and diversity of social groups, quality architecture and urban design, sustainable technologies and focus on developing local products and services [<http://www.newurbanism.org/newurbanism/principles.html>]. A more idealistic form of new urbanism is a trend referred to as the

new pedestrianism; in this case, efforts are focused on reducing to a minimum the use of road transport within the city. Cities that strive to implement this concept create tree-lined avenues that connect city parks. Bikes are among the preferred means of transport. Concepts based on the introduction of facilities for pedestrians and cyclists have been implemented *inter alia* by Gehl in Copenhagen (hence the term of *Copenhagenization*) [Gehl 2009]. Similar assumptions underlie the idea of the compact city, in stark opposition to the phenomenon of urban sprawl [OECD 2012].

2. Implications for teaching urban economics

An overview of new theoretical approaches presented above and their practical applications allows us to infer about the utilitarian nature of research conducted in this area and, in particular, the future of urban economics as an academic subject. In this context, it is the intention of authors to provide recommendations on qualification frameworks for the purposes of training specialists in urban economics and providing them with extensive competencies and skills that will enable graduates to enter and thrive on the European labour market. The strategic orientation that has inspired solutions presented below is the competitiveness of Polish colleges and universities whose educational services include courses in *Spatial economics* or *Economics*. Their competitiveness is perceived in the international dimension, and therefore foreign academic centres serve as the point of reference for the proposal; the proposed course would be delivered in English.

In Europe, top research centres specializing in urban studies are located in the UK and in the Netherlands. Among British universities, the Department of Urban Studies at the University of Glasgow deserves a special mention: its staff and students carry out numerous research projects pertaining to the transformation of contemporary cities, and the Department was among the initiators of a major scientific journal, *Urban Studies* (Impact Factor: 1.493; the journal ranks 9th among 37 periodicals pertaining to this discipline). In turn, Dutch universities boast some of Europe's top institutes specializing in spatial studies (spatial econometrics, geographic information systems), such as the University of Groningen, Faculty of Spatial Sciences and the University of Amsterdam, Department of Spatial Economics. Numerous achievements and rich experience in the field of urban studies are also the hallmarks of several research centres in Germany (including the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography), Austria (e.g. Vienna University of Economics and Business, Institute for the Environment and Regional Development), as well as Hungary (e.g. including the Hungarian Academy of Science, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies) and Romania (e.g. the Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca).

In the process of profiling modern education in urban economics, it is important not only to enter into network relationships with these universities, but also to partici-

pate in projects implemented by communities that integrate academic institutions and individual urban and regional researchers. In Europe, these are mainly the following scientific associations: the European Regional Science Association (ERSA), the Regional Studies Association (RSA), the Association of the European School of Planning (AESOP) and the European Urban Research Association (EURA). The International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM) is the major European organization whose activity is focused on ensuring the complementarity of network knowledge and the acquisition of practical experience in the area of public services, closely linked with urban economics.

The starting point for the redefinition/updating of the course is the profile of a student and, later, a graduate who must be capable of responding to previously identified challenges in a work environment. Considering the drive towards internationalization and professionalization of education in Poland, urban economics studies should be dedicated first and foremost to international students enrolled on a two-year study cycle, upon the completion of which a master's degree is awarded. The course should be dedicated to students who hold an undergraduate degree in social sciences or humanities, or in technical subjects related to urban planning, spatial development or construction. Given the competition in the education market, as well as the specificity of urbanization processes, priority target markets (*i.e.* countries of origin of students) are those of Central and Eastern Europe. In the recruitment process, all applicants should prove to have sufficient English language skills allowing them to read academic texts, engage in direct verbal exchange with lecturers, write reports and studies.

Graduates of the course will have acquired extensive knowledge of contemporary urban issues and economics (urban and regional). They will be prepared for both teamwork and individual work on complex urban development projects. Thanks to having completed the course in an international environment, with lectures and classes delivered in English, graduates will be at ease when working in multicultural environments. The aim of the course is to train future urban analysts, capable of managing development projects - including infrastructure projects - within cities/responding to the needs of cities, of urban policy programming and of operating in non-governmental organizations specialising in urban issues. Graduates will be able to use modern IT solutions in their work. Due to the nature of their future work, extensive work carried out within the "tutor system" should allow students to acquire strong academic values, develop their critical thinking skills for the purposes of analysis and synthesis, and boost their creativity.

Developing new or upgrading the existing university courses in the field of urban studies should begin with identifying key processes that occur in urban areas or in adjacent rural areas that maintain strong functional relationships with urban areas [Klasik *et al.* 2013, pp. 79-91]. Furthermore, given the conceptual framework presented in the preceding chapter, the creation or modification of courses aimed at enhancing the

knowledge, skills and social competences in the field of urban economics should be based on the conceptual framework presented in Table 2, which outlines four areas related respectively to: the economics of urbanization processes; policy and strategic management; spatial management; technological and infrastructure issues. In relation to each of them, specified keywords have been listed.

Table 2

Subject areas and keywords for the proposed course in urban economics

Subject area	Keywords
Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • market (demand, supply, price) • market structure (perfect competition, monopoly, oligopoly) • consumer choice, supply decisions (input, output, marginal costs/revenues) • economic growth, inflation, unemployment, banking system (money, interest rate) • government (fiscal policy, monetary policy) • welfare economics (efficiency, market failure, externalities, public goods, asymmetric information) • public choice, social choice and voting • taxation and government spending • real estate sources of information (legal, technical, spatial and market aspects) • urban real estate markets (land, housing, retail, office, industrial etc.) • property development (market dynamics, redevelopment, vacancy) • real estate finance and investments, real estate taxation • contiguity (site assembly, compulsory purchase) • housing policy (demand-side policy, supply-side policy, rent control etc.)
Policy and Strategic Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • development of regions and countries of the European Union, development disparities • economic, social and territorial cohesion • challenges of development in EU regions and cities • structural policies • EU funds and EU programmes towards cities and regions • public services in urban and regional perspective • public service delivery in European context • public service management • governance, development policy of public services • local and regional economic development • strategic management • strategy formulation: tools and praxis • strategy implementation • strategy monitoring and evaluation

Subject area	Keywords
Spatial changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spatial data • spatial aggregation • spatial autocorrelation, regression models, spatial interaction and discrete choice models • measuring and modelling spatial inequality, competition and diversity • spatial planning systems in Europe (legal and political aspects) • controlling the density of development, growth controls, Urban Growth Boundaries (UGB) • building permits • zoning (nuisance, fiscal, design) • green belts, historic conservation, impact fees • map design • GIS output • geodatabases, digitizing, geocoding, geoprocessing • ArcGIS spatial analysis
Technologies and infrastructures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • standards and legislation (in the EU) • planning, design and documentation • negotiation planning and authority approvals • feasibility studies and due diligence of construction works • Project Cycle Management • Logical Framework Approach • schedules • applications of PM software • pipeline management • cost and benefits measurement • risk management • resource and capacity planning • progress reporting and executive dashboard

Source: Own study.

Given the constant evolution of the concept and research trends outlined in the previous section, the curriculum can be expanded beyond the key concepts listed above.

Bearing in mind the specificity of university programmes and curricula, it should be assumed that the English-language course in urban economics should meet all statutory requirements, in particular specify the intended learning outcomes and the study programme in the form of a description of the learning process that is to allow students to obtaining specific results.

The suggested course of studies shall enable learners to acquire knowledge, skills and social competences in line with the learning outcomes in social sciences. Recommendations of learning outcomes are presented in Table 3.

Table 3

Learning outcomes of the proposed course of studies

Scope	Learning outcomes
Knowledge	The student/graduate is capable of describing thoroughly different types of economic ties and phenomena that govern them, relevant from the point of view of economic processes
	The student/graduate had advanced knowledge of selected quantitative methods and IT tools for collecting, analysing and presenting spatial and economic data
	The student/graduate is capable of identifying and explaining the essential phenomena determining economic structures and influencing economic processes in cities and regions
	The student/graduate has in-depth interdisciplinary knowledge of the types of spatial and socio-economic structures, along with their interrelations
	The student/graduate has a thorough theoretical and practical knowledge of methods and tools used in economic and spatial analyses, as well as strategic analyses, allowing him/her to describe the spatial units and their markets, and to draw up strategic development and planning studies
Skills	The student/graduate is able to properly analyse the causes and course of socio-economic phenomena occurring in space, as well as forecast and model complex socio-economic processes using advanced tools of strategic management and planning
	The student/graduate has a good command of normative systems, standards and rules (legal and professional) of spatial planning and project management in order to solve specific problems
	The student/graduate is able to set priorities, plan changes and define projects implemented in cities and regions
	The student/graduate is able to efficiently present and justify - both in writing and orally - interpretations of phenomena occurring in urban, regional and supra-regional markets, and present his/her solutions
Competences	The student/graduate understands the need for continuous revision and expansion of knowledge, as well as the acquisition of new skills, can properly assess his/her potential, discern and creatively use emerging opportunities
	The student/graduate is able to interact and work within interdisciplinary teams, drawing from his/her extensive knowledge in the process of drawing up studies, analyses and preparing documents pertaining to urban economics
	The student/graduate actively participates in the work of project teams, task forces, organizations and institutions as a member, initiator or leader
	The student/graduate expands his/her the knowledge and skills, in a manner that best suits his/her needs and capabilities, drawing from the achievements of various disciplines (various sources)

Source: Own study.

The above assumptions allow us to translate the suggested subject areas into teaching modules of a graduate course in urban studies taught in English. It seems reasonable to be to create six training modules (see Fig. 1).

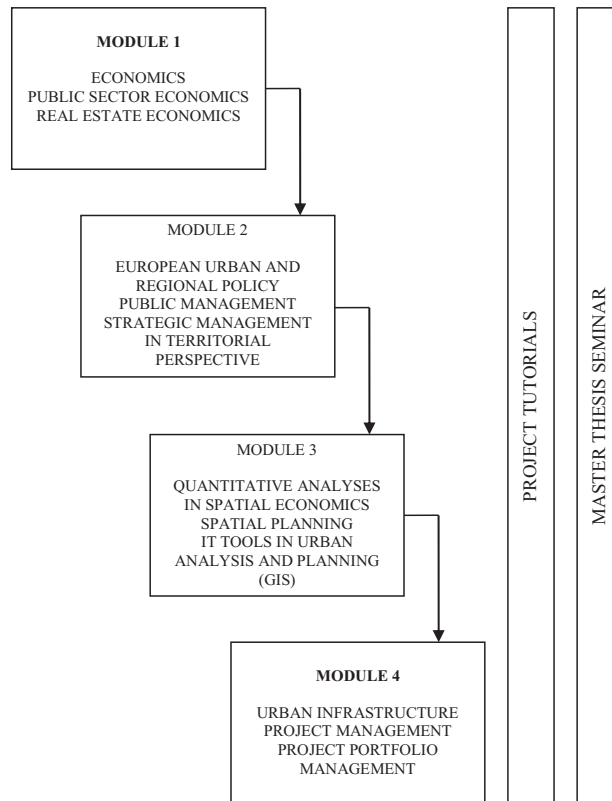


Figure 1. Teaching modules in the proposed course of study

Source: Own study.

Four modules should be taught through interactive lectures and – in the case of selected course content – practical and laboratory classes. In addition, two specialist modules delivered in the form of tutor projects and a graduate seminar should form an integral part of the course. Subsequent modules should include content drawing from: economics and location theories, strategic management and policy development, urban planning, technology and infrastructure.

Direct interaction and exchange with teachers and lecturers should enable students to describe and expounding the theoretical basis of spatial transformations and urban development, define the nature of changes and the cyclical nature/durability of the observed processes. The concept of “tutor projects” is central to the proposed direct interaction and based on the idea of engaging teachers and students in joint conceptual and design work. In practice, direct interaction should contribute to the acquisition of skills and competences necessary for the autonomous use of analytical and forecasting

tools. Individual work, in turn, should be focused on literature studies, research, as well as the development and professionalization of study with the use of IT tools.

Summary

In the face of the variety of emerging trends in urban development research, it is important to update the content of university curricula in the domain of urban economics. In this process, we should take into account both development challenges that urban areas are increasingly confronted with, and competition on the higher education market, faced *inter alia* by universities providing fields of studies such as: Spatial economics [Churski, Kudłacz 2013] or Economics. The proposed concept of a graduate course delivered in English has been developed as a model solution for those among Polish universities that have internationalization ambitions. Several Polish academic centres arguably have considerable potential in this area.

References

- Barczyk S., Ochojski A., 2014, *Nowe ujęcie modelu governance*, [in:] *Projekty lokalne i regionalne - najlepsze praktyki*, H. Brandenburg, P. Sekuła (Eds.). UE, Katowice.
- Baron M., 2012, *Do We Need Smart Cities for Resilience?*, [in:] *Urban Economic Resilience – New Concept for Post-industrial City Transition*, A. Drobnik, H. Brandenburg (Eds.). Journal of Economics and Management, Vol. 10, UE, Katowice.
- Baron M., Ochojski A. 2013, *Innovation in Public Services: the Pursuit of Economic Drivers*, [in:] *KRE Huizingh*, S. Konn, M. Torkkeli, I. Bitran (Eds.). The Proceedings of the 6th ISPIM Innovation Symposium, Melbourne, 08-11 December, 2013. Lappeenranta University of Technology, Lappeenranta, LUT Scientific and Expertise Publications, Vol. 4.
- Baron M., Ochojski A., Polko A. *et al.*, 2014, *Economics and Strategic Management of Local Public Services in Central Europe. Towards Multidisciplinary Analysis of Infrastructure and Service Costs*. Institute of Sociology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Prague.
- Bradley R., 2001, *Business Improvement Districts*, [in:] *The Inner City. A Handbook for Renewal*, R. L. Kemp (Ed.). McFarland&Company Inc., Jefferson, North Carolina.
- Bury P., Markowski T., Regulski J, 1993, *Podstawy ekonomiki miasta*. Fundacja Rozwoju Przedsiębiorczości, Łódź.
- Churski P., Kudłacz T. red., 2013, *Gospodarka przestrzenna - doświadczenia i wyzwania procesu kształcenia*. Biuletyn KPZK PAN, No. 251, Warsaw.

- Cities of Tomorrow: Challenges, Vision, Ways Forward*, 2011, European Union, Regional Policy.
- Coca-Stefaniak J. A., Parker C., Quin S., Rinaldi R., Byrom J., 2009, *Town Centre Management Models: A European Perspective*. "Cities", Vol. 26.
- DCMS, 2001, *Creative Industries Mapping Document 2001* (2 edition), Department of Culture, Media and Sport, London.
- Domański R., 2012, *Ewolucyjna gospodarka przestrzenna*. Wyd. UE, Poznań.
- Drobniak A., 2012, *Projekty strategiczne w mieście przemysłowym*. Wyd. UE, Katowice.
- Drobniak A. (Ed.), 2014, *Urban Resilience Concept and Post-industrial Cities in Europe*. Helion, Gliwice.
- Florida R., 2002, *The Rise of the Creative Class. And How It's Transforming Work, Leisure and Everyday Life*. Basic Books, New York.
- Gehl J., 2009, *Życie między budynkami. Użytkowanie przestrzeni publicznych*. Wyd. RAM, Cracow.
- Jewtuchowicz A., 2005, *Terytorium i współczesne dylematy jego rozwoju*. Wyd. UŁ, Łódź.
- Klasik A. (Ed.), 2012, *The Cities and Agglomerations Development Based on the Cultural Sector and Creative Industries*. Studia Regionalia KPZK PAN, Vol. 30, Warszawa.
- Klasik A., Kuźnik F., 2013, *Foresight Studies in Facilitating the Development and Management of a Region. Practical Experience in Silesia*, [in:] *Programming Regional Development in Poland. Theory and Practice*, T. Kudłacz, D. Woźniak (Eds.). Studia Regionalia KPZK PAN, Vol. 35, Warsaw.
- Klasik A., Ochojski A., Polko A., 2013, *Kształcenie na kierunku gospodarka przestrzenna w uczelni ekonomicznej*, [in:] *Gospodarka przestrzenna - doświadczenia i wyzwania procesu kształcenia*, P. Churski, T. Kudłacz (Eds.). Biuletyn KPZK PAN, No. 251, Warsaw.
- Klasik A., Biniecki J., Ochojski A., 2014, *Metropolitalny foresight strategiczny: metodologia i studium przypadku*. Studia KPZK PAN, Vol. CLX, Warsaw.
- Krajowa Polityka Miejska* (projekt), 2014, Ministerstwo Infrastruktury i Rozwoju, Warsaw.
- Kuźnik F., 2012, *Polityka rozwoju i zarządzanie usługami publicznymi w strukturach samorządowych*. Studia KPZK PAN, Vol. CXLIII, Warsaw.
- Kuźnik F., Klasik A., Szczupak B., Baron M., *Regionalna Polityka Miejska Województwa Śląskiego (założenia)*, <http://bip.slaskie.pl/dokumenty/2013/11/21/1385031328.pdf>.
- Landry C., 2008, *The Creative City: A Toolkit for Urban Innovators*. Earthscan, London.
- Lash S., Urry J., 1994, *Economies of Sign and Space*. SAGE, London.
- Ochojski A., 2014, *Współzarządzanie i współzrządzenie w rozwoju lokalnym*, [in:] *Miasta - metropolie - regiony. Nowe orientacje rozwojowe*, A. Klasik, F. Kuźnik (Eds.). Wyd. UE, Katowice.

- OECD, 2012a, *Redefining Urban: a New Way to Measure Metropolitan Areas*. OECD Publishing, Paris.
- OECD, 2012b, *Compact City Policies. A Comparative Assessment.*, OECD Publishing, Paris.
- OECD, 2015, *The Metropolitan Century Understanding Urbanisation and its Consequences*, OECD Publishing, Paris.
- Osborne S., Radnor Z., Vidal I., 2014, *A Sustainable Business Model for Public Service Organizations?* "Public Management Review", Vol. 16, Wyd. 2.
- Polko A., 2012a, *Wybrane trendy zagospodarowywania przestrzeni europejskich miast*, [in:] *Gospodarowanie przestrzennymi zasobami miasta w świecie ponowoczesnym*, M. Czornik (Ed.). UE, Katowice.
- Polko A., 2012b, *Wyzwania rozwojowe i przyszła polityka miejska.* „Silesia Region”, No. 3.
- Rodríguez-Pose A., 2013, *Do Institutions Matter for Regional Development?* "Regional Studies", Vol. 47, Wyd. 3.
- Stryjakiewicz T. (Ed.), 2010, *Sektor kreatywny w poznańskim obszarze metropolitalnym*. UAM, Poznań.
- Tallon A., 2010, *Urban Regeneration in UK*. Routledge, London and New York.
- www.newurbanism.org/newurbanism/principles.html.