Lecture 12:

Cities & Regions

Subnational Geographies
**KEYS**

- **Sub-national economies matter**
  - Uneven regional development
  - Cities as heartland of capitalism

- **Cities & regions are under-appreciated**
  - Because unbounded & lacking in state power
  - But have crucial social and political effects on states

- **Cities as complex agglomerations**
  - & Systems of cities & regions as sinews of capitalism
Lec. 12: Cities & Regions

I. Regions
II. Cities
III. Networks
I. Regions

A. Territory
B. Economy
C. Society
D. Politics
What is a Region?

- Subnational territory
  - Loose usage
- Openness
  - Unbounded
  - Subnational states
- Common grounds
  - Nature & history
  - Politics & culture
  - Industry & trade
- Unity
  - Economic integration
  - Political unification
Regions & States

- Nation-states replace world of regions & empires

- Once-independent territories become subnational “regions”
  - E.g., Italy, UK, USA

- Subordination
  - Political integration
  - Uniform government
  - Nationalism & culture
Regionalized States

- **Federal**
  - US, Canada, Germany

- **Semi-federal**
  - Mexico, China

- **Devolution**
  - Britain, Spain, etc.

Attempts to recognize regional differences

Contrast to highly centralized states
e.g., France, Russia, Chile, Japan
I. Regions

A. Territory

B. Economy

C. Society

D. Politics
Uneven Regional Development

- Regional leaders
  - GDP, population, etc.

- Regional laggards
  - California vs. Montana
  - Guangdong vs. Xinjiang
  - Valley of Mexico vs. Sonora
Regional Industrialization

- **Rise of Northern Mexico**
  - Border industrialization
    - Takes off in 1970s-80s
    - Up to 1 million jobs in 1990s
  - Growth of cross-border cities
    - Tijuana, Ciudad Juarez, etc.

- **Rise of Southern China**
  - Guangdong as experiment
    - Takes off in 1980s
  - Growth of southern cities
    - Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Dongguan
Regional Economies

- **Mix of activities**
  - Industry, commerce, finance, etc.

- **National economies in miniature?**
  - Less complex, less robust
  - Like small countries
    - Same hazards as small countries
Specialized Regions

- Fragments of national economies
  - Industrial locales/specialists
  - Internal trade among regions
  - Spatial division of labor

- Types of regional specialties
  - Resource-based
    - Oil in TX & LA (Houston, Delta)
  - High-tech based
    - Electronics & Biotech (Bay Area)
  - Government-based
    - US govt & beltway bandits (W.D.C.)
  - Agriculture based
    - Upper Midwest
Measuring Specialization (in high tech)

Table 8.6. Technology Districts in the United States

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Location quotients*</th>
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<tr>
<td>California</td>
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<td>Aerospace</td>
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<td>Biologicaal</td>
<td>5,235</td>
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<td>Electronics and components</td>
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<td>Massachusetts and Connecticut</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aircraft and engines</td>
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<td>Financial services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aerospace and armaments</td>
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<td>Precision instruments</td>
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<td>Electronics and components</td>
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<td>Radio, TV, and telecommunications</td>
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<td>Research and development labs</td>
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<td>Medical equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York and New Jersey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pharmaceuticals and biologicals</td>
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<td>Advanced services</td>
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<td>Electronics and components</td>
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<td>Texas</td>
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<td>Construction and engineering</td>
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<td>Electronics</td>
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*Location quotients is the ratio of the percentage of output of industry x in economy y (the locality in question), to the percentage of output of industry x in the nation’s economy as a whole.

(M. Storper, 1996)
Regional Variations

- Same industry, different practices
  - Even different technologies


- *Like national differences*
Degree of Regionalization

United States vs. the European Union

- US has more integrated space-economy
  - US has greater mobility across regions
  - EU more fragmented, redundant

- US has greater regional specialization
  - Bigger markets, more internal trade

- US has higher level of innovation
  - Because labor & capital rush to hot spots
I. Regions

A. Territory

B. Economy

C. Society

D. Politics
Regional Social Orders

- **Cultural differences**
  - Language, food, dress, religion, etc.
  - Racial orders
  - Legacies of settlement, conquest, slavery, etc.

- **Economic cultures**
  - Different foundations
    - Agrarian vs. industrial vs. commercial
    - Size of enterprises/property
  - Classes
    - Landed classes, industrialists, small business & farmers, workers, peasants, slaves, etc.
Europe of the Regions

- European history of fragmentation
  - More than Americas or much of Asia

- EU regional policy
  - EU center vs. national governments
  - Rediscovery of the regions

- Devolution of EU states
  - Britain, Spain, Yugoslavia
Rebellious Regions

- Rebellious regions
  - Rebels
    - Santa Cruz (Bolivia), Chiapas, Quebec, Darfur
  - Breakaway
    - Slovenia, Slovakia, Ukraine

- Economic & social bases of rebellion
  - Industrial vs. agrarian
  - Rich & poor
  - Weak or external integration
I. Regions

A. Territory
B. Economy
C. Society
D. •Politics
Regional Politics

- Challenges to National Order
  - PAN in Northern Mexico
    - Fox & Calderon
  - Islamists in southern Tunisia, central Turkey
    - Erdogan vs. the Generals
  - Lombard League in Italy
    - Berlusconi & Northern Right
  - East Germany
    - Merkel & Eastern conservatives
Regional Civil Wars

- **Cases**
  - United States, Spain, Pakistan, Nigeria, Chechnya

- **Bases**
  - Economic & social orders
  - Political mobilizations
  - Refusal of compromise

- **Usually crushed**
  - Bangladesh one of few successes
South is Still Different

- Cheap labor, open shop, etc.

  Gavin Wright, *Old South, New South*

### Percent in poverty
- reds are 18-27%, 27-50%
Regional Politics Today

- What are Red & Blue States?
  - South & Great Plains
  - Vs. old industrial best & Pacific Coast

- Out of California
  - Nixon & Reagan

- Southern Presidents
  - From Ike & Truman to Bush & Johnson
Beyond the Nation-State?

- Loose talk
  - From EU
  - From globalists

- Major powers solid
  - US, China
  - Russian recovery

- Latin America
  - Revived states
I. Regions

II. •Cities

III. Networks
II. Cities

A. Territory
B. Economy
C. Society
D. Politics
An Urban World

**Population Growth and Projections**

- China
- India
- Europe
- USA

**Rural and Urban Population**

- Rural
- Urban

**World Map**

- Urban population (in millions)
  - 5 < million
  - 5 - 10 million
  - ≥ 10 million

Source: UN 2012
Draft and Copyright: F. Kraas
Cartography: P. Spitteler
What is a City?

- **Urbanism**
  - Dense population
  - Built up area
  - Concentration of activities

- **City Limits**
  - Suburbs & exurbs
  - Open systems (unbordered)
City & Metropolis

- City as place vs. city as jurisdiction
  - ‘Municipalities’

- Metropolitan area
  - Central city and suburbs
  - Multiple cities (like Bay Area)

- Special districts
  - Overlapping governments

- Endless confusion & mis-measurement
Cities & States

- City states
  - Rare, e.g. Singapore

- Cities as capitals
  - Focus of state power
  - Centralized vs. Federal states
Cities & Regions

- Regions always have principal cities
  - Trading & service centers
  - Industrial & financial centers
  - Subnational capitals
II. Cities

A. Territory
B. •Economy
C. Society
D. Politics
Urban Functions

- Cities are centers of economic activity
  - Industry
  - Commerce
  - Finance
  - Management

- Flows of savings, labor, resources into cities
  - Sucking up the surplus from hinterlands

- Productive or parasitic?
  - Cities are both
Cities as Economic Clusters

- **Economies of agglomeration**
  - Proximity
  - Labor pools
  - Infrastructure

- **Dynamic districts**
  - Institutions
  - Learning
  - Innovation

- **Applies to all activities:**
  - Production, commerce, retail, mgmt & finance
Specialist & Generalist

- **Specialists**
  - One function
  - Usually smaller
  - E.g., Akron, Fresno

- **Generalists**
  - Big metro areas
    - E.g., L.A., New York
  - Clusters of clusters
    - E.g., Bay Area
      - Downtown SF, SFO, Silicon Valley, Berkeley, 680 corridor
  - Advantages of generalists
    - Stability & interaction
Urban Powerhouses

- “City regions”
  - Gigantic scale of modern big cities
    - London, Mexico City, Sao Paolo, Shanghai, etc.
- Big as national economies

![Countries & US Metros: Nearest GDP Equivalents Map](image_url)
Endogenous Growth

- **Cities as economies**
  - Like states & regions

- **Production & distribution**
  - In city, for city, through city

- **Accumulation**
  - Generates surplus & reinvests

- **Labor**
  - Population growth & education of new workers

- **Innovation**
  - New tech, new firms, new skills,
  - ‘Incubators’
II. Cities

A. Territory
B. Economy
C. •Society
D. Politics
Cities as Hearths of Capitalism

- Influx from agrarian orders
  - Universal trends of urbanization

- Commercial life & money
  - Breakdown of old social fabric
    - Gesellschaft to gewirtschaft (Weber)
    - Anonymity (Chicago School)

- Centers of capital
  - Industry, merchants, finance

- Centers of consumption
  - New forms of selling & being
Cities & Creativity

- Cities as centers of creativity
  - City life
    - Eccentricity & encounter
  - City labor
    - Skills (talent) & variety
  - Circulation of ideas
    - Sharing & competing

Richard Florida, *The Creative Class*

- Limits on cosmopolitanism
City Character

- Economic base & social character
  - Reflecting & reproducing industries
  - Place names & industries

- Old industry
  - Steel City, Motor City, mining towns, etc.

- New industry
  - Silicon Valley, Hollywood, Bollywood, Austin

- Beyond industry
  - Wall Street, Madison Avenue, Berkeley
  - Capital cities (D.C., Sacto., Brazilia, etc.)
II. Cities

A. Territory
B. Economy
C. Society
D. •Politics
Political Blowback

- City life & ‘liberality’
- Cities & regional/national domination
- Urban dominance vs. rural resentment

Red & Blue – at the local level (red is urban)
Urban Political Geography

- Cities as power centers
  - Extended to regions & nations
    - Political bases such as Sirte vs. Benghazi, Reagan & L.A.
  - Struggles to control cities
    - E.g., New York 1973, SF 2001, Cairo 2011, Hong Kong

- Internal struggles over space
  - Cities divided
    - Controlling working class
  - Public spaces
    - E.g., Tahrir square in Cairo
I. Regions
II. Cities
III. Networks
III. Networks

A. Systems

B. Hierarchies

C. Vanguards
Systems of Cities

- Inter-city connections
  - Growth by networking
  - More connected to each other than to hinterlands

Allan Pred, *Urban Growth & City Systems in the United States, 1840-60*
Global City/Region Systems

- Beyond national borders
- Global nodes & networks
  - Rediscovery of an idea
    *Allen Scott, Regions & the World Economy*
- Sinews of global capitalism
  - Centers of industry & commerce
  - Arterties of economic flows

A B C D E
III. Networks

A. Systems

B. •Hierarchies

C. Vanguards
City Hierarchies

- Rank-order of cities
  - Exponential

- NY
  - LA, Chicago
  - Bay Area
    - Stockton, Fresno, Sacramento, etc.
    - Modesto, Marysville, Placerville, etc.

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<th>Nielsen® DMA Market Rank Comparisons</th>
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The Top 25 Nielsen DMAs
National Hierarchies

- National differences
  - Primate city systems
  - Dispersed city systems

- Why?
  - Central vs. federal states
  - Strong vs. weak regions
Global Hierarchies

- International city hierarchies

- Top: London, New York, Tokyo
  - Second tier: Shanghai, Singapore, Hong Kong, Mumbai, Paris
    - Third tier: LA, SF, Chicago, Frankfurt
    - Fourth tier national centers:
      Berlin, Milan, Moscow, Sao Paulo, Mexico City, Istanbul, Cairo
Urban/Regional Competition

- **Worldwide phenomenon**
  - Osaka vs. Tokyo
  - LA vs. SF
  - Berlin vs. Frankfurt
  - Shanghai vs. Guangdong
  - Mexico City vs. Guadalajara

- **How to get ahead?**
  - State policy
  - Innovation
III. Networks

A. Systems

B. Hierarchies

C. Vanguards
Global Vanguard

- Capitalism & rise of cities
  - (above)

- Cities at the geographic frontier
  - Venice, Amsterdam, London, Paris

- Cities on the American frontier
  - New York, Philly, Chicago, SF, Atlanta

- Cities on frontier of Chinese growth
  - Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Wuhan, Chonqing

Walker & Buck, “Cities in the transition to capitalism in China” 1966
Industrial Vanguards

- Industrial Revolution in UK
  - Lancaster & Midlands
  - Geographic reversal
- Industrial revolution in US
  - New England & northeast
    - Overtake the south
  - Then Mid-Atlantic & Midwest
- Industrialization of France & Mexico
  - Only strengthened capital city
Industrial Vanguard in China

- Rise of the South (Pearl River Delta), 1980s-90s
  - Devastation of NE industry
- North back on top, 2000s
- Moving West, 2000s-?
Dispossession & Transition

PLANET OF SLUMS
MIKE DAVIS