

## **The 21st Century Metropolis, Urbanization and Economic Development: Mexico and International Experiences**

The objective of this course is to discuss fundamental issues on urbanization and economic development and the inter-relationship between economic prosperity and the growth of cities. Emphasis is given to the particular case of Mexico, which is a highly-urbanized country (72%) that faces increasing challenges due to urban growth and expansion, but references to Latin America and other international experiences will be discussed as well.

Topics include concepts, theoretical elements, analytical techniques and empirical experiences. Some of the critical challenges and problems of urbanization and development will be identified. Additionally, various paradigms that cities incorporate into their economic development strategies will be examined.

By the end of the course students will have:

1. Gained an understanding of concepts, theories, and debates in economic development and urbanization.
2. Familiarized themselves with recent trends and facts in Mexico and the world.
3. Developed a knowledge of municipal, intermediate and central government's policies and their spatial impacts.
4. Obtained some skills in developing an economic development profile of cities.