

International PhD course on Economic Geography

Main theme of the course 2016:
Geography of entrepreneurship, networks and transitions

Place
Utrecht University
Utrecht

Period
12 September 13.00 pm – 15 September 18.15 pm
24 October 13.00 pm – 27 October 18.00 pm

Local organizer:
Ron Boschma (Utrecht University/Lund University)

Co-organizers:
Bjorn Asheim (Stavanger University/Lund University)
Anders Malmberg (Uppsala University)

Guest lecturers:
Bjorn Asheim (Stavanger University/Lund University)
Pierre-Alex Balland (Utrecht University/Lund University)
Fabrizio Barca (Central Bank of Italy)
Koen Frenken (Utrecht University)
Elisa Giuliani (Pisa University)
Anders Malmberg (Uppsala University)
Andrea Morrison (Utrecht University)
Andrés Rodríguez-Pose (LSE)
Erik Stam (Utrecht University)
Simone Strambach (Marburg University)
Michaela Trippel (Lund University)
Bernard Truffer (EAWAG, Utrecht University)

The International PhD course is organised under the framework of CLUSDEV
MED Project H2020-MSCA-RISE-2014



Content of course:

The course aims to provide an introduction to contemporary research perspectives and approaches in economic geography. The core questions of this discipline – related to the role of place and space in processes of economic development – have in recent years attracted interest not just from geographers but also from economists and other social scientists. This course will debate recent theoretical developments (with special attention to evolutionary and institutional economic geography), and will discuss recent advancements in methodology and empirical analysis in economic geography.

A key theme is the study of the geography of entrepreneurship, knowledge, networks and transitions. There is increasing awareness that (different types of) networks enhance knowledge diffusion and innovation. The study of networks is a key topic in economic geography because it deals with the fundamental questions whether places or networks, and local or global networks matter for innovation. In addition, new tools in social network analysis have become available to analyse the role of (local) networks in regional development. Social network analysis has provided new insights to the cluster literature. Moreover, the spatial configuration of networks also change over time. What drives network dynamics is an emerging topic in economic geography. And, there is an expanding literature on the geography of transition which attracts a lot of attention.

This course takes up the following questions with respect to the main theme: to what extent need firms to be proximate in order to enhance innovation? What kinds of knowledge need to be recombined to enhance regional development? How does the geography of entrepreneurship look like? What kinds of network configurations are conducive to regional innovation? Who matters in networks of innovation? And how do networks of innovation evolve over time? How do regions diversify over time? Which types of agents induce structural change in regions? How do institutions affect the development of new growth paths? What kind of regional policy is needed to enhance regional innovation? What types of smart specialization policies and cluster policies could work? Which regional features favour the transition towards more sustainable development? And what kinds of (institutional, evolutionary) theories are needed to accommodate these questions?

It is these questions what makes economic geography such an exciting discipline. Currently, many social scientists besides economic geographers are working on these topics, making it a cross-disciplinary endeavour. It is fair to say that many theoretical, conceptual and empirical issues still remain to be solved. Leading experts that are currently working on these research frontiers will take up these challenges, and discuss the latest insights. Network analysis will take a prominent part. A computer practicum will be organized in which students will learn to use and apply social and dynamic network analysis. And students learn how to analyze transitions towards sustainable development. PhD students will acquire the latest knowledge concerning these theoretical, methodological and empirical issues.

The organizers will participate actively in the course. Leading experts will present the latest developments with respect to the geography of entrepreneurship, knowledge, networks and transitions, and provide comments on the PhD projects and feedback on the paper that students have to write.

Each PhD student will get 45 minutes to present and discuss his/her PhD project (20 minutes presentation, 25 minutes discussion). A senior researcher and a PhD student will act as discussants for each PhD project.

Each PhD student has to select a topic among the ones that are addressed in the September meeting and write a paper on that topic (max. 3,000 words). This paper has to be submitted to the local organizer a week before the October meeting. During the October meeting, the student will get feedback from a senior researcher and receive a grade, if sufficient. The best paper will win an award.

Program

Monday 12 September

Room:

13.00 welcome by Ron Boschma

13.15 – 15.00 Ron Boschma (Utrecht University/Lund University)
Evolutionary economic geography: relatedness and diversification

15.15-16.00 PhD student 1

- senior discussant: Ron Boschma
- junior discussant:

16.15-17.00 PhD student 2

- senior discussant: Ron Boschma
- junior discussant:

17.15-18.00 PhD student 3

- senior discussant: Ron Boschma
- junior discussant:

18.15-19.00 PhD student 4

- senior discussant: Bjorn Asheim
- junior discussant:

Tuesday 13 September

Room:

9.00 – 10.45 Erik Stam
Geography of Entrepreneurship

Room:

11.15 – 12.00 PhD student 5

- senior discussant: Erik Stam
- junior discussant:

12.15 – 13.00 PhD student 6

- senior discussant: Erik Stam
- junior discussant:

13.00-13.45 lunch

13.45 - 15.30 Anders Malmberg (Uppsala University)

Localized learning, buzz and pipelines: a knowledge-based theory of spatial clustering

15.45 - 16.30 PhD student 7

- senior discussant: Anders Malmberg
- junior discussant:

16.30 - 17.15 PhD student 8

- senior discussant: Anders Malmberg
- junior discussant:

17.15 - 18.00 PhD student 9

- senior discussant: Anders Malmberg
- junior discussant:

Wednesday 14 September

Room:

9.00 – 11.00 Andrea Morrison (Utrecht University)

Social network analysis

11.15 – 12.00 PhD student 10

- senior discussant: Andrea Morrison
- junior discussant:

12.15 – 13.00 PhD student 11

- senior discussant: Andrea Morrison
- junior discussant:

13.00-14.00 lunch

14.00 – 16.00 Bjorn Asheim (Stavanger University/Lund University)
Knowledge bases, clusters and regional innovation systems

16.15 – 17.00 PhD student 12

- senior discussant: Andrea Morrison
- junior discussant:

17.15 – 18.00 PhD student 13

- senior discussant: Bjorn Asheim
- junior discussant:

18.15 – 19.00 PhD student 14

- senior discussant: Bjorn Asheim
- junior discussant:

Thursday 15 September

Room:

9.00 – 11.00 Bernhard Truffer (EAWAG, Utrecht University)
Geography of Transitions

11.00 – 11.45 PhD student 15

- senior discussant: Bernhard Truffer
- junior discussant:

11.45 – 12.30 PhD student 16

- senior discussant: Bernhard Truffer
- junior discussant:

Room:

13.00-14.00 lunch

14.00 – 15.45 Andrés Rodríguez-Pose (LSE)
Institutions and regional development in Europe

16.00 – 16.45 PhD student 17

- senior discussant: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose (LSE)
- junior discussant:

16.45 – 17.30 PhD student 18

- senior discussant: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose (LSE)
- junior discussant:

17.30 – 18.15 PhD student 19

- senior discussant: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose (LSE)
- junior discussant:

Monday 24 October

Room:

13.00 welcome by Ron Boschma

13.15 – 15.00 Elisa Giuliani (Pisa University)
Evaluating the impact of cluster development

15.00 – 15.45 PhD student 20

- senior discussant: Elisa Giuliani
- junior discussant:

15.45 - 16.30 PhD student 21

- senior discussant: Elisa Giuliani
- junior discussant:

16.30 – 17.15 PhD student 22

- senior discussant: Elisa Giuliani

- junior discussant:

17.30 – 18.15 PhD student 23

- senior discussant: Pierre-Alex Balland
- junior discussant:

18.15 – 19.00 PhD student 24

- senior discussant: Pierre-Alex Balland
- junior discussant:

Tuesday 25 October

Room:

9.00 - 11.00 Simone Strambach (Marburg University)

Micro-dynamics of knowledge, path plasticity and institutional change

11.15 – 12.00 PhD student 25

- senior discussant: Simone Strambach
- junior discussant:

12.15 – 13.00 PhD student 26

- senior discussant: Simone Strambach
- junior discussant:

13.00 - 14.00 lunch

Rooms: Van Unnik (tba)

14.00 – 17.30 feedback on papers by international researchers (3 parallel sessions)

Wednesday 26 October

Room:

9.00 – 11.00 Fabrizio Barca (Central Bank of Italy)

Place-based policies

11.15-13.00 Pierre-Alex Balland (Utrecht University/Lund University)

Network dynamics and economic geography

13.00-14.00 lunch

Room:

14.00-18.00 Andrea Morrison and Pierre-Alex Balland (Utrecht University)

Network analysis
Computer Practicum

Thursday 27 October

Room:

9.00 – 11.00 Koen Frenken (Utrecht University)

Geography of Transition: Sharing

11.15 - 12.00 PhD student 27

- senior discussant: Koen Frenken
- junior discussant:

12.15 – 13.00 PhD student 28

- senior discussant: Koen Frenken
- junior discussant:

Room:

13.00-14.00 lunch

14.00-16.00 Michaela Trippel (Lund University)

Smart specialization: conceptual foundations and policy practices in European regions

16.15 - 17.00 PhD student 29

- senior discussant: Michaela Trippel
- junior discussant:

17.15 - 18.00 PhD student 30

- senior discussant: Michaela Trippel
- junior discussant:

18.00 announcement of the best paper award

Reference List

Bjorn Asheim

Asheim, B. T. and Gertler, M. (2005): The Geography of Innovation: Regional Innovation Systems, in Fagerberg, J., Mowery, D., and Nelson, R. (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Innovation*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2005, 291-317.

Asheim, B. T., Moodysson, J. and Tödtling, F. (2011): Constructing Regional Advantage: Towards State-of-the-Art Regional Innovation System Policies in Europe? *European Planning Studies*, 19, 7, 1133-1139.

Asheim, B. T., Lawton Smith, H. and Oughton, C. (2011): Regional Innovation Systems: Theory, Empirics and Policy. Special issue of *Regional Studies*, 45,7, 875-891.

Martin, R. and J. Moodysson (2013): Comparing Knowledge Bases: On the Geography and Organisation of Knowledge Sourcing in the Regional Innovation System of Scania, Sweden. *European Urban and Regional Studies*, 20, 2, 170-187.

Pierre-Alex Balland

Balland, P.A., de Vaan, M. and Boschma, R. (2013) The Dynamics of Interfirm Networks along the Industry Life Cycle: The Case of the Global Video Games Industry 1987-2007, *Journal of Economic Geography* , 13 (5): 741-765

Balland, P.A. (2012) Proximity and the Evolution of Collaboration Networks: Evidence from Research and Development Projects within the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Industry, *Regional Studies*, 46 (6): 741-756

Snijders, T. A., Van de Bunt, G. G., & Steglich, C. E. (2010) Introduction to stochastic actor-based models for network dynamics, *Social networks*, 32 (1): 44-60

Ron Boschma

Frenken, K., F.G. Van Oort and T. Verburg (2007), Related variety, unrelated variety and regional economic growth, *Regional Studies* 41, 685-697.

Neffke, F., M. Henning and R. Boschma (2011), How do regions diversify over time? Industry relatedness and the development of new growth paths in regions, *Economic Geography* 87, 237-265

Klepper, S. (2007), Disagreements, spinoffs and the evolution of Detroit as the capital of the U.S. automobile industry, *Management Science* 53 (4), 616-631

Boschma, R.A. & R. Wenting (2007), The spatial evolution of the British automobile industry: does location matter? *Industrial and Corporate Change* 16 (2), 213-238

Koen Frenken

Boschma, R.A., Capone, G. (2014). Institutions and Diversification: Related versus Unrelated Diversification in a Varieties of Capitalism framework. Papers in Evolutionary Economic Geography 14.21, <http://econ.geo.uu.nl/peeg/peeg.html>

Dewald, U., Truffer, B. (2012). The local sources of market formation: Explaining regional growth differentials in German photovoltaic markets. *European Planning Studies*, 20 (3): 397-420

Wenting, R., Frenken, K. (2011). Firm entry and institutional lock-in: an organizational ecology analysis of the global fashion design industry. *Industrial and Corporate Change*, 20(4): 1031-1048.

Boschma, R.A., Frenken, K. (2009). Some notes on institutions in evolutionary economic geography. *Economic Geography* 85(2): 151-158.

Boschma, R.A., Frenken, K. (2006). Why is economic geography not an evolutionary science? Towards an evolutionary economic geography. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 6(3): 273-302.

Anders Malmberg

Bathelt, H, Malmberg, A and P Maskell (2004) Clusters and Knowledge: Local Buzz, Global Pipelines and the Process of Knowledge Creation, *Progress in Human Geography*, 28(1): 31-56.

Malmberg, A & Maskell, P (2002) The Elusive Concept of Localization Economies – Towards a Knowledge-based Theory of Spatial Clustering. *Environment and Planning A*, Vol. 34: 429-449.

Malmberg, A, & Maskell, P (2006) Localized learning revisited, *Growth and Change*, 37(1): 1-18.

Maskell & Malmberg (1999) Localised learning and industrial competitiveness. *Cambridge Journal of Economics* Vol 23: 167-185.

Simone Strambach

STRAMBACH, SIMONE (2010): PATH DEPENDENCE AND PATH PLASTICITY. THE CO-EVOLUTION OF INSTITUTIONS AND INNOVATION - THE GERMAN CUSTOMIZED BUSINESS SOFTWARE INDUSTRY. IN: RON BOSCHMA UND RON MARTIN (HG.): THE HANDBOOK OF EVOLUTIONARY ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY. CHELTENHAM. NORTHAMPTON: EDWARD ELGAR, PP. 406–431.

STRAMBACH, SIMONE; KLEMENT, BENJAMIN (2012): CUMULATIVE AND COMBINATORIAL MICRO-DYNAMICS OF KNOWLEDGE: THE ROLE OF SPACE AND PLACE IN KNOWLEDGE INTEGRATION. IN: *EUROPEAN PLANNING STUDIES* 20 (11), PP. 1843–1866.

STRAMBACH, SIMONE (2008): KNOWLEDGE-INTENSIVE BUSINESS SERVICES (KIBS) AS DRIVERS OF MULTILEVEL KNOWLEDGE DYNAMICS. IN: *INT. J. SERVICES TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT* 10 (2/3/4), pp. 152–174.

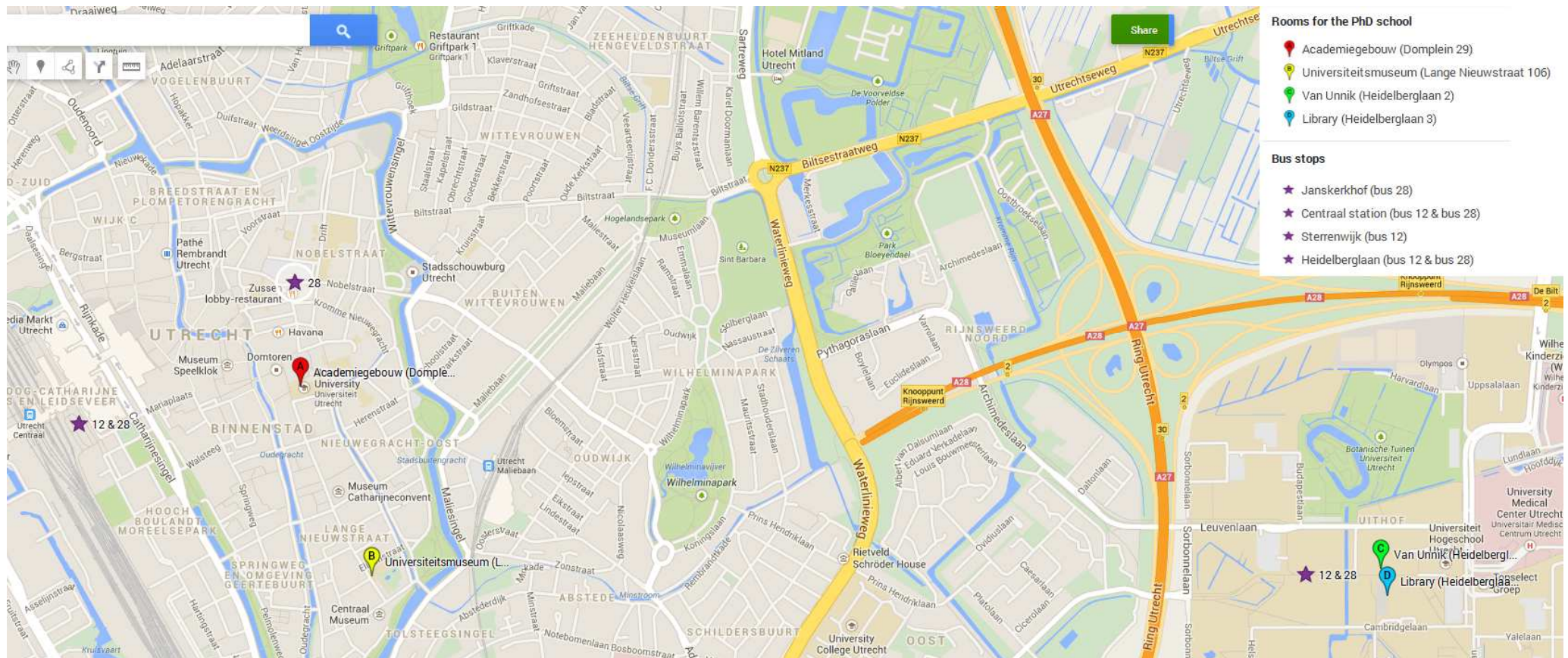
Bernhard Truffer

Carlsson, B. (2006) Internationalization of innovation systems: A survey of the literature *Research Policy*, 35 (1), pp. 56-67

Binz, C., Truffer, B. and Coenen, L. 2014. Why space matters in technological innovation systems - The global knowledge dynamics of membrane bioreactor technology. *Research Policy* 43, 138– 155.

Truffer, B., Coenen, L. 2012 Environmental innovation and sustainability transitions in regional studies. *Regional Studies*. 46 (2), 1-22.

Map of buildings and bus stops



An interactive version of this map is available [here](#)

After arrival at Schiphol Airport, you can take a train to Utrecht Central Station. Train tickets are available from the yellow ticket machines near the platforms at Schiphol Plaza or from the ticket offices. There is a direct train to Utrecht every 30 minutes and the journey takes about half an hour. Once in Utrecht central station, you can take bus 12 or 28 to reach the buildings located in the campus (Van Unnik and Library). The Academiegebouw and the Universiteitsmuseum building are located in the city center (walking distance from the train station).