

**Welcome to the
2018 Boot Camp of the
Open Source Macroeconomics Laboratory
Becker Friedman Institute
University of Chicago**

Dr. Richard W. Evans

June 18, 2018

Today's Schedule

Time	Description
7:30–8:00am	Breakfast and mingle
8:00–8:20am	OSM Lab Intro, Evans
8:20–9:50am	Intro to measure theory, Ertl
10:00–11:50am	Dynamic programming, DeBacker
12:15–1:00pm	Lunch and safety briefing
1:15–2:00pm	Walking tour of UChicago, Evans

Introduce Me, Staff, and Instructors

- Richard Evans, Director ([@RickEcon](#), [@OpenSourceMacro](#), #OSMbootCamp2018)
- Cara Cook, Becker Friedman Institute
- [List of instructors](#)

Funding

Generous 5-year grant (this is year 2)

Students

- 113 applicants from best universities in world
- Admitted 26
- Some others auditing
- Average GPA: 3.81

Introduce

Have students introduce selves

Lineage of OSM Lab

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- ③ As IMPACT phase out, my research increasing

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 - Excellent graduate placement
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- ⑧ June 2017: Begin first OSM Lab Boot Camp

Mission of OSM Lab

Boot Camp Mission

Train students with modern theoretical and computational tools with an emphasis on open source methods. Support students in mentored research.

- Mathematics
- Economics
- Computational Methods

OSM Lab Mission

Provide open source training and support economic research using open source tools.

OSM Lab Culture

- Casual in dress, formal in effort and analysis
- Instructors are mentors, approachable
- Premium on collaboration, helping fellow students
- Entrepreneurial approach to research

OSM Lab GitHub Repo

- All detail on [Boot Camp GitHub Repo](#)
- Tutorials, schedule, source material, problem sets
- Each student should set up own GitHub account at github.com
 - You will turn in your problem sets via your GitHub accounts
 - Grading results in 0, 1, 2 on prob sets \Rightarrow [blank], distinction, high distinction on certificate
- Probably want to select “Watch” on this repo

Collaboration

- Collaboration is essential skill
- Boot camp format enables effective collaboration
- Curriculum is designed to be too hard to do alone
- “Big kid” research requires this kind of collaboration

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WARNING

- Please do NOT spend majority of time working by self
- Work with others

Short-term goals

- Curriculum should be hard, great
- Modern tools in econ, computation (require math)
- Object oriented programming in open source language (Python)
- Get best advanced undergraduate students

Long-term goals

- Place students in the best graduate programs
- Modular, open source curriculum that others can use
- Create “research monster” students who become next gen researchers (pipeline)
- Support research using economic/computational methods
- Support research using open source methods