ECON 413 — Project: Policy Lab
Grading Rubric (100 points total)

Business Cycles and Growth

Overview

Two graded parts: (A) GitHub repo & code (50 pts) and (B) in-class presentation (50 pts).

A) Repo & Code (50 points)

Dimension	Excellent	Pts
Reproducibility	`run_all.R` executes end-to-end without edits; README gives exact steps; IRFs saved to `plots/`.	12
Model implementation	Loads `.gcn`, finds steady state, solves with `solve_pert`, sets shocks, generates IRFs; BK conditions satisfied.	15
Parameter handling	**One new parameter** (not in basic RBC) is defined, economically explained, calibrated to a reasonable value, and used in runs.	8
IRFs & labeling	IRFs include key variables, horizon ≥ 40, axes/units labeled; captions name shock and σ.	5
Code quality	Clear structure, comments, sensible names; minimal console noise.	5
GitHub hygiene	Logical repo structure; irrelevant artifacts ignored; commits show progress.	5
Subtotal		**50**

B) Presentation (50 points)

Dimension	Excellent	Pts
Model choice & RBC contrast	Clear motivation for chosen model; 1–2 bullets on what the feature adds vs. RBC.	10
New parameter	Defines parameter, economic meaning, calibrated value, and expected effect on dynamics.	10
IRFs & interpretation	Well-labeled IRFs; correct interpretation of sign, timing, and persistence; links back to the new feature.	15
Calibration transparency	Table of key parameters with brief justification; shock name and size stated on figures.	8
Delivery & timing	9–11 minutes; clear visuals and pacing.	4
Q&A	Concise and accurate responses.	3
	Subtotal	**50**

Submission deadlines

- **Slides (PDF):** upload before class on **Tue, Dec 2**.

- **Repo:** code and figures committed by the start of class on **Tue, Dec 2**.