

Introduction to Macroeconomics

Course overview

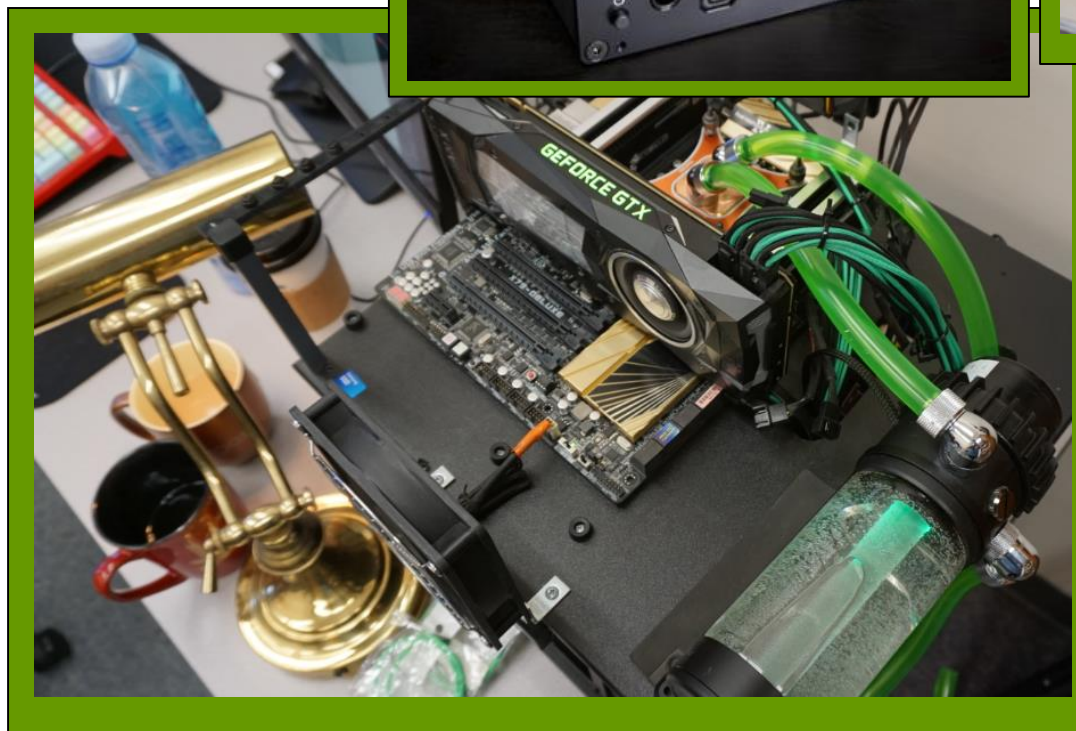


© 2020 Gary R. Evans. This slide set by Gary R. Evans is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

Gary R. Evans

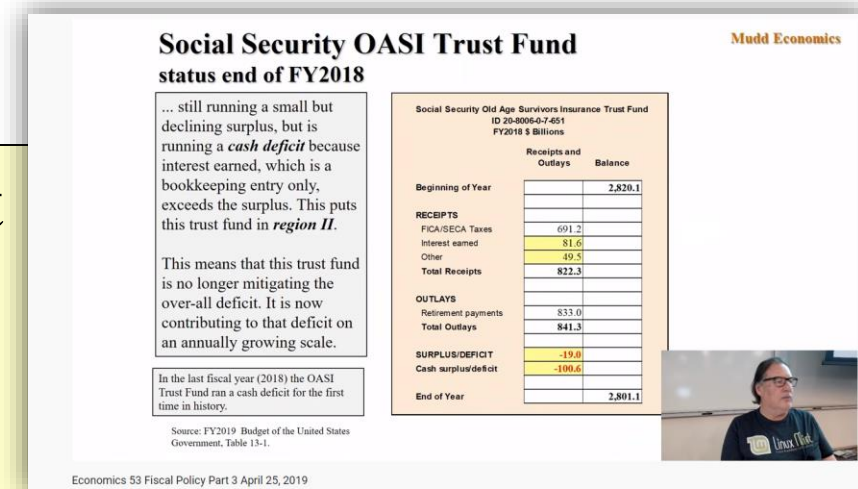
<https://palmislandtraders.com/mudd/hmcgre.html>

- evans@g.hmc.edu
- Parsons 1261
Tu 10:00 - 11:00
TuTh 1:30 - 2:30
& appt.
- Specialties
 - econ policy
 - entrepreneurship
 - finance
- Twitter: PITraders



Remember ...

- Reading assignments and exam dates are found at <http://palmislandtraders.com/econ53/e53cc.htm>
- High-quality pdfs of these slides are at <http://palmislandtraders.com/econ53/e53ls.htm>
- If looking for material for any of my classes, always go back to source
<http://palmislandtraders.com/mudd/hmcgre.html>
- I don't use Sakai for this class
- I *do* broadcast with YouTube in this class



Macroeconomics

1. Reading and reviewing

- ✓ .. no texts, all online
- ✓ .. all slides posted online prior to the lecture

2. Exams and grades

- ✓ .. 3 exams, equally weighted, new material only
- ✓ **New!!** Exams are now online
- ✓ .. grades on generous distribution
- ✓ .. no collected homework

3. Policy

- ✓ .. attendance not required, but this **is** a lecture course
- ✓ .. no videos or recordings without permission
- ✓ .. P/NC etc. review the rules!



[Review the content](#)

Dear Prof. Evans,

I took your Financial Economics class back in Fall 2017. You won't remember me because I attended a grand total of 3 of your lectures, always crammed for your exams the night before, and only managed to obtain credit because I Pass/Failed the class. (In case it wasn't obvious, I was a senior at the time.)

Typical macroeconomic questions:

- Why do we have business cycles?
- What causes inflation or deflation and why are they a problem?
- What determines interest rates?
- Why do exchange rates fluctuate (like now)?
- What causes unemployment?
- What is our government and Federal Reserve System doing?
- Topical: What will be the effect of the “trade skirmishes?”



Topical Issues

early 2020

- What will be the effect of new presidential policies?
- Is the stock market going to duplicate the chaos of 2018 or the massive momentum of 2019?
- Will huge levels of low-quality corporate debt cause problems in 2020?
- What is going on in China and with the trade negotiations
 - and how does that affect this economy?
- What will the FRS do with interest rates in 2020?
- Are these enormous budget deficits going to become an issue?
- Are income differences narrowing or widening?



Upcoming delay in data ...

The screenshot shows the BEA (Bureau of Economic Analysis) website's Release Schedule page. The navigation bar includes links for Data, Tools, News, Research, Resources, About, and Help. The main heading is "Release Schedule". Below this, there are two tabs: "Upcoming Releases" (selected) and "Full Schedule". The "Upcoming Releases" section features a table with the following data:

News Release	Date	Time
Gross Domestic Product, 4th Quarter and Year 2019 (Advance Estimate)	January 30	08:30 AM

A green circle highlights the "Date" and "Time" columns of the table, indicating the upcoming release date and time.