

Macroeconomics I

Prof. Vollrath

This is the first-semester graduate macroeconomics course. It is taught with Prof. Yi. My section of the course will come first, and cover models of economic growth.

Notes and recommended books

1. [Lecture Notes](#), these are required reading
2. [Aghion and Howitt](#), and feel free to grab an older edition
3. [Barro and Sala-i-Martin](#)
4. [Wickens](#)

Class structure and grading

You have four responsibilities for this class:

1. Reading: You should have read up through the listed material in the calendar *before* each class. In class, I will be discussing important points from the notes, but will not be strictly lecturing through the material.
2. Projects: These will be worked on *in class*, where I'll be available to answer questions and guide you towards an answer. The projects are like open-ended homework problems. Some of the projects may take more than just the officially scheduled time.
3. Homeworks: These are assigned each week and due on the following Friday in your TA section.
4. Exam: On October 9th, in class.

As per the overall course syllabus, exams count for 45% of your grade, so my exam is roughly 22.5% of your grade. Homework counts for 45% of your overall grade, so my projects and homeworks count for about 22.5% of your grade. My evaluation of your participation will be combined with Prof. Yi's to form the last 10% of your overall grade.

Calendar

August 20th. Basic accounting and elements of the Solow Model.

1. READING: Chapter 1 and Sections 2.1, 2.2, 2.3
2. PROJECT: [Labor Shares](#)
3. EXTRA: BSM (Chap 1.2), AH (Chap 1)

August 22nd. Consumption and welfare.

1. READING: Section 2.4
2. PROJECT: [Divergence](#)
3. ASSIGN: [Homework 1](#), due Aug. 31st

August 27th. AK growth models.

1. READING: Section 2.5
2. PROJECT: [Convergece Speed](#)
3. EXTRA: AH (Chap 2), BSM (Chap 4)

August 29th. Productivity growth.

1. READING: Sections 3.1, 3.2
2. PROJECT: [Uzawa's Theorem](#)
3. ASSIGN: [Homework 2](#), due Sep. 7th

September 5th. Productivity accounting.

1. READING: Sections 3.3, 3.4, 3.5
2. PROJECT: [Levels accounting](#)
3. ASSIGN: [Homework 3](#), due Sep. 14th
4. EXTRA: AH (Chap 5)

September 10th. Multiple goods.

1. READING: Section 3.6
2. PROJECT: [Structural transformation](#)

September 12th. Multiple goods.

1. READING: Section 3.7
2. PROJECT: Continue on [Structural transformation](#)
3. ASSIGN: [Homework 4](#), due Sep. 21st

September 17th. Endogenous growth.

1. READING: Chapter 4
2. PROJECT: [Sources of growth](#)

3. EXTRA: BSM (Chap 5,6,7) AH(Chap 3,4)

September 19th. Endogenous growth.

1. READING: Chapter 4

2. PROJECT: [XXXXXX](#)

3. ASSIGN: [Homework 5](#), due Sep. 28th

4. EXTRA: BSM (Chap 5,6,7) AH(Chap 3,4)

September 24th. Basic savings problems.

1. READING: Section 5.1, 5.2, 5.3

2. PROJECT: [Capital flows](#)

September 26th. Long-horizon problems.

1. READING: Sections 5.4, 5.5, 5.6

2. PROJECT: [Real and nominal savings](#)

3. ASSIGN: [Homework 5](#), due Oct. 5th

4. EXTRA: BSM (Chap 2), W (Chap 2, 3, 4)

October 1st. Endogenous population.

1. READING: Sections 6.1 and 6.2

2. PROJECT: [Population and productivity growth](#)

October 3rd. Endogenous population.

1. READING: Sections 6.1 and 6.2

2. PROJECT: [Demographic transition](#)

October 8th. EXAM

1. WHERE: In class

2. WHAT: All material to this point

3. RETURNED: Pick up in my office

4. PRACTICE: See old midterms from [2013](#), [2014](#), [2015](#), [2016](#)