

EC 103–004

Mini Project 2

Prof. Santetti

Spring 2024

INSTRUCTIONS: In this second mini project, you will have the opportunity to apply your newly learned macroeconomic skills to a **broader context**.

Our World in Data is a fantastic website where you can find several kinds of socioeconomic, demographic, and environmental data *for free* and with excellent *visualization tools*.

You are asked to navigate the website, explore its topics, and select between 2 and 3 graphs of your choice. As long as they can be related to the topics we have seen so far (e.g., *economic growth*, *business cycles*, *unemployment*, and *inflation*), the **choice is yours** as far as the period, country(ies), and topic(s) covered.

The main interest for this project is, based on the graphs you've chosen, what are the **stories** behind the behavior(s) you observe in your figures? The graphs should be your starting point, and then you should try your best to unveil the economic/social/political contexts that may help to explain what you observe.

Be **creative** and **informative**! Your figures should tell a **story** that you will bring to life not only visually, but also in a **written** format. Thus, you are asked to write a short piece, between 3 and 5 pages, telling:

1. **Why** did you choose this specific country (or group of countries), and this specific variable (or group of variables)?
2. **What** are the main *insights* that you get from your graphs? Briefly explain.
3. **How** do your figures help to tell this story?

Submit a single PDF file, *only with your text and links* to the figures you have chosen to explore.

Assignment due Apr 3 (W), before class.

Points Possible: 30

- Be honest. Don't cheat.
- As a Skidmore student, always recall your votes of academic integrity, and the **Honor Code** you have abided by:

"I hereby accept membership in the Skidmore College community and, with full realization of the responsibilities inherent in membership, do agree to adhere to honesty and integrity in all relationships, to be considerate of the rights of others, and to abide by the college regulations."

Have fun!

QUICK RUBRIC:

- Your chosen subject(s) relate to the topics studied in class: 10 points;
- Your PDF document contains the links to your chosen figures: 5 points
- Your essay is clearly written, including your motivation and interpretation of the figures you have selected: 15 points.

NOTES:

- As the COVID-19 pandemic has been explored in the first mini project, focus on other economic/global events this time around;
- **This page** contains useful information on citing your sources. You will **not get full credit** if the sources of your figures are not properly mentioned.