The Gator Macro Economics Group
University of Florida

Min Fang and Eugenio Rojas

February 20, 2026

Outline

1. **Who Are We?**
2. **PhD Macro: Core & Field Courses**
3. **Resources & Placement**
4. **Our Research**
5. **Conclusion**

Who Are We?

- Min Fang
  - Joined in 2023, Ph.D. from U Rochester.
  - Work on topics related with **macro-finance**, **monetary economics**, **spatial economics**, and **economics of technology**.
  - Currently teaching **1st year Ph.D. core macro** and **2nd year Ph.D. field course in monetary economics**.
- Eugenio Rojas
  - Joined in 2019, Ph.D. from U Penn.
  - Work on topics related with **international macroeconomics**, **heterogeneous agents**, and **quantitative macroeconomics**.
  - Currently teaching **1st year Ph.D. core macro** and **2nd year Ph.D. field course in international finance**.
- **Two new** faculty joining in the 2026-2027 academic year!
  - Topics: Labor Economics, International Macroeconomics, and Monetary Economics.

PhD Macro Coursework

- **Goal:** Provide rigorous quantitative formation to train strong research economists
- **1st Year**
  - Mod 1-2: Macro Theory & Computational Methods (Fang)
  - Mod 3-4: Macro Theory & Time Series (Rojas)
- **2nd Year**
  - Fall Semester: International Finance (Rojas)
  - Spring Semester: Monetary Economics (Fang)
- Potential new field courses in Macro-Labor and Macro-Finance
- Many macro students pair with Trade/IO
- Thereafter
  - Independent research, or with faculty
  - PhD Working Group
  - Macro Reading Group

Topics in International Finance

- **Objective**
  - Work on the (open) macro questions in current global policy debates
  - Use frontier computational tools to solve fully quantitative models
  - Leave the course with a paper that can become part of your dissertation
- **Main Topics**
  - Numerical methods for dynamic macroeconomic models
  - Workhorse small open economy frameworks
  - Financial crises and Sudden Stops
  - Macroprudential policy
  - Sovereign default
  - Heterogeneous-agent open economy models

Topics in Monetary Economics

- **Objective**
  - Work on the core monetary questions: Inflation, central banking, algorithmic pricing, etc
  - Get hands-on micro price data to understand trends in pricing technology
  - Use frontier computational tools to solve fully quantitative models
  - Leave the course with a paper that can become part of your dissertation
- **Main Topics**
  - Workhorse New Keynesian models with sticky prices/wages
  - Workhorse menu cost models of sticky prices/wages
  - Conventional and unconventional monetary policy tools
  - Financial frictions and monetary transmissions
  - Heterogeneous-households/firms monetary transmissions

Resources & Placement

- **Resources**
  - Seminars/Workshops/Reading Groups
  - HiPerGator (# 2 fastest among public universities, # 3 among all, # 104 in the world)
  - Florida RDC (Cool data! Potentially huge impact in your research)
  - Travel aid to present at conferences & workshops

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- **Placement**
  - Students in the macro group have placed at
    - Public policy institutions such as Central Banks
    - Academic institutions such as U Florida (Warrington) or U Chicago (Harris)
  - Quantitative skills are highly valued in academia & policy institutions
  - Summer internships at policy institutions, such as the IMF or Federal Reserve Banks, give visibility & boost market outcomes

Prof. Fang - Research

- Some current projects (het firms + financial/investment frictions)
  - Macroeconomic effects of long-term corporate debt contracts
    - Most debt contracts are long-term, involving maturity, covenants, and callability. Does it matter for the macroeconomy and policy?

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  - Constrained firm growth under substantial financial/investment frictions
    - How to boost firm growth (capital, innovation, ESG) under substantial financial/investment frictions?

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    - Does the rise of AI and algorithmic pricing make monetary policy less effective?
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  - Macroeconomic effects of AI in supply chain
    - Does the rise of AI in supply chain management reduce the frictions in the production network? And how?

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  - Global uncertainty, financial development & growth
    - U.S. uncertainty has uneven effects on medium-run growth rates of Advanced (ADVs) and Emerging economies (EMEs). Why?

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    - More next slide

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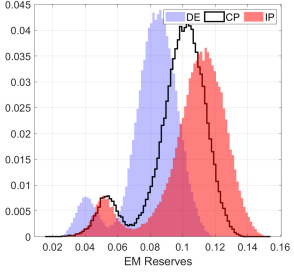
  - "Optimal" reserve accumulation: **too high** due to **coordination externality**.



Why join us at UF?

- A **growing department** with an active and supportive research environment
- **Vibrant scholars** across fields and strong placement record
- Close **collaboration between faculty and PhD students**
- Generous **resources for research and professional development**
- And yes… **Florida** ☼

Come to UF!

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