

MACROECONOMETRICS

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Hours: By appointment. Email for appointment any time.

Course Description

This class will consist of some lectures in classic material (Kalman Filter, SVARs, Cointegration,...), reading of some newer material (I need to learn new stuff as well), and student presentations. You are required to do an empirical project or a Monte Carlo study. (I encourage 3rd-year and above students to use real data.) You may want to think of this class partly as a seminar. The class overlaps with Professor Papell's Macroeconomic Modeling and Forecasting but is likely to go somewhat more into the theory than Papell's class and with Professor Murray's Time Series class but is likely to go somewhat less into the theory than Murray's class. I expect you to try out methods using Matlab but other software will do. Most serious econometricians post code on their websites and you are encouraged to look for such software and apply it. The end goal is that you learn tools for research, so as opposed to, say, Econometrics II, you may use software even if you do not fully understand the logic (we will then try and figure it out together).

I will not provide a long reading list. I assume you have access to classic texts such as Hamilton for basic ARMA models (a lot of the theory is on the notes I have posted in the past for macro I, that most of you know about, but those notes did not focus on estimation). I will post lecture notes (which I will rely on for some topics), but likely won't have time to write everything up. As we go along, we will post articles that we are reading or directions on where to find stuff. Material will be added to the class web-page throughout the semester.

In this class, I hope you will experiment and try new methods. The grades will be mainly determined by your effort and not whether you manage to get some nice results.

Webpage: The class webpage will be accessible from my home page.

Obligatory and other Notices:

Students with Disabilities: The University of Houston System complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, pertaining to the provision of reasonable academic adjustments/auxiliary aids for students with a disability. In accordance with Section 504 and ADA guidelines, the University of Houston strives to provide reasonable academic adjustments/auxiliary aids to students who request and require them. Students seeking accommodation in this course should contact the instructor after obtaining the appropriate documentation through the UH Center for Students with Disabilities.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to college, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (www.uh.edu/caps) by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. No appointment is necessary for the "Let's Talk" program, a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus. See:

http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will learn, through lectures, homeworks, and a final project, to master macroeconomic tools at a level that, in conjunction with other core-classes, enables the students to perform statistical analysis of economic models.
- Students will develop their technical skills as a background for doing empirical work to the level expected in graduate economics programs. For this purpose, student will learn to use econometric software to estimate models on actual economic data.
- Students will learn the basic ideas of advanced econometrics with a focus on empirically relevant issues.

Presence in Class:

Your presence in class each session means that you:

- Are NOT exhibiting any Coronavirus Symptoms that makes you think that you may have COVID-19
- Have NOT tested positive or been diagnosed for COVID-19
- Have NOT knowingly been exposed to someone with COVID-19 or suspected/presumed COVID-19

If you are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms that are not clearly related to a pre-existing medical condition, do not come to class. Please see Student Protocols for what to do if you experience symptoms and Potential Exposure to Coronavirus for what to do if you have potentially been exposed to COVID-19. Consult the (select: Undergraduate Excused Absence Policy or Graduate Excused Absence Policy) for information regarding excused absences due to medical reasons.

Face Covering Policy

To reduce the spread of COVID-19, the University strongly encourages everyone (vaccinated or not) to wear face coverings indoors on campus including classrooms for both faculty and students.

COVID-19 Information

Students are encouraged to visit the University's COVID-19 website for important information including on-campus testing, vaccines, diagnosis and symptom protocols, campus cleaning and safety practices, report forms, and positive cases on campus. Please check the website throughout the semester for updates.

Vaccinations

Data suggests that vaccination remains the best intervention for reliable protection against COVID-19. Students are asked to familiarize themselves with pertinent vaccine information, consult with their health care provider. The University strongly encourages all students, faculty and staff to be vaccinated.

Reasonable Academic Adjustments/Auxiliary Aids

The University of Houston complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, pertaining to the provision of reasonable academic adjustments/auxiliary aids for disabled students. In accordance with Section 504 and ADA guidelines, UH strives to provide reasonable academic adjustments/auxiliary aids to students who request and require them. If you believe that you have a disability requiring an academic adjustments/auxiliary aid, please contact the Justin Dart Jr. Student Accessibility Center (formerly the Justin Dart, Jr. Center for Students with DisABILITIES).

Excused Absence Policy

Regular class attendance, participation, and engagement in coursework are important contributors to student success. Absences may be excused as provided in the University of Houston Undergraduate Excused Absence Policy and Graduate Excused Absence Policy for reasons including: medical illness of student or close relative, death of a close family member, legal or government proceeding that a student is obligated to attend, recognized professional and educational activities where the student is presenting, and University-sponsored activity or athletic competition. Under these policies, students with excused absences will be provided with an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam or other work that contributes to the course grade or a satisfactory alternative. Please read the full policy for details regarding reasons for excused absences, the approval process, and extended absences. Additional policies address absences related to military service, religious holy days, pregnancy and related conditions, and disability.

Recording of Class

Students may not record all or part of class, livestream all or part of class, or make/distribute screen captures, without advanced written consent of the instructor. If you have or think you may have a disability such that you need to record class-related activities, please contact the Justin

Dart, Jr. Student Accessibility Center. If you have an accommodation to record class-related activities, those recordings may not be shared with any other student, whether in this course or not, or with any other person or on any other platform. Classes may be recorded by the instructor. Students may use instructor's recordings for their own studying and notetaking. Instructor's recordings are not authorized to be shared with anyone without the prior written approval of the instructor. Failure to comply with requirements regarding recordings will result in a disciplinary referral to the Dean of Students Office and may result in disciplinary action.

Counseling and Psychological Services

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)–www.uh.edu/caps–are available for students having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to college, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or somebody you know is in crisis. The “Let’s Talk” program provides a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus.

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Syllabus Changes

Due to the changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, please note that the instructor may need to make modifications to the course syllabus and may do so at any time. Notice of such changes will be announced as quickly as possible through your UH System e-mail.

Academic Honesty

To cultivate an environment of academic integrity, the University of Houston expects students to abide by the University’s Undergraduate Academic Honesty Policy, found in the Undergraduate Catalog.

<http://www.uh.edu/academic-honesty-undergraduate>

Student Conduct Policy

CLASS students are expected to abide by the University of Houston’s Code of Student Conduct: http://www.uh.edu/dos/programs_and_services/behavior_and_conduct.html

Although I do not take attendance I require students to be on time for class, we want to avoid distortions in the dynamic of the class. The same idea applies for the use of mobile devices, you should silence them before entering class.

Sexual Misconduct Policy

In accordance with the UHS Sexual Misconduct Policy, your instructor is a responsible employee for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and state law and must report incidents of sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual intimidation, intimate partner violence, or stalking) about which they become aware to the Title IX office. Please know there are places on campus where you can make a report in confidence. More information can be found on the Title IX website at <https://uh.edu/equal-opportunity/title-ix-sexual-misconduct/resources/>.

Resources for Online Learning

The University of Houston is committed to student success, and provides information to optimize the online learning experience through our Power-On website. Please visit this website for a comprehensive set of resources, tools, and tips including: obtaining access to the internet, AccessUH, and Blackboard; requesting a laptop through the Laptop Loaner Program; using your smartphone as a webcam; and downloading Microsoft Office 365 at no cost. For questions or assistance contact UHOnline@uh.edu.

UH Email

Please check and use your Cougarnet email for communications related to this course. To access this email, login to your Microsoft 365 account with your Cougarnet credentials.

Webcams

Access to a webcam is required for students participating remotely in this course. Webcams must be turned on (state when webcams are required to be on and the academic basis for requiring them to be on). (Example: Webcams must be turned on during exams to ensure the academic integrity of exam administration.)

Honor Code Statement

Students may be asked to sign an honor code statement as part of their submission of any graded work including but not limited to projects, quizzes, and exams: "I understand and agree to abide by the provisions in the (select: University of Houston Undergraduate Academic Honesty Policy , University of Houston Graduate Academic Honesty Policy). I understand that academic honesty is taken very seriously and, in the cases of violations, penalties may include suspension or expulsion from the University of Houston."

Problems, Issues, Emergencies

Life happens. If something comes up that will prevent you from turning in a home-work on time, or from attending class regularly, taking a test or quiz, speak with me immediately. I will be happy to work something out so that you can succeed in class, assuming that I know what is going on. If you only show up weeks or months after the fact, I will be far less sympathetic.