

## Course plan (preliminary and corrected) for **Advanced Macroeconomics<sup>1</sup>**

Please feel free to ask as many questions during lectures or by e-mail as you can think of.

### A. LOOKING AT THE LONG RUN

#### **1 Long-run aspects of fiscal policy. What are the limits to debt financing? A discrete time framework**

- 1.1 Fiscal sustainability. Absence of Ricardian equivalence.
  - 1.1.1 The government and the government budget: Chapter 6.1-2.
  - 1.1.2 When is permanent debt roll-over feasible and when is it not? Chapter 6.3.
  - 1.1.3 Debt arithmetic. The SGP of the EMU as an example: Chapter 6.4.
  - 1.1.4 Solvency and the government intertemporal budget constraint: Chapter 6.5.
  - 1.1.5 A proper accounting of public investment. Chapter 6.6.
  - 1.1.6 Do deficits matter? Why Ricardian equivalence fails: Chapter 6.7.
- 1.2 Barro's dynasty model; the modified golden rule: Chapter 7.1-3, all cursory.

#### **2 A continuous time approach to long-run aspects of fiscal policy**

- 2.1 Transition to continuous time analysis: Chapter 9.3.
- 2.2 The Blanchard OLG model: Chapter 12.1-2 and 12.6.
- 2.3 Adding retirement; theory of the rate of return in the long run; a small open economy: Chapter 12.3-5 (§12.5 only cursory); Special Note 1 (self-tuition).
- 2.4 Long-run effects of government debt; a small open economy; debt policy: Chapter 13 (13.3-4 only cursory); Elmendorf & Mankiw (1999) (§1-4 only cursory).

#### **3 Tobin's q. Fixed-capital investment. Residential investment. Bubbles.**

- 3.1 Convex adjustment costs and the q-theory of investment. Applications: Chapter 14.
- 3.2 The housing market in macroeconomics: Chapter 15.2. Exercise Problem.
- 3.3 Uncertainty, expectations and speculative bubbles: Special Note 2.

### B. LOOKING AT THE SHORT RUN

#### **4 Money and the money market. Rates of return**

- 4.1 Money in macroeconomics (a refresher): Chapter 16 (self-tuition).
- 4.2 Theory of the level of interest rates: Special Note 1 again (self-tuition).

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<sup>1</sup> "Chapter ..." refers to Groth: *Lecture Notes in Macroeconomics*, 2016, available at the course website <http://www.econ.ku.dk/okocg/Forside/Teaching.htm>. Other references refer to the syllabus, see p. 3 below.

## **5 Does aggregate demand matter? Nominal rigidities and nonneutrality of money**

- 5.1 The theory of effective demand. Refutation of Say's law: Chapter 19.1-2.
- 5.2 Monopolistic competition and price setting; menu costs; the short side rule and rule of the minimum; involuntary unemployment; the interplay of nominal and real price rigidities; abundant capacity: Chapter 19.3-19.4.2. Cursory: Yellen (1984).
- 5.3 The IS-LM model (a refresher): Chapter 21 (self-tuition, only cursory).

## **6 Extensions of the IS-LM (= IS-MP) model**

- 6.1 IS-LM dynamics under rational expectations; the expectations theory of the term structure of interest rates: Chapter 22.
- 6.2 Fixed vs. floating exchange rates; overshooting: Chapter 23 (§21.1 only a refresher and cursory).
- 6.3 Financial intermediation and the macroeconomy.
  - 6.3.1 Monetary transmission mechanisms. An overview: Mishkin (1995).
  - 6.3.2 The bank lending channel: Special Note 3. Cursory: Bernanke and Blinder (1988).

## **C. FITTING THE PARTS TOGETHER: THE MEDIUM RUN**

### **7 From short to medium run. IS-LM dynamics with a Phillips curve**

- 7.1 The case of monetarist monetary policy. Leijonhufvud's corridor hypothesis. Liquidity trap: Groth (1993).
- 7.2 The case of a Taylor rule. Quantitative easing and fiscal policy in a liquidity trap: Special Note 4. DeLong and Summers (2012).
- 7.3 Recent evidence about the Phillips curve: Blanchard (2016).

### **8. Business cycle fluctuations**

- 8.1 Concepts and stylized facts. The Beveridge curve.: Chapter 29.
- 8.2 Aspects of the Great Recession 2008-? Slides. Cursory: Lane (2012).
- 8.3 Real Business Cycle theory:
  - 8.3.1 The firm and the household: Chapter 30.1.
  - 8.3.2 The RBC theory as a whole: Chapter 30.4. Cursory: King and Rebelo (1999), p. 927-74.
  - 8.3.3 Discussion: Was the Great Depression really the Great Vacation? Chapter 30.5. Cursory: Solow (2001).
- 8.4 Keynesian perspectives: Why does the economy fall to pieces after a financial crisis?
  - 8.4.1 What explains the 2007-2009 drop in employment in the US? Special note 5. Cursory: Mian and Mufi (2014).
  - 8.4.2 Building blocks in a medium-term Keynesian model; vicious and virtuous circles; the balance sheet channel: Chapter 31.1-2.
  - 8.4.3 Precautionary saving: Chapter 31.3.

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**Check the course website.** You should check the course website before each lecture and each exercise class for new information and material.

# Syllabus (preliminary)

## Advanced Macroeconomics Fall 2016

There are four categories of texts:

1. CHAPTERS from C. Groth, *Lecture Notes in Macroeconomics*, a text in the pipeline. The selected chapters (cf. the course plan) will become available on the course website during the course.
2. JOURNAL ARTICLES and excerpts from books, available online from the faculty library:  
Blanchard, O., The Phillips Curve: Back to the '60s? *American Economic Review*, vol. 106, no. 5, 2016, 31-34.  
DeLong, B., and L. H. Summers, Fiscal Policy in a Depressed Economy, *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, Spring 2012, 233-297. Selected parts.  
Elmendorf, D., and N. G. Mankiw: Government Debt. Chapter 25 in *Handbook of Macroeconomics*, vol. 1C, Amsterdam 1999. Section 1-4 only cursory.  
Groth, C.: Some unfamiliar dynamics of a familiar macro model: A note, *Journal of Economics*, vol. 58, no. 3, 1993, 293-305.  
Mishkin, F. S.: Symposium on the Monetary Transmission Mechanism, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, vol. 9, no. 4, 1995, 3-10.
3. SUPPLEMENTARY LECTURE NOTES, available at the course website:  
Special Note 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.
4. CURSORY READING, available online from the faculty library:  
Bernanke and Blinder: Credit, money, and aggregate demand, *American Economic Review*, May 1988, 435-439.  
King, R. G., & S. T. Rebelo: Resuscitating Real Business Cycles. Chapter 14 in *Handbook of Macroeconomics*, vol. 1C, Amsterdam 1999, pp. 927-74.  
Lane, P. R.: The European Sovereign Debt Crisis, *J. of Economic Perspectives*, vol. 26 (3), 2012, 49-68.  
Mian, A., and A. Sufi, What explains the 2007-2009 drop in employment? *Econometrica*, vol. 82, no. 6, 2014, 2197-2223.  
Solow, R. M.: From Neoclassical Growth Theory to New Classical Macroeconomics. Chapter 2 in J. Drèze (ed.): *Advances in Macroeconomic Theory*, New York 2001.  
Yellen, J. L.: Efficiency Models of Unemployment, *American Ec. Rev.*, vol. 74 (2), 1984, 200-05.

### ***Other material***

*Lists of errata* The lecture notes and other course material may contain misprints or logical errors (hopefully not too many). Hence it is recommended that you consult the errata list(s), posted at the course website during the course.

*Remarks on the examination requirements* The items in the above list are referred to in the course plan. Some items are classified as only cursory reading. This implies that you should read them in order to obtain general knowledge of the main point whereas you do not have to master

the technicalities in question.

*Exercise class* There is a class for exercises and these are an integrated part of the course. The exercise problems and related material will be available at the course website.

*Mandatory homework: midterm paper* In October you are given a mandatory examination problem. Your written answer is due two weeks later. You are encouraged to do a joint paper with fellow students (max. four students per group). During working on the problem you are most welcome to consult me. One of the two weeks the lecture is cancelled. Your paper will be evaluated (with comments) by me or the class instructor. In order to go in for the final written exam at the end of the semester, it is required that the midterm paper is accepted (grade not less than 2).

### *Exam*

The exam is a three hours, closed book written exam.

### ***Supplementary material***

#### *Recommended Math Manual*

K. Sydsæter, A. Strom and P. Berck, *Economists' Mathematical Manual*, 4th ed. (or later), [Springer Verlag](http://www.springer.com), 2004, or later.

#### *Articles*

Brunnermeier, M.K., T.M. Eisenbach, and Y. Sannikov: Macroeconomics with Financial Frictions: A survey. WP 2012, see Brunnermeier's website.

Christiano, L.: Remarks on Unconventional Monetary Policy, *International Journal of Central Banking*, March 2011.

Krugman, P. : Debt, deleveraging, and the liquidity trap, Vox.EU.com, November 18, 2010.

Woodford, M.: Financial Intermediation and Macroeconomic Analysis, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, vol. 24, no. 4, 2010, 21-44.

These articles are supplementary to points 3.3, 6 and 8 in the course plan.

*Supplementary textbooks* (where alternative treatments of some of the topics can be found)

#### *Easy going:*

Gottfries, N.: *Macroeconomics*, Palgrave Macmillan, London 2013.

Jones, C.I.: *Macroeconomics*. Third edition. Norton & Co., London.

#### *More demanding texts:*

Benassy, J.-P.: *Macroeconomic Theory*, Oxford University Press 2011.

Blanchard, O. J., and S. Fischer: *Lectures on Macroeconomics*, Cambridge (Mass.) 1989.

Heijdra, B., *Foundations of Modern Macroeconomics*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, OUP: Oxford 2009.

Obstfeld, M., and K. Rogoff: *Foundations of Modern Macroeconomics*, Cambridge (Mass.)1996, Chapters 2-3, 7, and 9.

Romer, D.: *Advanced Macroeconomics*, 4th ed., N.Y. 2011, Chapters 4, 6-11.

Walsh, C. E.: *Monetary Theory and Policy*, Cambridge (Mass.) 1998, Chapters 1-5, 7, 9-10.

Wickens, M.: *Macroeconomic Theory. A Dynamic General Equilibrium Approach*, Princeton University Press 2008.