

# Econ720 - Syllabus

Fall 2021. Prof. Lutz Hendricks. UNC

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## Course objective:

Econ720 is the first course in the macro PhD sequence. Its objective is to learn about the standard models commonly used in macroeconomics. In parallel, the course develops the mathematical methods used to characterize the equilibria of the models.

This is a largely a theory and methods course. But we will cover some applications to topics such as the distribution of wealth. The course schedule contains more detail.

## Organization

- Two lectures per week: Tue Thu 9:30-10:45, Gardner 7
- Recitation: Fri 8:00 - 9:15, Gardner 106
- TA: TBA
- Course website: [lhendricks.org/econ720/econ720.html](http://lhendricks.org/econ720/econ720.html)
- Sakai site: <https://sakai.unc.edu/portal/site/econ720>
- For online discussions, I suggest to sign up at [Econ StackExchange](https://econ.stackexchange.com/): there you can post questions that are not directly class related. The questions have to be specific (discussion questions are not permitted).
- For questions that are directly class related, please use the Sakai forum. You can of course also just email me directly, but using the forums has the benefit that others can see the conversations (and chime in).

## Grading

- Midterm: 40%. Final: 50%. Problem sets: 10%. Exams are closed book and cover all material taught.
- Per university requirement, the final will last 3 hours.
- Review problems are for your practice and not to be turned in. Many are questions from previous exams.
- If a student misses a midterm, the weight of that midterm in the course grade will be added to the weight on the student's final. An exception will be made for [University-approved absences](#). Students with this type of absence may request a make-up examination at a time convenient to both student and instructor.

## Text

- We do not closely follow a text, but a good one is:
- Acemoglu, Introduction to Modern Economic Growth, MIT Press, ISBN-13: 978-0691132921
- Also useful:
- Dirk Krueger's [Macroeconomic Theory](#) manuscript ([2012 version]); this tends to move around on the web).
- Per Krusell's [Real Macroeconomic Theory](#) manuscript, 2014 version

- Additional readings are in the slides.

## Rules¶

- Questions and comments are always welcome. Come to my office hours!
- You should download the slides before each class. However, I tend to change details even after posting the slides.
- The professor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus, including project due dates and test dates. These changes will be announced as early as possible.

## Covid-19¶

This semester, while we are in the midst of a global pandemic, all enrolled students are required to wear a mask covering your mouth and nose at all times in our classroom. This requirement is to protect our educational community – your classmates and me – as we learn together. If you choose not to wear a mask, or wear it improperly, I will ask you to leave immediately, and I will submit a report to the [Office of Student Conduct](#). At that point you will be disenrolled from this course for the protection of our educational community. Students who have an authorized accommodation from Accessibility Resources and Service have an exception. For additional information, see [Carolina Together](#).

## Attendance Policy¶

No right or privilege exists that permits a student to be absent from any class meetings, except for these University Approved Absences:

1. Authorized University activities
2. Disability/religious observance/pregnancy, as required by law and approved by [Accessibility Resources and Service](#) and/or the [Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office](#) (EOC)
3. Significant health condition and/or personal/family emergency as approved by the [Office of the Dean of Students](#), [Gender Violence Service Coordinators](#), and/or the [Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office](#) (EOC).

## Honor Code¶

All students are expected to follow the guidelines of the UNC honor code. In particular, students are expected to refrain from “lying, cheating, or stealing” in the academic context. If you are unsure about which actions violate that honor code, please see me or consult [honor.unc.edu](http://honor.unc.edu).

## Accessibility¶

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill facilitates the implementation of reasonable accommodations, including resources and services, for students with disabilities, chronic medical conditions, a temporary disability or pregnancy complications resulting in barriers to fully accessing University courses, programs and activities.

Accommodations are determined through the Office of Accessibility Resources and Service (ARS) for individuals with documented qualifying disabilities in accordance with applicable state and federal laws. See the [ARS Website](#) for contact information: or email [ars@unc.edu](mailto:ars@unc.edu).

## Conseling

CAPS is strongly committed to addressing the mental health needs of a diverse student body through timely access to consultation and connection to clinically appropriate services, whether for short or long-term needs. Go to their website: <https://caps.unc.edu/> or visit their facilities on the third floor of the Campus Health Services building for a walk-in evaluation to learn more.

## Title IX Resources

Any student who is impacted by discrimination, harassment, interpersonal (relationship) violence, sexual violence, sexual exploitation, or stalking is encouraged to seek resources on campus or in the community. Please contact the Director of Title IX Compliance (Adrienne Allison – [Adrienne.allison@unc.edu](mailto:Adrienne.allison@unc.edu)), Report and Response Coordinators in the Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office ([reportandresponse@unc.edu](mailto:reportandresponse@unc.edu)), Counseling and Psychological Services (confidential), or the Gender Violence Services Coordinators ([gvsc@unc.edu](mailto:gvsc@unc.edu); confidential) to discuss your specific needs. Additional resources are available at [safe.unc.edu](http://safe.unc.edu).

## Previous Exams

- Qualifying exams: [August 2009](#), [January 2010](#), [August 2010](#), [January 2011](#), [August 2011](#), [January 2012](#), [August 2012](#), [January 2013](#), [August 2013](#), [January 2014](#), [August 2014](#), [January 2015](#), [August 2015](#), [January 2016](#), [August 2016](#), [January 2017](#), [August 2017](#), [May 2018](#), [May 2019](#), [Aug 2019](#), [June 2020](#), [Aug 2020](#), [Jan 2021](#), [June 2021](#).
- Final exams: [2009](#), [2010](#), [2011](#), [2012](#), [2013](#), [2014](#), [2015](#), [2016](#), [2017](#), [2018](#), [2019](#), [2020](#).
- Midterms: [2008](#) (Iowa State), [2009](#), [2009 take 3](#), [2010](#), [2011](#), [2012](#), [2013](#), [2014](#), [2015](#), [2016](#), [2017](#), [2018](#), [2019](#), [2020](#).
- If answers are missing, the exam questions are usually reused as problem sets.

## Required University Boilerplate Text

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