MgtEcon 610 and Econ 233
Topics in Macroeconomics -- Economic Growth
(Ph.D. Macro Course)

Meeting: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:15 - 3:00pm in GSB McClelland 102
Office Hours: By appointment.

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Dropbox folder for the course: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/4d1g9bxrdkjxgmx/AADRdwR9zAUHZkwIwvMz5QKBKa?dl=0

Overview

This course studies frontier research on economic growth. The purpose of the course is to introduce you to some of the latest research in macroeconomics and to prepare you to undertake research on your own.

Requirements

(1) Prepare slides on one designated paper for each class (unless told otherwise, this will be the first paper listed for the class; starts on September 30). Three slides total: one slide on what's good about the paper, one slide on its weaknesses, and one slide on where to go next. At the start of the class, we will call on one student randomly and ask them to present their three slides. Put your slides in the Dropbox folder by 10am on the day of class.

(2) For each class, starting September 30, we will post a short question or problem related to one of the papers. You should answer that question/problem and turn in your solution as a final slide (or two) attached to your slides for requirement (1) above. The problems will be available here.

(3) Lead part of a class. Each student will take responsibility for preparing slides and leading the discussion for 50 minutes on one paper during the course; suggested papers are indicated by an asterisk (*) below. Please email us your top three choices by October 2 so we can assign papers. Put your presentation slides in the Dropbox folder by 10am on the day of the class you are presenting.

(4) A research proposal. Throughout the class (and for the rest of your life!), you should keep a list of possible research topics. During the last two classes, December 2 and December 4, you will be expected to make a ~25 minute slide presentation on your idea: What is the key question you hope to answer, and how will you go about answering it? Put your proposal slides in the Dropbox folder by 10 am on the day you are presenting.

Background References

The following readings and references may prove useful at some point. The Acemoglu book...
is a great resource.


**September 23 (CJ)**


**September 25 (PK)**


**September 30 (CJ)**


**October 2 (PK)**


**October 7 (CJ)**


October 9 (PK)


October 14 (CJ)


October 16 (no class -- Pete and Chad traveling)

October 21 (PK)


October 23 (CJ)


October 28 (PK)


October 30 (CJ)


November 4 (PK/CJ)


November 6 (PK)


November 11 (CJ)


November 13 (PK)


November 18 (CJ)

Acemoglu, Daron. 2009. Chapter 22, “Institutions, Political Economy, and Growth” from Introduction to Modern Economic Growth. (We do not have an electronic copy of this chapter.) Acemoglu’s slides.

November 20 (PK)


November 25, 27 -- Thanksgiving Break

December 2, 4 -- Student Presentations of Research Proposals

Further Reading: A list of papers we’ve either included in the past or think about including in the future...

Endogenous Technological Change


Physical Capital


**Human Capital**


**Agriculture and the Industrial Revolution**


**Misallocation**


**Firm Dynamics and Growth**


Technology Diffusion


Trade and Growth


Hummels, David and Peter J. Klenow (2005), "The Variety and Quality of a Nation's Exports," American Economic Review 95 (June) 704-723.


Growth and Development Accounting


