"Macroeconomics I, Part a"

Lecturer: Timo Boppart

Stockholm University, PhD Program in Economics

Q3, January/February, 2026.

Course purpose

We will study long-run macroeconomic issues, i.e., economic growth. The course has the aim of providing basic theory of choices for consumption/saving (and investment) and labor/leisure as well as for technical change. The theory includes basic dynamic optimization and an analysis of dynamic general-equilibrium models. It also seeks to acquaint the student with long-run macroeconomic facts and the empirical growth literature analyzing and comparing growth outcomes over time in given countries and across countries.

Teaching assistant

Teaching assistance will be provided by João Quelhas (joao.quelhas@su.se) who can help you answer questions and will be in charge of the TA sessions where a main purpose is to go through homework/problem sets.

Examination

The final grade for Macroeconomics I as a whole is determined based on a final exam covering Macro Ia and Ib (taught by Sampreet Goraya). A passing grade requires that all problem sets have been handed in. While students are encouraged to cooperate on problem sets, they must hand in their own uniquely written assignment. The final exam takes place on March ??, 2025, 8–13.

Readings

The course makes use of several sources. The main readings are:

⋆ Acemoglu D. (2009) "*Introduction to Modern Economic Growth*", Princeton University Press, Princeton NJ.

⋆ Aghion P. and P. Howitt (2009) "*The Economics of Growth*", MIT Press, Cambridge MA.

⋆ Krueger D. (2012) "*Macroeconomic Theory*", manuscript, UPenn.

⋆ Krusell P. (2014) "*Real Macroeconomic Theory*", manuscript.

Contact information

My e-mail is timo.boppart@iies.su.se. Office hours: by appointment.

Course plan

This part of the course consists of 8 two-hour lectures as well as 4 exercise sessions. The lectures will consist of:

- Lecture 1: Motivation
- Lecture 2: Solow model
- Lecture 3: Foundations of neoclassical growth
- Lecture 4: Neoclassical growth: planner's solution
- Lecture 5: Neoclassical growth: decentralized markets
- Lecture 6: Growth empirics
- Lecture 7: Endogenous growth
- Lecture 8: Outlook