Syllabus ~ Econ 301

When: Classes are on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-5:20pm.
        Office hours are Monday 12-1pm, Thursday 11am-12pm, and by appointment.

Where: Class is held in the communications building (CMU) 326
        My office is in Savery (SAV) 319F

Who: Thor Dodson (dobothor@uw.edu), you…

What: Intermediate Macroeconomics

Why: …

Welcome
This class will move pretty quickly, and some of the material I expect you to cover on your own, so it's very important to ask questions and be engaged with the course. The class time will be split up into three parts: Discussion, Lecture, and Coding.

Overview
Our focus in this course is economic modeling. We will use algebra, calculus and graphs extensively exploring macroeconomic theories of the long, medium, and short run. We will also delve into microfoundations. Increasingly coding is essential, so I will teach basic R. If you don't feel strong in math or coding don't worry I will teach you but you must put in the work.

Important
The textbook we are using is available online for free, and we will be using R (also free) extensively so it is essential you have access to a computer for this course. If you don't have a laptop there are several available from the library…talk to me about this.

Textbook
Intermediate Macroeconomics by Julio Gar´ın, Robert Lester, and Eric Sims
https://www3.nd.edu/~esims1/gls_int_macro.pdf

Assignments, Response-Abilities, Grading
16% --- **8 Homeworks**, due on Mondays, assigned exercises from the text
14% --- **Cumulative Computer Modeling**, we'll add a bit each class…more on this later
14% --- **Nation Analysis** (groups of 3), basically a glorified article response compilation
16% --- **16 Quizzes**, held after the discussion portion of each class
20% --- **Midterm**, Nov 1
20% --- **Final**, Thursday Dec 14, 2:30-4:20pm CMU 326

Time Table [Subject to Change]

Class #	Day	Topic	Textbook Reference
1	Sep 27	Introduction to Macro	Ch 2, 3
2	Oct 2	Maths	Appendix A, B
3	Oct 4	Data, Growth	Ch 1, 4
4	Oct 9	Basic Solow Model	Ch 5
5	Oct 11	Augmented Solow Model	Ch 6, 7
6	Oct 16	Dynamic Consumer Model	Ch 8
7	Oct 18	Multi-Period Consumer	Ch 8, 9
8	Oct 23	Endowment and Production	Ch 10, 11
9	Oct 25	Money, Efficiency	Ch 13, 14
10	Oct 30	Review	
11	Nov 1	Midterm	
12	Nov 6	Neoclassical Model, Shocks	Ch 15, 16
13	Nov 8	Fitting Data, Money	Ch 17, 18
14	Nov 13	Further Neoclassical	Ch 19, 20
15	Nov 15	New Keynesian S&D	Ch 21, 22
16	Nov 20	Shocks in NK	Ch 23
17	Nov 22	Dynamics in NK	Ch 24
18	Nov 27	Open Economy NK	Ch 27
19	Nov 29	The Great Recession	Ch 28
20	Dec 4	Presentations	
21	Dec 6	Presentations, Review	

Policies

- Grading: The grading policy of the Department of Economics sets the upper boundary for the Median grade in principles of economics courses at 3.1. There is a (preliminary) grade scale, but it will be adjusted along the way to maintain a median grade for this course in the 2.8-3.1 range.

Academic Imtegrity

The University of Washington values the academic integrity of its students and faculty. For Student Academic Responsibility and the consequences of misconduct, see:
        http://depts.washington.edu/grading/pdf/AcademicResponsibility.pdf
The following is the Economics Department policy on Academic Conduct: Academic integrity is the cornerstone of the Department's rules for student conduct and evaluation of student learning. Students accused of academic misconduct will be referred directly to the Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct for disciplinary action pursuant to the Student Conduct Code and, if found guilty, will be subject to sanctions. Sanctions range from a disciplinary warning, to academic probation, to immediate dismissal for the Department and the University, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct. Dismissal can be, and has been, applied even for first offenses. Moreover, a grade of zero can be assigned by the instructor for the course.