

Advanced Macroeconomics II: From RBC to New Keynesian DSGE Framework and Monetary Policy

Spring 2018

Wang Yanan Institute for Studies in Economics, School of Economics

Xiamen University

Instructor

Linlin Niu, Wang Yanan Institute for Studies in Economics, Economics Building A306, Tel.: 2182839, Email: llniu@xmu.edu.cn.

Office Hours: Monday 10:00 - 11:00, Tuesday 13:30 - 14:30, A306, Econ. Building

Course webpage

<https://l.xmu.edu.cn/course/view.php?id=1047>

Password: macroisfun

Teaching Assistants

TA Name	Email Address	Office Hours
Mingyang Li*	345304750@qq.com	TBA
Jiazi Chen	410884206@qq.com	
Hongyu Xia	892249214@qq.com	
Chen Zhang	896548079@qq.com	

*: Mingyang Li is the TA coordinator among the group.

Lecture Time and Location

Weekday	Time	Location
Monday	8:00 - 9:40	Econ. Building N402
Thursday	10:10 - 11:50	

Grading Policy

There will be bi-weekly assignments, a midterm exam and a final. They count in the final score as follows.

Assignments+Attendance:	30%
Midterm:	30%
Final:	40%

1 Course content

This course aims to introduce students to the recent development in the macroeconomic research, within the framework of dynamic stochastic general equilibrium (DSGE) models in general, and New Keynesian DSGE models in particular. With these tools at hand, we will discuss fiscal policy, monetary policy, inflation and business cycle and some recent issues on quantitative easing as a monetary policy alternative. At the end, we will introduce some basic empirical techniques on data preparation and diagnosis specific to macroeconomic research. The course, with a brief introduction to MATLAB, will be structured into three parts.

1.1 Numerical methods, RBC models and applications

Approximating and solving DSGE models with an emphasis to solution methods based on logarithmic approximations and undetermined coefficient method. At the end of the course, students should be able to solve simple DSGE models by hand, and to solve medium-to-large scale DSGE models with computer programs.

- 1) Motivation and introduction: growth and business cycles.
 - Mankiw 2006.
- 2) Approximating and solving DSGE Models with numerical method.
 - Uhlig 1999.
- 3) Simple DSGE Models: Examples including simple RBC models, extended with labor supply, adjustment cost of investment, taxation, etc.
 - Uhlig 1999.
- 4) An RBC model application to China on the economic effects of political movements.
 - Kwan and Chow 1996.

1.2 New Keynesian DSGE models and monetary policy

This part deals with the New Keynesian DSGE framework to discuss inflation, monetary policy and the business cycle.

- 1) From RBC to New Keynesian evolution
 - Gali 2008, Chapter 1.
- 2) A classical monetary model
 - Gali 2008, Chapter 2.
- 3) New Keynesian model with monopolistic competition and nominal rigidity
 - Gali 2008, Chapter 3.
- 4) Taylor rule: Empirical evidence of monetary policy with interest rate as the instrument
 - Taylor 1993, 2011.
- 5) Monetary policy design in the basic New Keynesian model
 - Gali 2008, Chapter 4.
- 6) Monetary policy tradeoffs: discretion vs. commitment
 - Gali 2008, Chapter 5.
- 7) Monetary policy alternatives at the zero interest rate bound
 - Bernanke, Reinhart and Sack, 2004.

1.3 Empirical methods that bring models to the data

This part includes topics on basic techniques of data preparation and parameter calibration specific to macroeconomic research.

- 1) Removing trends and isolating cycles
 - DeJong and Dave 2007, Chapter 3.
- 2) Spectral analysis (Optional if time allows)
 - Hamilton 1994, Chapter 6.
- 3) Calibration (Optional if time allows)
 - DeJong and Dave 2007, Chapter 6.

2 References

2.1 Papers

- Bernanke, B., V.R. Reinhart and B.P. Sack, 2004, "Monetary Policy Alternatives at the Zero Bound: An Empirical Assessment", *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, 2: 1-100.
- Kwan, Y.K. and G. Chow, 1996, "Estimating Economic Effects of Political Movements in China", *Journal of Comparative Economics*, vol. 23, 192-208.
- Mankiw, N.G., 2006, "The Macroeconomist as Scientist and Engineer", *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, vol. 20-4, pp. 29-46.
- Taylor, J. B., 1993, "Discretion versus Policy Rules in Practice". *Carnegie-Rochester Conference Series on Public Policy* 39: 195–214.
- Taylor, J. B., 2011, "The rules-discretion cycle in monetary and fiscal policy". *Finnish Economic Papers*, vol. 24-2, pp. 1-9.
- Uhlig, H. "A Toolkit for analyzing Nonlinear Dynamic Stochastic Models easily", in *Computational Methods for the Study of Dynamic Economies*, Ramon Marimon and Andrew Scott (editors), Oxford University Press 1999 (February), pp.30-61.
- Other readings assigned during the course.

2.2 Books

- D. N. Dejong and C. Dave, *Structural Macroeconometrics*. Princeton University Press, 2007. Chapter 3 and 6.
- Jordi Gali, *Monetary Policy, Inflation, and the Business Cycle: An Introduction to the New Keynesian Framework*. Princeton University Press, 2008. Chapter 1 - 5.
- James D. Hamilton, *Time Series Analysis*. Princeton University Press, 1994. Chapter 6.

3 Software, programs and data

- Software: MATLAB
- Programs: H. Uhlig, Toolkit Matlab programs
- Data:
 - A US dataset provided by D. N. Dejong at: <https://www.pitt.edu/~dejong/dbook/>
 - Students are required to find corresponding data for the Chinese economy to do related exercises.