

Macroeconomics - MEK 781

Department of Economics, University of Pretoria
Spring, 2017

1 General information

- Level: this is a graduate (honours) course in macroeconomics which requires knowledge of econometrics and economics.
- Instructors and administrative support: Dr. Manoel Bittencourt (manoel.bittencourt@up.ac.za) is the instructor and Ms. Lelani Coetzee (u13085914@tuks.co.za) is the teaching assistant. Ms. Sindi Magwaza (sindi.magwaza@up.ac.za) handles administrative matters.
- Office and consultation hours: Tukkiewerf 2-6, by appointment only and Tukkiewerf 2-32, Mondays 13:30-14:30 and Wednesdays 12:30-13:30.
- Timetable and venue: Mondays 17:30-20:30, HB(GW) 4-7.

2 Description of the course

I start with a revision of endogeneity and instrumental variables. I then discuss some growth papers from the 1990s. Lastly I cover recent papers on the long-run roots of economic development, that is, the roles of geography, the Neolithic transition, institutions, ancestry, Europeans, persistence of technological advantages and genetic distance, on development.

3 Assessment

Assessment is by a referee report (35% of the mark) and by an exam (65% of the mark). The final exam takes place November 9th.

4 References

The papers are available from UP's library portal. Lecture notes are available from my website, manoelbittencourt.weebly.com.

References

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