

# Introduction to Modern Macroeconomics - Honors (ECON 110AH)

## Syllabus for Winter 2018

**Instructor:** Prof. Tommaso Porzio - Econ 224 - tporzio@ucsd.edu - OH: Wed 1.30pm to 3.30pm  
**Lecture:** Tue 2:00pm to 2:50pm - Sequoyah Hall - Room 244

**Class Outline.** This class is the honor sequence of 110A. The aim of the class is to become familiar with one topic of frontier research in macroeconomics. Specifically, in this class we will read the book on immigration by Harvard economist George J. Borjas titled: “We wanted workers: unraveling the Immigration Narrative”.<sup>1</sup> The book is insightful and controversial, and it will set the basis for discussion on the topics of immigration and the role of immigrants for the macroeconomy. The instructor will present the introduction of the book, and provide an overview. Students will present (either in groups or alone) one chapter each class. Students are evaluated based on the class presentation (50%), class participation (20%) and a short multiple choice final exam (30%).

### Class Presentation.

I randomly extracts small groups of students to present each of the eight core chapter of the book (chapters 2-9). Some student will need to work alone, depending on the size of the class. Each student group should send me two preferred chapters to present. I will try to accommodate preferences, as much as possible.

The class presentation should last 45 minutes, and it should describe - critically - the chapter. I suggest students to prepare class slides, but this is not mandatory. I encourage the students to challenge the class with questions, and to be critical towards the statements of the author.

**Office Hours.** I hold office hours on Wed from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. In order to use more efficiently both your and my time, office hours are **by appointment only**. This is how it works: if you wish to come to my office hours, send me an email *before Tuesday at 10pm*. The email should contain as subject ECON110AH\_OH. You should briefly sketch the reason for your visit (e.g. I would like to better understand why an increase in immigration might have no effect on wages). I will email you on Wednesday morning with a time slot within my OH at which to show up. I might bundle more than one student together if you have similar questions.

### Schedule.

Each class will cover one chapter of the book (In parenthesis the presenting student)

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<sup>1</sup>Available at <https://www.amazon.com/Wanted-Workers-Unraveling-Immigration-Narrative/dp/0393249018> .

- 1/16 - Introduction (Tommaso Porzio)
- 1/23 - Lennon's Utopia (TDB)
- 1/30 - How we Got Here (TDB)
- 2/6 - The Self-Selection of Immigrants (TDB)
- 2/13 - Economic Assimilation (TDB)
- 2/20 - The Melting Pot (TDB)
- 2/27 - The Labor Market Impact (TDB)
- 3/6 - The Economic Benefits (TDB)
- 3/13 - The Fiscal Impact (TDB)
- 3/22 - 3pm to 4pm: Final Exam

**Randomly Extracted Groups (to be adjusted depending on enrollment)**

1. Nayyar Sahil and Zhu Minghui
2. Feng Zixuan and Marsheck Bailey
3. Lin Jiating and Mao Xiaohang
4. Cui Yuqi and Stern Katja
5. Wu Haotian
6. Jin Chenyu
7. Lu Shunli
8. Sun Xiaowen