This is a class in Public Economics – the economics of taxation, spending, etc.

We will meet once a week for the entire Fall semester. A few of the class meetings will have to be rescheduled for travelling.

Below is a rough outline of how the class will go. It is not set in stone. If someone in the class has some ideas about what they would like to do, I’m game for that too.

If you’re taking the class for credit, you’ll be required to give a presentation. Some of these will consist of presenting all or part of a paper by someone, while others will consist of trying to come up with a nice simple example that crystallizes the main ideas in a paper.

Compared to other classes, we will spend a lot more time in going over the details of a smaller number of papers and trying to really understand them well and at several different levels – the technical details of the most general proofs the authors have as well as simpler examples.

**Rough Outline for Class**

1. Mirrlees example – Larry – notes
2. Thomas and Worrall in detail – Larry – Roozbeh’s notes
3. Thomas and Worrall – example – class
4. ?? Atkeson and Lucas paper(s) – class
5. ?? Mirrlees version of Immiseration – class
6. Farhi and Werning – example – class
7. Farhi and Werning – details – class
8. Hosseini, Jones and Shourideh, “Risk Sharing, Inequality and Fertility” – Larry in Detail
9. ?? Sleet and Yeltekin – example and/or details – class
10. Mirrlees original calculations – class
11. Saez paper – class

12. ?? Samano Job Market paper – class

13. ?? Hosseini Job Market paper – class

14. ?? Maziero Job Market Paper – class

15. ?? Fernandes and Phelan – class

16. ?? Kenichi Job Market Paper – class

17. Stimulus Examples – is it a good idea? When?

**Exact References**


Farhi, E. and I. Werning (2006): "Inequality and Social Discounting”, unpublished manuscript, MIT.


You might also want to check out a couple of other possible sources:

Narayana's textbook that he is writing:


Erick’s webpage where he did notes to study: