

The exam will be in Richardson 029 starting at 2:00. You will have until 4:00 to take the exam.

This review sheet is intended to cover everything that could be on the exam; however, it is possible that I will have accidentally left something off. You are still responsible for everything in the chapters covered except anything that I explicitly say you are not responsible for. Therefore, if I left something off of this sheet, it can still be on the exam. There will be no multiple-choice questions. Most of the questions will be like the ones in the homework assignments, and possibly a few definition questions, but I am more likely to ask questions that make you use the definitions rather than recite them. I will probably ask one of the questions from the book at the end of the chapters.

The review session will be determined in class, but probably Thursday, 9/12, in the computer lab.

Chapter I: What is **forecasting**? Who does forecasting? What is the test of a good forecast?

Chapter II: What are **leading, lagging, and coincident indicators**? Understand the economic reason that the variables listed on Page 22 are listed in the categories under which they appear. Why must the variable have **economic significance, statistical adequacy, timing, conformity, smoothness, and currency** to be a good indicator?

Chapter III: Why does the analysis require calculating moving averages? What is **the MCD (Months of Cyclical Dominance)** and why is this important? If I gave you Table 3 from Page 38, or Table 4 on Page 40, then you should be able to tell me what the numbers represent and which variables are stronger indicators. Be careful to use the correct column for expansion or contraction. Be able to interpret what is occurring if some variables are expanding and others are not.

Chapters IV and V: These are just definitions. Learn them.

Chapter 8: What do the following terms mean: **aggregate economic activity, expansions, boom, contraction, recession, depression, peak, trough, business cycle, co-movement, recurrent but not periodic, and persistent**? Why have business cycles become longer and less severe since World War II? What determines if a variable is **pro-cyclical, counter-cyclical, or acyclical**? What are **lagging, leading, and coincident variables**? If I gave you a variable, you should be able to determine which type of variable it is and the economic reason for that. If a variable is a good indicator, then why should a variable have consistent timing and send a strong signal with few false signals? Understand why the **SRAS/LRAS/AD diagram** takes its shape and what moves them.

Even though we will have covered Chapter 9, it will not be on the exam because there would be too much material for this exam and not enough for the next exam.

This is the non-graded Assignment #2A that will be reviewed with Assignment #2.

1) (25 points) Draw the LRAS/SRAS/AD diagram for the current US economy. According to <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empst.pdf>, what is the unemployment rate? (Between when I write this question, and when you read this, there will be a new number.) Explain how it shows an unemployment rate you wrote. If the economy is left alone, what will happen? Illustrate the effects of that on the graph. Explain why the curves moved as drawn. What happens to the GDP, price level, and

unemployment rate?

2) (25 points) Draw the LRAS/SRAS/AD diagram for the current unemployment rate. State how your graph shows the current unemployment. What is the best fiscal policy? Illustrate the effects of that policy on the graphs. Explain why the curves moved as drawn. What happens to the GDP, price level, and unemployment rate?

3) (5 points) Look at the two articles below. Do either of the two candidates fiscal policy agree with what you wrote in your answer to Question #2? Explain your logic.

<https://budgetmodel.wharton.upenn.edu/issues/2024/8/26/trump-campaign-policy-proposals-2024>

<https://budgetmodel.wharton.upenn.edu/issues/2024/8/26/harris-campaign-policy-proposals-2024>

4) (35 points) Draw the LRAS/SRAS/AD diagram. President Biden passed the “Inflation Reduction Act”. It was mostly investment in infrastructure. Illustrate the short-run effects on the graph. Explain why the curve(s) moved as drawn. Does that reduce inflation? Illustrate the long-run effects of the policy. Explain why the curves moved as drawn. Does that show reduced inflation?

5) (10 points) Explain why the AD curve looks as drawn.