

AMERICAN ECONOMIC POLICYFaculty:

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Classes will be held in Sever Hall 113 from 12:00pm to 1:15pm every Tuesday and Thursday except for those dates indicated on the lecture calendar.

Sections will be held once a week, at times to be arranged (starting week 3 of the course).

Prerequisite: Economics 1010a or 1011a, API-101, or permission of one of the instructors.

Grades will be determined as follows:

- a midterm exam given in class on October 31 -- 25 percent
- a preliminary and final draft of a four-page memo due at the beginning of class on October 22 and November 19-- 20 percent
- 10 very brief written reactions to readings or other questions due at 9am on most Tuesdays – 10 percent
- a final exam given in December -- 45 percent
- Paper Option: Students have the option of writing a 20-25 page research paper (due on December 3) in lieu of the memo. The paper will count for 20 percent of the grade. Students who choose this option can count Economics 1420 as one of the courses that fulfill the economics department writing requirement.

Discussion and the exchange of ideas are essential to academic work. For assignments in this course, you are encouraged to consult with your classmates on the choice of paper topics and to share sources. You may find it useful to discuss your chosen topic with your peers, particularly if you are working on the same topic. However, you should ensure that any written work you submit for evaluation is the result of your own research and writing and that it reflects your own approach to the topic. You must also adhere to standard citation practices in this discipline and properly cite any books, articles, websites, lectures, etc. that have helped you with your work.

The course website can be accessed here: <https://canvas.harvard.edu/courses/61936>

Schedule
American Economic Policy
Fall 2019

T	Sep. 3	Challenges Facing the U.S. Economy (Liebman & Summers)
Th	Sep. 5	U.S. Economic Policy in Recent Decades (Summers)
T	Sep. 10	National Savings and U.S. Fiscal Policy (Liebman)
Th	Sep. 12	Inequality and Equitable Growth (Liebman)
T	Sep. 17	Keynesian Economics: Retreat and Return (Summers)
Th	Sep. 19	Monetary Policy: Business Cycles and Inflation (Summers)
T	Sep. 24	Monetary Policy: Business Cycles and Inflation (Summers)
Th	Sep. 26	Financial Crises/Lessons from Great Recession (Summers)
T	Oct. 1	Budget Policy (Liebman)
Th	Oct. 3	Tax Policy (Summers)
T	Oct. 8	Tax Policy (Liebman)
Th	Oct. 10	Competition Policy (Liebman)
T	Oct. 15	Joint Appearance (Liebman & Summers)
Th	Oct. 17	Social Insurance UI and DI (Liebman)
T	Oct. 22	Social Security Reform (Liebman)
Th	Oct. 24	Health Care (Liebman)
T	Oct. 29	Health Care (Liebman)
Th	Oct. 31	Midterm
T	Nov. 5	Anti-poverty programs (Liebman)
Th	Nov. 7	Energy and Climate Change (Liebman)
T	Nov. 12	Trade Imbalances and the Dollar (Summers)
Th	Nov. 14	Trade Policy (Summers)
T	Nov. 19	Technological Change and Job Creation (Summers)
Th	Nov. 21	Immigration (Liebman)
T	Nov. 26	Joint Appearance (Summers and Liebman)
Th	Nov. 28	Thanksgiving Break
T	Dec. 3	Conclusion (Summers)

READING LIST

The following useful resources are available free and on line:

Congressional Budget Office
Economic Report of the President
NBER Digest
NBER Reporter
NBER Working Papers

Challenges Facing the U.S. Economy (September 3 and September 5)

Martin Feldstein, The Council of Economic Advisers: From Stabilization to Resource Allocation, *American Economic Review*, Vol 87 (2), May 1997, pp. 99-102.

Martin Feldstein, Will the US Capitulate to China? *Project Syndicate*, February 25, 2019.

Lawrence H. Summers, “The Case for Expansion,” *Financial Times*, October 7, 2015.

Lawrence H. Summers, “We Must Prepare Now for the Likelihood of a Recession,” *Financial Times*, January 7, 2019.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Reflections on the New ‘Secular Stagnation Hypothesis,’” October 30, 2014, Vox CEPR Policy Portal.

Kenneth S. Baer and Jeffrey B. Liebman, “The Baby Boom Bump,” *New York Times*, December 6, 2012.

Jason Furman. “A Brief History of Middle-class Economics: Productivity, Participation, and Inequality in the United States.” *VoxEU*. Feb. 20, 2015.

National Savings and U.S. Fiscal Policy (September 10)

Annamaria Lusardi, Jonathan Skinner, and Steven Venti, “Savings puzzles and savings policies in the US,” *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, Spring 2001, pp. 95-115.

Edward Gramlich, “The Importance of Raising National Saving,” Benjamin Rush Lecture, Dickinson College, March 2, 2005.

Martin Feldstein and Charles Horioka, “Domestic Saving and International Capital Flows,” *Economic Journal*, June 1980, pp. 314-329.

Martin Feldstein, "How to Increase America's Saving Rate," *Project Syndicate*, July 26, 2018.

Lawrence H. Summers, "Why Public Investment Really Is A Free Lunch,"
Financial Times, October 6, 2014.

Lawrence H. Summers, "Building the Case for Greater Infrastructure Investment,"
Financial Times, September 12, 2016.

Lawrence H. Summers, "Rethinking Secular Stagnation After Seventeen Months,"
IMF Rethinking Macro III Conference, April 16, 2015.

Barry Eichengreen, "Secular Stagnation: A Review of the Issues," Vox CEPR
Policy Portal, August 15, 2014.

Inequality and Equitable Growth (September 12)

Richard B. Freeman and Lawrence F. Katz, "Rising Wage Inequality: The United States Vs. Other Advanced Countries," in *Working Under Different Rules*, edited by Richard B. Freeman, pp. 29-62.

Thomas Piketty and Emmanuel Saez, "The Evolution of Top Incomes: A Historical and International Perspective," NBER Working Paper 11955, January 2006.

Martin Feldstein, "Reducing Poverty, Not Inequality," *The Public Interest*, Fall 1999, pp 33-41.

Gary Burtless and Christopher Jencks, "American Inequality and Its Consequences," in Henry Aaron, James Lindsay, and Pietro Nivola (eds.), *Agenda for the Nation*, Brookings, 2003, pp 61-108.

Bruce Meyer and James Sullivan. *Winning the War: Poverty from the Great Society to the Great Recession*. NBER Working Paper 18718. January 2013.

Raj Chetty, Nathaniel Hendren, Patrick Kline, Emmanuel Saez, and Nicholas Turner, "Is the United States Still a Land of Opportunity? Recent Trends in Intergenerational Mobility," NBER Working Paper 19844, January 2014.

Robert M. Solow, "Thomas Piketty is Right: Everything You Need to Know About 'Capital in the Twenty-First Century,'" *New Republic*, April 22, 2014.

Lawrence H. Summers, "Review of 'Capital in the Twenty-First Century'," *Democracy*, Spring 2014.

Lawrence H. Summers, "Growth and Fairness Aren't A Trade-Off," *The Washington Post*, August 7, 2016.

Anna Stansbury and Lawrence H. Summers, “On the Link between US Pay and Productivity,” Vox CEPR Policy Portal, February 20, 2018.

Keynesian Economics: Retreat and Return (September 17)

Martin Feldstein, “The Retreat from Keynesian Economics,” *The Public Interest*, 1981.

Christina Romer and David Romer, “The Evolution of Economic Understanding and Postwar Stabilization Policy,” in *Rethinking Stabilization Policy* (Kansas City, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City), 2002.

Martin Feldstein, “Rethinking the Role of Fiscal Policy,” *American Economic Review*, May 2009, pp. 556-559.

John Taylor, “The Lack of an Empirical Rationale for a Revival of Discretionary Fiscal Policy,” *American Economic Review*, May 2009, pp. 550-555.

Lawrence Summers, “Why America Must Have a Fiscal Stimulus,” *Financial Times*, January 6, 2008.

Martin Feldstein, “The Stimulus Plan We Need Now,” *The Washington Post*, October 30, 2008.

Martin Feldstein, “An \$800 Billion Mistake,” *The Washington Post*, January 29, 2009.

Matthew Shapiro and Joel Slemrod, “Did the 2008 Tax Rebates Stimulate Spending?” NBER Working Paper 14753, February 2009.

NBER reporter, “Household Spending Response to the 2008 Tax Rebate,” March 2010.

Martin Feldstein, “The Tax Rebate Was a Flop. Obama's Stimulus Plan Won't Work Either,” *Wall Street Journal*, August 6, 2008.

Martin Feldstein, “Defense Spending Would Be Great Stimulus,” *Wall Street Journal*, December 24, 2008.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Should Keynesian Economics Dispense with the Phillips Curve?” in *Unemployment, Hysteresis, and the Natural Rate Hypothesis*, 1988, pp. 11-25.

J. Bradford DeLong and Lawrence H. Summers, “Fiscal Policy in a Depressed Economy” BPEA, Brookings Institute, Spring 2012.

J. Bradford DeLong, Lawrence H. Summers and Laurence Ball, “Fiscal Policy and Full Employment,” CBPP, April 2014.

Monetary Policy: Business Cycles and Inflation (September 19 and 24)

John Taylor, "An Historical Analysis of Monetary Policy Rules," in John B. Taylor (ed.) *Monetary Policy Rules*, University of Chicago Press, 1999.

Martin Feldstein, "An Interview with Paul Volcker," July 10, 2013.

Martin Feldstein, "The Fed Can't Save Jobs From AI and Robots," *Wall Street Journal*, June 10, 2018.

Martin Feldstein, "Save Low Interest for a Rainy Day," *Wall Street Journal*, July 26, 2018.

Martin Feldstein, "The Welfare Cost of Permanent Inflation and Optimal Short-Run Economic Policy," *Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 87, No. 4, 1979, pp 749-768.

Frederic Mishkin and Adam Posen, "The Rationale for Inflation Targeting," *Economic Policy Review*, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, August 1997, pp. 11-15.

Martin Feldstein, "Ending the Inflation Target Fixation," *Wall Street Journal*, May 2017.

Martin Feldstein, "Where the Fed will be when the next downturn occurs," *Wall Street Journal*, July 5, 2016.

Eric Swanson, "Measuring the Effects of Federal Reserve Forward Guidance and Asset Purchases on Financial Markets," NBER WP 23311. Available as NBER Digest July 2017.

Martin Feldstein, "Why Is US Inflation So Low?" *Project Syndicate*, June 2013.

Martin Feldstein, "Resolving the Inflation Puzzle," *Project Syndicate*, May 29, 2015.

Ben Bernanke, "Monetary Policy since the Onset of the Crisis," speech at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City Economic Symposium, Jackson Hole Wyoming, August 31, 2012.

Ben Bernanke, "Monetary Policy and the Housing Bubble," Speech given at the annual meetings of the American Economic Association on January 3, 2010.

John Taylor, "The Fed and the Crisis: A Reply to Ben Bernanke," *Wall Street Journal*, January 10, 2010.

John Williams, "Monetary Policy at Zero Lower Bound: Putting Theory into Practice," Brookings Institution, January 16, 2014.

Martin Feldstein, "Unconventional Monetary Policy: Comment on John C. Williams."

Charles Evans et al., “Risk Management for Monetary Policy Near the Zero Lower Bound,” *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, Spring 2015.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Only Raise US Rates When Whites of Inflation’s Eyes are Visible,” *Financial Times*, February 8, 2015.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Central Bankers Do Not Have As Many Tools As They Think,” *Financial Times*, December 6, 2015.

Lawrence H. Summers, “A World Stumped by Stubbornly Low Inflation,” *Financial Times*, March 6, 2016.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Less is More When It Comes to Federal Reserve Policy,” *Financial Times*, May 7, 2017.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Jerome Powell’s Challenge at the Fed,” *The Washington Post*, February 4, 2018.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Why the Fed Needs A New Monetary Policy Framework,” Brookings Institute, June 7, 2018.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Fed Bashing Is A Fool’s Game,” *Financial Times*, November 5, 2018.

Financial Crises/Lessons from Great Recession (September 26)

Natasha Sarin and Lawrence H. Summers, “Have Big Banks Gotten Safer?” BPEA, Brookings Institute, Fall 2016.

Lawrence H. Summers, “The Disturbing Way Banks Are Still Ducking Punishment for Driving the Financial Crisis,” *The Washington Post*, March 29, 2017.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Ten Years Later: Reflections on the 2008-09 Financial Crisis,” Brookings Institute, January 10, 2019.

Budget Policy (October 1)

Martin Feldstein, "America's Exploding Budget Deficit," *Project Syndicate*, May 29, 2018.

Laurence Ball and N. Gregory Mankiw, “What Do Budget Deficits Do?” *Budget Deficits and Debt: Issues and Options*, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, 1995, pp. 95-119.

Irem Dirmici, et al “Government Debt and Corporate Leverage: International Evidence,” NBER WP 23310 summarized in the NBER Digest, June 2017.

Congressional Budget Office, *The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2019-2029*, January 2019, “Chapter 1: Deficits and Debt.”

Congressional Budget Office, *The 2019 Long-term Budget Outlook*, Chapter 1. June 25, 2019.

Douglas Elmendorf, “Dynamic Scoring,” *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, Fall 2016.

Martin Feldstein. “Dealing with Long Term Deficits,” *American Economic Review*, May 2016.

Martin Feldstein, “The Tax Expenditure Solution to our National Debt,” *Wall Street Journal*, July 20, 2010.

Martin Feldstein, "Raising Revenue by Limiting Tax Expenditures," *Tax Policy and the Economy*, Vol. 30 (2016).

Martin Feldstein, Dan Feenberg and Maya MacGuinneas, “Capping Individual Tax Expenditure Benefits,” in *Tax Notes*, May 2, 2011, p 505-509.

Martin Feldstein, “Preventing a National Debt Explosion,” *Tax Policy and the Economy*, 25, 2011.

Martin Feldstein, “Balancing Lost Tax Revenue the Reagan Way,” *Wall Street Journal*, April 26, 2017.

Martin Feldstein, “Reagan’s Cure for America’s Debt Disease,” *Wall Street Journal*, March 5, 2018.

Lawrence H. Summers, “The Battle Over the US Budget is the Wrong Fight,” *Financial Times*, October 13, 2013.

Jason Furman and Lawrence H. Summers, “Who’s Afraid of Budget Deficits? How Washington Should End Its Debt Obsession,” *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2019.

Additional optional resources:

Congressional Budget Office. Options for Reducing the Deficit, 2017-2026. December 2016.

The National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, *The Moment of Truth*, December 2010.

Bipartisan Policy Center Debt Reduction Task Force, *Restoring America’s Future*, November 2010.

Tax Policy (October 3 and 8)

Martin Feldstein, "The Effect of Taxes on Efficiency and Growth," *Tax Notes*, May 8, 2006.

Council of Economic Advisors, "Tax Incidence," *2004 Economic Report of the President*, Chapter 4, pp. 103-116.

Martin Feldstein, "The Effect of Marginal Tax Rates on Taxable Income: A Panel Study of the 1986 Tax Reform Act," *Journal of Political Economy*, 1995, pp. 551-572.

Joel Slemrod, "Methodological Issues in Measuring and Interpreting Taxable Income Elasticities," *National Tax Journal*, 51: 773-788, 1998.

Martin Feldstein, "Capital Taxation Policy," Presentation to the National Tax Association.

Robert E. Hall, "Guidelines for Tax Reform: The Simple, Progressive Value-Added Consumption Tax, in Alan Auerbach and Kevin Hassett, eds, *Toward Fundamental Tax Reform*, (Washington, DC, AEI Press), 2005, pp. 70-80.

Larry Lindsey, "Tax Reform and the Tax Treatment of Capital Gains," Testimony to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance. September 20, 2012.

Martin Feldstein, "Bringing it Back Home," *Project Syndicate*, August 27, 2014.

Martin Feldstein "Options for Corporate Tax Reform 2017," *Brookings Papers in Economic Activity*, Vol. 2017, No. 2 (2017).

Martin Feldstein, "The Tax Reform Agenda," *Business Economics*, Vol. 52, No. 4 (2017).

Martin Feldstein, "Tax Legislation of 2017," Remarks at the AEA meetings, January 4, 2018.

Martin Feldstein, "How to Increase America's Saving Rate," *Project Syndicate*, July 26, 2018.

Lawrence H. Summers, "How to Fix Costly and Unjust US Tax System," *Financial Times*, December 16, 2012.

Lawrence H. Summers, "US Tax Reform Is Vital but Trump's Plan Is Flawed," *Financial Times*, January 8, 2017.

Lawrence H. Summers, "One Last Time on Whom Corporate Tax Cuts Benefit," *Financial Times*, November 2, 2017.

Natasha Sarin and Lawrence H. Summers, "Fair, Comprehensive Tax Reform is the Right Path Forward," *Boston Globe*, March 28, 2019.

Additional optional resource:

President's Economic Recovery Advisory Board, *The Report on Tax Reform Options: Simplification, Compliance, and Corporate Taxation*, August 2010.

Congressional Budget Office. *The Distribution of Household Income, 2016*. March 2019.

Congressional Budget Office. *Marginal Federal Tax Rates on Labor Income: 1962-2028*. January 2019.

Competition Policy (October 10)

Jason Furman, "Beyond Antitrust: The Role of Competition Policy in Promoting Inclusive Growth," Searle Center Conference on Antitrust Economics and Competition Policy, Chicago, IL, September 16, 2016

Susanto Basu, 2019. "Are Price-Cost Markups Rising in the United States? A Discussion of the Evidence." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33 (3): 3-22.

Steven Berry, Martin Gaynor, and Fiona Scott Morton, 2019. "Do Increasing Markups Matter? Lessons from Empirical Industrial Organization" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33 (3): 44-68.

Joint Appearance (October 15)

No additional readings.

Social Insurance UI and DI (October 17)

Congressional Budget Office, *Unemployment Insurance in the Wake of the Recent Recession*. November 28, 2012.

Michael Elsby, Bart Hobijn, and Aysegul Sahin, "The Labor Market in the Great Recession," *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, 2010:1.
http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/Programs/ES/BPEA/2010_spring_bpea_papers/spring2010_elsby.pdf.

Henry Farber and Robert Valletta, Do Extended Unemployment Benefits Lengthen Unemployment Spells? Evidence from Recent Cycles in the U.S. Labor Market. NBER Working Paper 19048, May 2013.

Claire Brunel, "What Determines the "Reservation Wage" of Unemployed Workers?" Summary of NBER Working Paper 19870.

Martin Feldstein and Daniel Altman, "Unemployment Insurance Savings Accounts," *Tax Policy and the Economy*, Vol. 21, 2006.

Stephen Nickell, "Unemployment and Labor Market Rigidities: Europe versus North America," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Summer 1997, pp. 55-74.

Sandra Black, Jason Furman, Emma Rackstraw, and Nirupama Rao, "The Long-term Decline in US Prime-age Male Labor Force Participation," *Vox CEPR Policy Portal*, July 6, 2016.

Jeffrey Liebman, "Understanding the Increase in Disability Insurance Benefit Receipt in the United States," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Spring 2015, pp. 123-150.

Peter A. Diamond and Peter R. Orszag, "A Brief Overview of Social Security," in *Saving Social Security* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press), 2004, pp. 14-26.

Social Security Reform (October 22)

Martin Feldstein, "Rethinking Social Insurance," 2005 Presidential Address to the American Economic Association, *American Economic Review*, March 2005.

Martin Feldstein and Andrew Samwick, "Potential Paths of Social Security Reform," *Tax Policy and the Economy*, 2002, Vol. 16, Issue 1, pp. 181-224.

Martin Feldstein, "Global Aging and Fiscal Solvency," *Project Syndicate*, July 2, 2018.

Martin Feldstein, "How to Make the Tax System Fairer and Save Social Security," *Wall Street Journal*, July 19, 2017.

Martin Feldstein, "Structural Reform of Social Security," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 2005.

Alicia Munnell, "Social Security: It Ain't Broken," *Social Security Reform*, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, June 1997, pp. 297-303.

Douglas Elmendorf, Jeffrey Liebman, and David Wilcox, "Fiscal Policy and Social Security Policy During the 1990s," in *American Economic Policy in the 1990s*, Jeffrey Frankel and Peter Orszag, editors, 2002, pp 80-106 and 121-125.

Jeffrey Liebman, "Redistribution in the Current U.S. Social Security System," in *Distributional Aspects of Social Security and Social Security Reform*, Editors Martin Feldstein and Jeffrey Liebman, 2002, pp. 11-41.

Jeffrey Liebman, "Reforming Social Security: Not All Privatization Schemes are Created Equal," *Harvard Magazine*, March/April 2005.

Rahm Emanuel, "Supplementing Social Security," *Wall Street Journal*, September 13, 2007.

Congressional Budget Office, *Social Security Policy Options, 2015*, December 2015.

C. Coille et al, "Health Capacity to Work at Older Ages: Evidence from the U.S.,"
NBER WP 21940. Available in the NBER Digest April 2016.

Health Care (October 24 and 29)

David Cutler and Richard Zeckhauser. "Adverse Selection In Health Insurance," *Forum for Health Economics and Policy*, 1998, v1, Article 2

Lawrence Summers, "Some Simple Economics of Mandated Benefits," *American Economic Review*, Vol. 79, No. 2, May 1989.

Joseph Newhouse, "Consumer-Directed Health Plans and the RAND Health Insurance Experiment," *Health Affairs*, 2004, Vol. 23, no. 6

Katherine Baicker, Amitabh Chandra, and Jonathan Skinner, "Saving Money or Just Saving Lives? Improving the Productivity of U.S. Health Care Spending," *Annual Review of Economics*, Vol 4, pp 33-56, July 2012.

Katherine Baicker and Amitabh Chandra, "Myths and Misconceptions About Health Insurance," *Health Affairs*, Vol. 27, no. 6, w533-w543, October 21, 2008.

Martin Feldstein, "Balancing the Goals of Health Care Provision and Financing," *Health Affairs*, 2006, pp. 1603-1611.

Martin Feldstein and Jonathan Gruber, "A Major Risk Approach to Health Insurance Reform," *Tax Policy and the Economy*, No. 9, 1995, pp.103-130.

David Cutler, "Are the Benefits of Medicine Worth What We Pay for It?" Fifteenth Annual Herbert Lourie Memorial Lecture on Health Policy, September 2004, pp. 1- 25.

Kaiser Family Foundation, "Summary of New Health Reform Law,"

Ezekiel J. Emanuel and Jeffrey B. Liebman, "Cut Medicare, "Help Patients," *New York Times*, August 23, 2011.

Ezekiel J. Emanuel and Jeffrey B. Liebman, "The End of Health Insurance Companies," *New York Times Opinionator*, January 30, 2012.

Jeffrey Liebman and Richard Zeckhauser, "Simple Humans, Complex Insurance, Subtle Subsidies," in Henry Aaron and Leonard Burman, eds., *Using Taxes to Reform Health Insurance: Pitfalls and Promises* (Washington, Brookings Institution), 2008.

Jonathan Gruber, "Covering the Uninsured in the United States," *Journal of Economic Literature*, September 2008.

"What Can Massachusetts Teach Us About Health Care Reform," *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* Point/Counterpoint between Jonathan Gruber and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, 2011, pp 177-195.

Congressional Budget Office. *Health Care Spending: Why Is It Growing? What Can Be Done About It.* September 2013.

Katherine Baicker, Amy Finkelstein, Jae Song, and Sarah Taubman, The Impact of Medicaid on Labor Force Activity and Program Participation: Evidence from the Oregon Health Insurance Experiment. NBER Working Paper No. 19547. October 2013.

Lisa Dubay, Sharon Long, and Emily Lawton. Will Health Insurance Lead to Job Loss? Evidence from Massachusetts Says No. Urban Institute. June 2012.

Ariel Stern, Brian M. Alexander, and Amitabh Chandra. "How economics can shape precision medicines." *Science*. March 17, 2017, pp.1131-1133.

Katherine Baicker and Amitabh Chandra. "Uncomfortable arithmetic--whom to cover versus what to cover." *New England Journal of Medicine*, January 14, 2010, pp 95-7.

Amitabh Chandra, Jonathan Gruber, and Robin McKnight. "The importance of the individual mandate--evidence from Massachusetts." *New England Journal of Medicine*. January 27, 2011, pp. 293-5.

Additional optional resources:

Kaiser Family Foundation, "Primer on Medicare."

Kaiser Family Foundation, "Primer on Medicaid."

Anti-poverty programs (November 5)

Rebecca M. Blank, "Was Welfare Reform Successful," *Economist's Voice*, March 2006.

Hilary Hoynes, Marianne Page, and Ann Huff Stevens, "Poverty in America: Trends and Explanations," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 20(1): 47-68.

Jeffrey B. Liebman, "The Impact of the Earned Income Tax Credit on Incentives and the Income Distribution," *Tax Policy and the Economy*, 12, 1998.

Peter Ganong and Jeffrey Liebman. The Decline, Rebound, and Further Rise in SNAP Enrollment: Disentangling Business Cycle Fluctuations and Policy Changes. *AEJ: Economic Policy*, November 2018.

Energy and Climate Change (November 7)

William D. Nordhaus, "Reflections on the Economics of Climate Change," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 7 (4), Fall 1993, pp. 11-25.

Thomas C. Schelling, "Some Economics of Global Warming," *American Economic Review*, March 1992, pp. 1-14.

Gilbert E. Metcalf, "Market-based Policy Options to Control U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 23(2), 2009.

William D. Nordhaus, "An Optimal Transition Path for Controlling Greenhouse Gases," *Science*, New Series, Vol. 258, No. 5086 (Nov. 20, 1992), pp. 1315-1319.

Nicholas Stern and Chris Taylor. "Climate Change: Risk, Ethics, and the Stern Review." *Science* 317(5835), 2007.

William D. Nordhaus, "Critical Assumptions in the Stern Review on Climate Change," *Science* 317(5835), 2007.

Martin Feldstein and Greg Mankiw, "A Conservative Case for Climate Action," *New York Times*, February 8, 2017.

William A. Pizer, "Prices vs. Quantities Revisited: The Case of Climate Change," Resources for the Future Discussion Paper 98-02, October 1997.

Lawrence H. Summers, "Let This Be the Year When We Put A Proper Price on Carbon," *Financial Times*, January 4, 2015.

Trade Imbalances and the Dollar (November 12)

Richard E. Caves, Jeffrey A. Frankel, and Ronald W. Jones, "Expectations, Money, and the Determination of the Exchange Rate," *World Trade and Payments*, pp. 581-589.

Martin Feldstein, "Why Is the Dollar so High?" *Journal of Policy Modeling*, 2007, pp. 661-667.

Martin Feldstein, "Resolving the Global Imbalance: The Dollar and the US Saving Rate," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Summer 2008.

Martin Feldstein and George P. Schultz, “Everything You Need to Know About Trade Economics, in 70 Words,” *Washington Post*, May 5, 2017.

Martin Feldstein, “Dollar Weakness Reflects a New Role for Reserves,” *The Financial Times*, December 10, 2009.

Martin Feldstein, “A Weaker Euro for a Stronger Europe,” *Project Syndicate*, April 30, 2014.

Martin Feldstein, “Ending the Currency Manipulation Debate,” *Financial Times*, May 15, 2014.

Lawrence H. Summers, “The US Must Work on Its Economic Relationship with China,” *Financial Times*, April 9, 2017.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Why Treasury Secretaries Should Stick with The Strong Dollar Mantra,” *Financial Times*, January 25, 2018.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Currency Markets Send a Warning on the US Economy,” *Financial Times*, March 5, 2018.

Trade Policy (November 14)

Douglas Irwin, *Free Trade Under Fire* (Princeton University Press, 3rd edition, 2009), chapter 2.

Robert C. Feenstra, "How Costly is Protectionism?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Summer 1992.

Maas, Steve, “How Large Are the US Economy’s Gains from Trade?” *NBER Digest*, April 2018

Stanley Fischer, “Globalization and Its Challenges,” Richard T. Ely Lecture, *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, May 2003, pp. 1-30.

Paul Krugman, “What Do Undergrads Need to Know About Trade?,” *American Economic Review*, May 1993, pp. 23-26.

David Autor et al. Trade Adjustment: Worker Level Evidence. NBER Working Paper 19226. July 2013.

Martin Feldstein “Inconvenient Truths About the US Trade Deficit,” *Project Syndicate*, April 25, 2017.

Martin Feldstein, “Does Addressing Bilateral Trade Deficits Work?” *Project Syndicate*, June 27, 2017.

Martin Feldstein, “The Use—and Abuse—of Tariffs,” *Wall Street Journal*, July 5, 2018.

Martin Feldstein, “How to Make Trade Peace with China,” *Wall Street Journal*, April 4, 2018

Lawrence H. Summers, “Rescuing the Free-Trade Deals,” *The Washington Post*, June 14, 2015.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Grasp the Reality of China’s Rise,” *Financial Times*, November 8, 2015.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Global Trade Should Be Remade From The Bottom Up,” *Financial Times*, April 10, 2016.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Revoking Trade Deals Will Not Help American Middle Classes,” *Financial Times*, February 5, 2017.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Donald Trump Trade Threats Lack Credibility,” *Financial Times*, April 8, 2018.

Lawrence H. Summers, “Donald Trump’s Trade Policy Violates Every Rule of Strategy,” *Financial Times*, June 4, 2018.

Krugman, Paul. 2007. “Trouble with Trade.” *The New York Times*. December 28.

Lawrence, Robert. 2007. “The Globalization Paradox: More Trade, Less Inequality.” *VoxEU*. September 4.

Autor, David, David Dorn, and Gordon Hanson. 2016. “The China Shock: Learning from Labor-Market Adjustment to Large Changes in Trade.” *Annual Review of Economics*

Technological Change and Job Creation (November 19)

Keynes, John. 1930. "Economic Possibilities for our Grandchildren"

Marc Andressen. "Why Software is Eating the World," *The Wall Street Journal*, August 20, 2011.

Michael Spence. "Why the Old Jobs Aren't Coming Back," *The Wall Street Journal*, June 24, 2011.

Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz. "The Future of Inequality," *Milken Institute Review*, Third Quarter, 2009.

Robert J. Gordon. "Is U.S. Economic Growth Over? Faltering Innovation Confronts the Six Headwinds," NBER Working Paper Series, Working Paper 18315.

Lawrence H. Summers, "The Future of Work," Hamilton Project Panel at the Brookings Institute, February 19, 2015.

Lawrence H. Summers, "Robots Are Wealth Creators and Taxing Them Is Illogical," *Financial Times*, March 5, 2017.

Benjamin Austin, Edward Glaeser, and Lawrence H. Summers, "Saving the Heartland: Place-Based Policies in 21st Century America," BPEA, Brookings Institute, March 2018.

Lawrence H. Summers, "A Jobs Guarantee – Progressives' Latest Big Idea," *Financial Times*, July 3, 2018.

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No additional readings.

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No additional readings.