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Lecture 1 - Introduction

1. What is macroeconomics?

The study of the economy as a whole including topics such as inflation, unemployment and economic growth

2. How does macroeconomics differ from microeconomics?

Microeconomics is about single markets and individual decision making, macroeconomics is the study of the economy as a whole

3. What is the formula for growth?

$$Y_{\text{new}} = Y_{\text{old}} \times (1 + g)^t$$

- Y_{new} = new income level
- Y_{old} = old income level
- g = average growth rate per period
- t = number of periods

3. What are the 12 big economic issues facing us today?

- Global warming
- Economic growth
- Economic inequality
- Migrations, refugees
- Emerging economies
- Wars, terrorism
- Population growth
- Debt and financial crises
- Business cycles
- Unemployment and inflation

- Depleting natural resources
- Governance

4. What are emerging economies?

Those in a transitional phase between developing and developed

5. What does the business cycle look like and what are some of the terms used?

Line goes up and down

- Peaks/booms (the tips)
- Troughs/busts (the low points)
- Expansions (going up)
- Recessions (going down)

6. What is the percentage change formula?

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{\text{new} - \text{old}}{\text{old}} \times 100$$

Lecture 2 - Economics Foundations

1. What are the three key ingredients of economic theories?

- Assumptions
- Logic (often represented by math)
- Conclusions

2. What is econometrics?

The application of statistical techniques to economic data

3. What are two key assumptions in economics?

- Individuals are rational
- We live in a world of scarcity therefore must make choices

4. What are five key distinctions in economics?

- Positive vs. normative analysis
 - Positive - how the world is - can be tested
 - Normative - how the world should be - judgment
- Centrally planned economies vs. market economies
- Efficiency vs. equity
 - Efficient allocation - not wasting anything
 - Equitable allocation - everyone gets their fair share
- Correlation vs. causation
- Micro vs. macroeconomics

5. What is positive and normative analysis?

Positive = how the world is - can be tested

Normative - how the world should be - judgment

6. What is efficiency versus equity?

Efficiency vs. equity

- Efficient allocation - not wasting anything
- Equitable allocation - everyone gets their fair share

7. What are the two types of efficiency?

- Productive efficiency - when a good or service is produced using the least amount of resources
- Allocative efficiency - when the choice of how much to produce, of each good or service, reflects consumer preferences

8. What is the production possibility frontier (PPF)?

A curve showing the maximum attainable combinations of two products that may be produced with available resources

6. What does the bowed out shape of the PPF illustrate?

The concept of increasing marginal opportunity costs - the more resources already devoted to an activity the smaller the payoff to devoting additional resources to it

7. What are the five variables that shift market demand?

- Income
- Prices of related goods
- Tastes
- Population and demographics
- Expected future prices

8. What are the five variables that shift supply?

- Prices of inputs
- Technological change
- Prices of substitutes in production
- Number of firms in the market
- Expected future prices