



*Econ Ph.D.  
Program News  
June 22, 2012  
Volume 4,  
Number 1*

*The textbook being used is *Fundamental Methods of Mathematical Economics* by Kevin Wainwright and Alpha Chiang. All your required textbooks will eventually be listed by the Bookstore at [http://uvabookstores.com/shop\\_textbooks.asp](http://uvabookstores.com/shop_textbooks.asp). Click on the Textbook List box on the right, then click on the correct semester at the bottom of the next page.*

## **News for Incoming Grad Students...**



***Monroe Hall -- Your New Academic Home***  
*This is the building you'll call home for the next few years.*

### **Your First Course - Econ 5090**

ECON 5090, Mathematical Economics I, fondly referred to as "Math Camp," will be your introduction to the Ph.D. program in economics. The course begins on Monday, August 6th and ends with the final exam on Monday, August 27th. ECON 5090 will be taught by Ariell Reshef, and will typically meet twice each weekday from 9:30 am to 11 am and 2 pm to 3:30 pm. You will also have an hour-long math lab/discussion at 1 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays. Occasionally, some of these class sessions will be displaced by orientation activities provided by the Department or the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS). A detailed schedule of both classes and orientation sessions follows at the end of this newsletter.

On *Tuesday, August 28th*, your remaining fall courses will begin: ECON 7010, Microeconomic Theory I, taught by Nathan Larson; ECON 7020, Macroeconomics Theory I, taught by Hernan Moscoso Boedo; and ECON 7710, Econometrics I, taught by Steve Stern. The classes will meet either on Mondays and Wednesdays, or on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All are accompanied by discussion/lab sections on Fridays.

At this point, you shouldn't worry about registering for either ECON 5090 or your other fall courses. We'll review the registration process during one of your orientation sessions.

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**Please be sure to attend your first orientation session at 1 pm on Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>!**

## ***Econ 5090 and Orientation Activities***

Instructor – Ariell Reshef, [ar7kf@virginia.edu](mailto:ar7kf@virginia.edu)/ 434- 924-7894

A tentative schedule of class and orientation sessions appears below. A final schedule, and a syllabus, will be provided soon.

### **Class and Orientation Schedule for August 2012**

**(Color Key - Class/Lab, Orientation/Social)**

#### **Fri Aug 3**

**1:00-3:30 PM Orientation with Professors Holt and Young, Monroe 124**

**3:45 -4:30 PM Individual appts w/DGS, Monroe 242**

#### **Mon Aug 7**

**9:30–11:00AM 5090 Class, Monroe 124**

**11:15 AM-Noon Orientation with Patty Futrell, Adam Gutterman, Monroe 124**

**2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class, Monroe 124**

#### **Tues Aug 7**

**9:30-11:00 AM 5090 Class, Monroe 124**

**1:00-2:00 PM Individual appts w/DGS, Monroe 242**

**2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class, Monroe 124**

**3:45-4:45 PM Individual appts w/DGS, Monroe 242**

#### **Wed Aug 8**

**9:30-11:00 AM 5090 Class. Monroe 110**

**1:00 PM 5090 Lab, Monroe 124**

**2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class. Monroe 110**

**3:45-4:45 PM Individual appts w/DGS, Monroe 242**

#### **Thur Aug 9**

**10:00-Noon International Student Orientation, Minor Hall 125**

**10:00-11:00 PM Individual appts w/DGS, Monroe 242**

**2:00-7:00 PM Field Trip to King Family Vineyard and Blue Mtn Brewery**

#### **Fri Aug 10**

**9:30-11:00 AM 5090 Class. Monroe 124**

**1:00 PM 5090 Lab, Monroe 124**

**2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class. Monroe 124**

#### **Mon Aug 13**

**9:30–11:00AM 5090 Class (Exam), Monroe 124**

**2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class, Monroe 124**

#### **Tues Aug 14**

**9:30-11:00 AM 5090 Class, Monroe 124**

**2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class, Monroe 124**

**3:45 -4:45 PM Orientation TBD**

#### **Wed Aug 15**

**9:30-11:00 AM 5090 Class. Monroe 110**

**1:00 PM 5090 Lab, Monroe 124**

**2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class. Monroe 110**

#### **Thurs Aug 16**

**9:30-11:00 AM 5090 Class. Monroe 124**

**2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class. Monroe 124**

**3:45 -4:45 PM Orientation TBD**



*A view of the Monroe courtyard from our 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor conference room.*

Fri Aug 17

9:30-11:00 AM 5090 Class. Monroe 124  
1:00 PM 5090 Lab  
2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class. Monroe 124

Mon Aug 20

9:30-11:00 AM 5090 Class (Exam). Monroe 124  
2:00-3:15 PM SPEAK Test for International Students, 221 New Cabell Hall  
~5:00 - 6:30 PM TA Mtg with Professor Ken Elzinga, & Zhou Zhang, Head TA  
Monroe 120. Dinner provided!

Tues Aug 21

9:30-11:00 AM 5090 Class. Monroe 124  
1 - 1:50 PM 5090 Lab  
2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class. Monroe 124

Wed Aug 22

8:15 - 1 PM TRC (Teaching Resource Ctr) Workshops, Old Cabell Hall  
2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class. Monroe 124

Thurs Aug 23

8:15 - 2 PM TRC Workshops, Old Cabell Hall  
2:30 - 3:45 PM Econ Orientation TBD

Fri Aug 24

9:30-11:00 AM 5090 Class. Monroe 124  
1 - 1:50 PM 5090 Lab  
2:00-3:30 PM 5090 Class. Monroe 124  
5:30 PM Econ Welcome Reception, Monroe Courtyard

Sun Aug 26

9:30 - Noon UVELPE (English Test) Gilmer Hall Auditorium  
(for all new grad students whose 1st language is not English)

Mon Aug 27

9:00 AM – Noon 5090 Final Exam. Monroe 124  
3:30 – 5:00 PM GSAS Orientation, Nau Hall, Room 125  
~5:30 PM GSAS Wine and Cheese Mixer

Tues Aug 28

Fall Classes Begin!

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Monroe 124

TA wages are paid on a biweekly schedule. Fellowships are paid in nine monthly installments, beginning in early September. A detailed calendar will be available soon.

Important information for new students is available via online resources.

Your Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS) has a special web page for new grad students: <http://artsandsciences.virginia.edu/graduateinformationpage.html>

A very helpful guide to both the University and to Charlottesville is available at <http://www.virginia.edu/graduateguide/>.

The International Studies Office provides helpful links for new international students at <http://www.virginia.edu/iso/nextsteps.html>.

## **For Teaching Assistants**

All first-year students, not just those of you who have been awarded a teaching assistantship, are *required* to attend the Teaching Resource Center's teaching workshops on Wednesday and Thursday, August 22 and 23. Your ECON 5090 classes will be canceled for this purpose.

The complete workshop schedule is posted at [http://trc.virginia.edu/Workshops/2012/ATW\\_2012\\_TA.htm](http://trc.virginia.edu/Workshops/2012/ATW_2012_TA.htm).

All first-year TAs are assigned to the ECON 2010-2020 sequence, Principles of Economics (Micro and Macro). In mid-August, you will meet with the professor, Ken Elzinga, and the Head TA, Zhou Zhang, to discuss your responsibilities as teaching assistants.

A number of forms are required for teaching assistants to complete before you can be paid by the University. Each student will meet with the Graduate Program Assistant, Patty Futrell, individually to complete these forms and attend to a few other details, such as locker assignments, etc.

## **ACTIVATING YOUR UVA EMAIL ACCOUNT**

If you have not already activated your UVA email account, you should do so soon. You can easily complete the process online.

First, review the *Responsible Computing Handbook* at <http://its.virginia.edu/pubs/docs/RespComp/rchandbook.html>. There is a required quiz and you must score 100%! Most of it is common sense, and "trick" questions are not used. Next you'll confirm that you agree to abide by UVA's computing policies before proceeding.

Now, you can begin to access your UVA email account. Look up your name in the UVA People Search on the University's main web page. You'll see your UVA computing ID listed – it consists of your initials followed by randomly assigned numbers and letters. Patty Futrell's, as you may have noticed, is plf6n. Add "@Virginia.edu" to your computing ID and you'll have your new UVA student email address.

Use your Temporary Applicant password to log in to your UVA email account online. If you don't remember your temporary password, you can go to the temporary password web page to get a new one. Of course, you'll need to set a permanent password, so have a strong password ready when you start this process.

If you need assistance, see the detailed instructions at <http://its.virginia.edu/accounts/studentaccounts.html>.

## Fun Events...

*Econ grad folks regularly enjoy a variety of fun gatherings, such the fall picnic, often at nearby McIntire Park, a winter holiday gathering in December, and a spring picnic just before exams.*

*Other get-togethers may include rafting, hiking, or skating trips, trivia or karaoke nights, and birthday or "end-of-the-year" parties. Your suggestions are welcome!*



*Incoming students in fall 2009 played a prank on Professor Moscoso Boedo to let him know they noticed the many times he used the banana industry to explain Macro Theory. Everyone enjoyed the surprise immensely and the leftover bananas were donated to a local food bank.*



New students and a few current students joined Professors Holt and Reshef for a field trip to nearby King Family Vineyards in August 2011, where they enjoyed the lovely mountain views. Please plan to join us for this year's outing on Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.



Students enjoyed a complimentary wine tasting at King Family Vineyards, then motored to the nearby Blue Mountain Brewery for a pizza dinner served on the deck of the restaurant.



Oyku Unal, Asli Senkal, and Stephanie Demperio celebrated Halloween in traditional American fashion, complete with fun costumes.

## GRADUATION, MAY 2012



Above, ten proud 2011-2012 Ph.D. recipients were excited to be able to attend their graduation ceremonies on Sunday, May 20, 2012. They are, left to right, Paul Landefeld, Yiyi Zhou, Supbhawong Vichaphund, Nan Zhang, Beth Cabbage, Xiaohuan Lan, Erin Dunlop, Xiangjun Ma, Aaron Butz, and Shuna Wang.

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Below, several students from the incoming class of 2010 celebrated completing their master's degree at the May ceremony. Your Head TA, Zhou Zhang, is on the far left in the first row.



Aaron Butz and his wife, Merry, and their baby Mira at the May ceremonies. Aaron is now working for the U.S. Congress' Joint Committee on Taxation, as is fellow graduate, Paul Landefeld.



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**Study groups** are assigned for the ECON 5090 class for a number of reasons -- to carefully mix together math experience and English language skills so that everyone can do their best. Your study group assignments appear below.

*Important information for new students is available via online handbooks for Graduate Students*  
<http://artsandsciences.virginia.edu/gradschool/glossary/index.html>.

*A very helpful guide to both the University and to Charlottesville is available at*  
<http://www.virginia.edu/graduateguide/>.

*The International Studies Office provides helpful links for new international students at*  
<http://www.virginia.edu/iso/nextsteps.html>.

**Patty Futrell**  
Monroe 249  
[plf6n@virginia.edu](mailto:plf6n@virginia.edu)  
434-294-7996  
9 am – 5:30 pm,  
M-F

**Economics Dept.**  
Monroe Hall,  
Room 237  
P O Box 400182,  
Charlottesville, VA  
22904-4182

## **Your ID Card, Etc.**

Beginning on August 1, new graduate students are able to obtain their student ID cards in the Observatory Hill Dining Hall (see <http://www.virginia.edu/webmap/IObservatoryHill.html>). You should visit the ID Office between 8 am and 5 pm, M-F, as soon as possible, as you will need your ID card to gain access to Monroe Hall after hours (if needed), and to use UVA recreational facilities. Please remember to bring a valid state- or government-issued picture identification (passport, U.S. driver's license, U.S. military ID) in order to obtain your UVA ID card. More details are posted at [http://www.virginia.edu/idoffice/fall\\_pickup\\_11.html](http://www.virginia.edu/idoffice/fall_pickup_11.html).

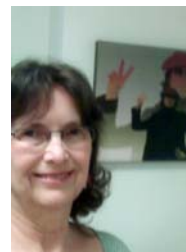
The Economics Department has arranged for you to have early access to all UVA recreational facilities before regular fall classes start. On August 2, you may begin using your UVA ID card for free access to all recreational facilities. See what is available at <http://www.virginia.edu/ims/facilities/index.php> and enjoy!

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## **Your Graduate Program Assistant**

Patty Futrell will help you navigate through the next 5-6 years in the Economics Department.

Patty joined the Department in 2007 after a long, happy history of working with college students. She had served as an undergraduate admissions officer at both Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA, and UMBC (University of Maryland Baltimore County). From 1998-2005, she was a realtor in Baltimore, then, before settling in Charlottesville, she briefly served as the registrar for UVA's continuing education center in Virginia Beach.



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The incoming class of 2011 celebrates surviving June core exams by posing for a group photo. Their advice to the in-coming class of 2012? Study! A lot.