



# Econ Ph.D. News

JUNE 9, 2015

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 1



*Econ Ph.D.  
Program  
News  
June 9, 2015  
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*The textbook for ECON 5090 is [Mathematics for Economists](#) by [Simon and Blume](#); you'll move very quickly through Chapters 1-5, as the material should be familiar to most of you. If you have the opportunity, you may want to review these chapters before the class begins. All your required textbooks will eventually be listed online. Click on the Textbook List box on the right side of [this](#) page.*

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



***Monroe Hall -- Your New Academic Home***  
*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 PhD studies in economics. The course begins on Tuesday, August 18th and ends with the final exam in mid-October. Taught by [Andrew Kloosterman](#), the course will initially meet twice each weekday. In that first week, you will also have a 50-minute discussion session on Thursday (the 20<sup>st</sup>) and Monday (the 24<sup>th</sup>) at 2:30 pm. After regular fall classes start on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, this discussion will meet at noon on Fridays.

In August, some of your 5090 class sessions will be displaced by orientations and other required activities. A detailed schedule of both classes and orientation sessions follows at the end of this newsletter.

On *Tuesday, August 25th*, your other fall courses will begin: ECON 7010, Micro Theory I, taught by [Peter Troyan](#), ECON 7020; Macro Theory I, taught by [Eric Young](#); and ECON 7710, Econometrics I, taught by [Steven Stern](#). Both 7010 and 7020 will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays; 7010 at 5 pm, and 7020 at 2 pm. ECON 7710 will meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9:30. All first-year classes are accompanied by Friday discussion sessions, led by Teaching Assistants who are some of our strongest students in those fields.

## ACTIVATING YOUR UVA EMAIL ACCOUNT

If you have not already activated your UVa email account, you should do so soon. UVa's Information Technology Services provides complete [instructions](#) on their website.

You'll be able to receive the important communications for new students from various University offices. It will also allow you to register for your courses, use public computers in the libraries and other locations, and give you access to UVaCollab, where course syllabi and homework assignments will be posted.

## OTHER IMPORTANT PROCEDURES

1. Submit a photo to the [ID Office](#) **by June 15<sup>th</sup>**, so your ID card can be provided quickly. New IDs can be issued starting August 1<sup>st</sup>. Your ID card will allow you access to Monroe Hall after hours, as well as the use of UVa's recreational facilities.

2. Complete your [Pre-Entrance Health Record](#) and submit it by August 31. Information from your current health care provider is necessary, so don't delay. Additional information and FAQs for new students are provided by the [Elson Student Health Center](#). The health insurance coverage provided by your financial aid package is detailed [here](#). The coverage begins August 15<sup>th</sup>. Once your financial aid has been entered into the Student Information System (by August 1), you will be able to enroll online.

3. Remember to arrange for your former institution to send an official transcript to the GSAS Admission Office, if you have not already done so. Final grades and the degree you were awarded must be shown on the transcript. If this is not completed by August 1, your registration for fall 2014 classes will be blocked. If you need an extension beyond August 1, please contact the Graduate School at [gsas.admission@virginia.edu](mailto:gsas.admission@virginia.edu).

4. In order to receive your fellowship stipend payments in a timely manner, you must establish a [direct deposit account](#). To save time, you should set up your account before you arrive in Charlottesville.

5. It is very important that you attend the *GSAS Orientation* on Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. International Students have an additional orientation session on Wednesday, the 19<sup>th</sup>. Your ECON 5090 classes have been scheduled to accommodate these and other events. A full schedule of classes and other activities follows.

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The McGregor Room (below), popularly known as the "Harry Potter Room," offers a quiet, comfortable place to study. It is located just a few steps from Monroe, on the second floor of Alderman Library. W. H. Auden, William Faulkner, and Robert Frost have lectured here.



**A wealth of important information for new students is available online:**

*Our Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS) has a special information for new grad students on their [web site](#). The Graduate Guide and the Grounds Tour (under Resources at the top right of the page) is being updated, so check in again in a few weeks. (In the meantime, you may enjoy the Law School's [guide](#) to living in Charlottesville.)*

*The GSAS site also provides an important [checklist](#) is provided for new students.*

*The International Students and Scholars Program provides an important ["to-do list"](#) as well as helpful links for new international students.*

## Econ 5090 and Orientation Activities

Instructor – Andrew Kloosterman,  
[ask5b@virginia.edu](mailto:ask5b@virginia.edu)



A view of the Monroe courtyard from our 2<sup>nd</sup>-floor conference room. The courtyard is a popular location, weather permitting, for Department events, as well as a quiet place to meet, study, or enjoy a lunch break.

### Fun Events...

Econ grad folks regularly enjoy a variety of fun gatherings, such as 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, Happy Hour gatherings, and Halloween or "end-of-the-year" parties. Your suggestions are welcome!

(Color Key – Math Class/Discussion,  
ECON Orientation/Social, Other  
Orientation/Social)

#### Mon. Aug 17

- ~ 9 AM - 12:30 PM **SPEAK, UVELPE Test** - required for all non-native speakers
- 1:30 - 2:15 PM? **Welcome from Federico Ciliberto, DGS, Monroe 110**
- 2:30 - 4 PM? **Orientation w. Patty Futrell, Monroe 110**

#### Tues. Aug 18

- 10 - 11:15 AM **5090 Class, Monroe 110**
- Noon - 4 PM **GSAS Orientation, Newcomb Hall Ballroom**
- 4-6 PM **GSAS Reception and Resource Fair**

#### Weds. Aug 19

- 9:00 -10:15 AM **5090 Class, Monroe 110**
- 11:00 AM- 12:15 PM **5090 Class, Monroe 110**
- ~2 hrs - Time TBD **International Student Orientation, Location TBD**

#### Thurs. Aug 20

- 10:00 - 11:15 AM **5090 Class, Monroe 110**
- 1:00 - 2:15 PM **5090 Class, Monroe 110**
- 2:30 - 3:20 pm **5090 Discussion, Monroe 110**

#### Friday, Aug 21

- 9:30 - 10:45 AM **5090 Class, Monroe 110**
- 11:30- 12:45 PM **5090 Class, Monroe 110**
- 2:00 - ~7:30 PM **Trip to King Family Vineyards & Blue Mtn Brewery**

#### Mon Aug 24

- 10:00 - 11:15 AM **5090 Class, Monroe 110**
- 1:00 - 2:15 PM **5090 Class, Monroe 110**
- 2:30 - 3:20 PM **5090 Discussion, Monroe 110**

#### Tues Aug 25

- Fall Classes Begin! (New schedule for ECON 5090)
- 3:30-4:45 PM **5090 Class, T,Th, Monroe 110**

#### Fri Aug 28

- 4:30 PM **Econ Welcome Reception, Monroe Courtyard**

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New students and a few current students joined Professors Holt and Ciliberto for a field trip to nearby [King Family Vineyards](#) in August 2014 where they enjoyed a private winetasting. Please plan to join us for this year's outing (which includes a pizza dinner at [Blue Mountain Brewery](#)) on Friday, August 21st.

## GRADUATION, MAY 2015



The Economics Department's diploma ceremony was held on Saturday, May 16, in front of Cabell Hall.

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Our Ph.D. recipients await the start of the ceremony.

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*[Professor Federico Ciliberto](#) began his three-year term as Director of Graduate Studies in August 2013. As part of your orientation, he'll schedule brief meetings with each of you.*



Amanda Kurzenoerfer, along with Rett Grant, was awarded the Department's Snavely Prize for Best Dissertation for 2014-15. Amanda will be joining Bates White Economic Consulting this summer.



A statue of Thomas Jefferson stands ready to greet you at his famous [Rotunda](#). The Rotunda is currently closed to the public for a two-year renovation.



["Mr." Jefferson](#) (also known as "TJ")

Patty Futrell  
249 Monroe Hall  
[patty@virginia.edu](mailto:patty@virginia.edu)  
434-294-7996  
9 am – 5:30 pm,  
Monday – Friday

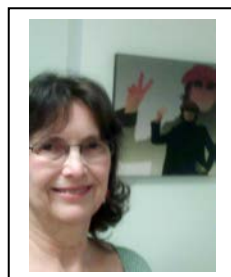
**Economics Dept.  
237 Monroe Hall  
P O Box 400182,  
Charlottesville,  
VA 22904-4182**

## Learning the UVa Lingo

The University of Virginia, founded in 1819, has a rich history. Some of its unusual terminology stems from long-held traditions, handed down from founder Thomas Jefferson himself.

1. [The Academical Village](#) – Founder Thomas Jefferson believed that living and learning are connected, and he designed the University based on this concept. The Lawn and its surrounding Pavilions was designed to house both students and faculty; the Rotunda (originally the University's library) serves as the heart of the learning community.
2. [Grounds](#) – This is also Jefferson's term. We still use it where other schools would say "campus." You'll also hear "on-Grounds," "off-Grounds," and "Central Grounds." The latter refers to the historical center of the University's physical space.
3. [The Lawn](#) – This is the grassy expanse stretching out in front of the Rotunda. To be chosen to live in one of the 54 small rooms facing the Lawn is considered a significant honor. The two rows of buildings parallel to the Lawn rooms and Pavilions are known as the East and West Ranges.
4. [The Corner](#) – Originally, it was just a single street corner, but it has grown to the strip of shops and restaurants on University Avenue, just across the street from Central Grounds.
5. **First-Year, Second-Year, Third-Year, Fourth-Year** – Again, a Jeffersonism. Undergraduates are known as freshmen, sophomores, etc. Jefferson felt that "senior" implied a person had reached a final phase of learning – and Jefferson believed learning to be a lifelong process.
6. **Mr. / Ms.** – Undergraduate students and faculty have historically addressed each other using these terms, out of respect for Jefferson himself, who never earned a Ph.D. Medical doctors are the only people addressed as "Doctor" at UVa. Of course, as a graduate student, you'll soon be on a first-name basis with your Economics faculty.
7. [Wahoo](#) – A nickname for the University's athletic teams, more commonly known as the Cavaliers. Popular folklore has several ideas for the origin, sometimes related to the fish by the same name. "Wah-hoo-wah" is a popular rallying cry at athletic events.

## Your Graduate Program Coordinator



[Patty Futrell](#) will help you navigate through the next 5-6 years. You'll usually find her in Monroe 249.

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

For fun, she collects first editions of her favorite books, cares for two cats, attends a variety of musical concerts, volunteers with CAELC as a language partner, and waits impatiently each year for the Virginia Film Festival and the Festival of the Book.