

News Essay Information

EC 308: Macroeconomics

Fall 2022

You will write an essay about a newspaper article that you find relevant to the concepts you learn in class. The essay is short (no more than three double spaced typed pages) discussions of articles appearing in Bloomberg, Wall Street Journal, Project Syndicate, Reuters, or Yahoo! Finance (you can look for other options too). If you prefer, you can write an essay about an academic article that you read recently. The typical essay is two to three pages.

The essay shall state the date, author and topic of the article (1st paragraph).

The 2nd and 3rd paragraphs (or additional paragraphs as is necessary) shall summarize and describe the key ideas of the article. This portion of the essay should discuss the relevant “economic or finance event(s)” or “issue” addressed in the article. (For example, it could be about why retirees in the US are facing financial hardships or why the household saving rate in China is higher than in the US.)

Finally, the essay should critically evaluate the economic issue or concept that is addressed in the article. (For example, how the great recession of 2007-09 exposed the problems of poorly aligned incentives in the US economy.) In this latter part of the essay, you are expected to analyze the economic issue or event through the tools and concepts learned in the class. For example, if the article is about the current account balance situation in the US, then you would analyze how the saving and investment behavior of the Americans can explain it.

Feel free to pick any economic topic or event that you find interesting (that is the point) and be critical in your analysis. If the article states things that are inconsistent with ideas learned in class, point out the inconsistency. Finally, you must attach the article to your essay and cannot use an article discussed in class.

The due dates for the essay is at 11:59 PM on Monday November 28, 2022.