S130 Economics of Ageing

Lecturer: Prof. Eric French

DESCRIPTION: This course covers areas of active empirical research on the economics of aging. We will cover OLG, adverse selection, and life cycle savings and labor supply models as well as empirical evidence on these models. Specific topics include the role of savings incentives on individual and national savings, the annuities market, and the effects of public pensions and disability insurance programs on labor supply and savings.

Assessment: 2 hour exam, with four questions. Exam content will include both derivations and short essay questions. These will include interpretations of derivations as well as questions relating to key empirical results in the literature.

Problem sets: 3 problem sets. These problem sets will not contribute to your grade, but they will help prepare you for your exam.

Sources of data on ageing populations and pension systems

OECD web site (click on the Ageing Society link):
http://www.oecd.org/maintopic

World Bank pensions and pension reform web site:
http://www.worldbank.org/pensions

Links to useful UK official data, publications and statistics online

Reading list (* denotes the most important papers)

1. Economic Implications of Population Aging


2. Some Distributional Aspects of Govt Pensions


3. The economics of pensions and annuities


4. The life-cycle model and saving for retirement: do People Prepare Adequately for Retirement?


5. Savings Patterns After Retirement


### 6. Labor Force Participation and Retirement


Kolsrud, Jonas, Camille Landais, Daniel Beck and Johannes Spinnewijn, “Retirement Consumption and Pension Design”.

### 7. The link between Health and Economic Position at older ages


Case, Anne and Angus Deaton, Rising morbidity and mortality in midlife among white non-Hispanic Americans in the 21st century, *PNAS* December 8, 2015 112 (49) 15078-15083.


