

Transcript

Hi, I'm Alex Karalis, the director of student experience and progression on the MSc economics. I hope you are enjoying your start of term getting used to the materials we've sent you. Looking around the department virtually or the campus, possibly in person if you're already here.

As the director of student experience, I work with the Postgraduate office with the teaching teams with Lory, the director of the MSc programmes on the delivery of the program and on making sure that you are having a good time, especially having good time academically, that you're progressing through your MSc as you would like to and so you get good outcomes at the end of it.

You may come across me in this role and a good person to talk to. If you are finding that you're struggling with your course requirements, if it's not progressing as well as you thought it might, it's very good to talk about these kind of things that may be absolutely nothing wrong with your progress and how you're going, and you know, really, you're just having the usual experience that MSc economics is quite a tough degree and a lot of people find it a big step from undergraduate level, and that's good to know.

It's good to talk about that kind of thing and be aware of it and then you can really enjoy the year if you know you're doing OK on it. But I found my own MSc very tough to begin with a major jump for me Undergraduate economics that I'd seen at that point. So there's nothing unnatural about that.

It's good to talk about it, and I'm one of the people you can talk to you about that. Maybe that there's actually something in your study style that worked OK for you at undergraduate level. That doesn't work so well on a MSc, a UK MSc, expect a lot of self study and that's really important part of how MSc programme works. A lot of it is you and what you do with the materials. Will give you. Sometimes that takes some getting used to until talk to me. If you are concerned about your

study style and maybe something that we can isolate and change there, that will have you know, pay major dividends for you earlier we do that. The better I've talked to students, but for a number of years about this kind of thing and you know quite a lot of good responses where people find that they they change how active less than he is when we discuss You know how to use worksheets, problem sets, that kind of thing. You know, the earlier you make this this stuff go better, the better.

January exams go, the more understanding you have come your options, the more you're able to enjoy the material which is, you know what you're here to do, as well as just get through it and get the degree you want to be able to have some leftover energy for the intellectual engagement with the subject, which is a really fascinating subject, right?

As well as just learn the quants you need to get through the exams. OK about me and I'm a macro economist and econometrician, and I have research interests in business cycles, monetary policy, bond pricing, how bond pricing works in monetary policy, particularly interested in nonlinear aspects of the economic system. How recessions and business cycles propagate through time and kind of trying to model that? Maybe a bit of forecasting and some policy analysis.

I teach the monetary policy option EC924, so I may see some of you there. Those of you with a kind of macro focus or kind of professional interest in central banking as a future direction. I teach time series on the undergraduate programme and an introductory first year macro, which is an

interesting difference from those technical courses for me. Taught many years economic history on the undergraduate programmes as well, and originally came to economics through interests in history and development. We have a really great year here on the MSc.

I hope to see you at various events and you would like to discuss with you your study style, your progress, how things are going. I'm always there.

My office hours will be bookable through the department system in the usual way, and maybe I will see you on EC924. If not, I'll probably see you at some events before then at the MSc options fair for example, which will take place in early October.

Thank you very much. Have a good year.