

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Department of Economics

Government Revenues

Economics 230A
Fall, 2001

Roger Gordon

I. Positive and normative models of taxes

A. Tax incidence (1 class)

*Kotlikoff-Summers, "Tax Incidence," *Handbook of Public Economics*, vol. 2, ed. by Auerbach and Feldstein, North Holland, 1987, pp. 1043-1092.

B. Excess burden of a tax (1 class)

Auerbach, "The Theory of Excess Burden and Optimal Taxation," in *Handbook of Public Economics*, vol. 1, ed. by Auerbach and Feldstein, North Holland, 1985, pp. 61-86.

C. Equity issues (1 class)

Harsanyi, "Cardinal Welfare, Individualistic Ethics and Interpersonal Comparisons of Utility," *Journal of Political Economy*, University of Chicago Press, 1955, pp. 309-321.

Kaplow, "A Fundamental Objection to Tax Equity Norms," *National Tax Journal*, 1995, pp. 497-514.

Buchanan, "Taxation in Fiscal Exchange," *Journal of Public Economics*, North Holland, 1976, pp. 17-30.

D. Optimal commodity tax and expenditure policies (1 class)

*Stern, "The Theory of Optimal Commodity and Income Taxation: An Introduction." In Newbery and Stern, *The Theory of Taxation For Developing Countries*, World Bank, 1987.

*Atkinson-Stern, "Pigou, Taxation and Public Goods," *Review of Economic Studies*, 1974, pp. 119-127.

F. Optimal income taxes (1 class)

*Saez, Emmanuel, "Using Elasticities to Derive Optimal Income Tax Rates," NBER WP No. 7628, 2000.

Akerlof, "The Economics of Tagging as Applied to the Optimal Income Tax," *American Economic Review*, 1978, pp. 8-19.

G. Tax Avoidance and Income Shifting (1 class)

Feldstein, "The Effect of Marginal Tax Rates on Taxable Income: A Panel Study of the 1986 Tax Reform Act," *Journal of Political Economy*, 1995, pp. 551-72.

Gordon and Slemrod, "Are 'Real' Responses to Taxes Simply Income Shifting Between Corporate and Personal Tax Bases?" NBER WP #6576, 1998.

II. U.S. tax structure

A. Personal taxation

1. Analysis of taxation of labor supply (2 classes)

*Hausman, "Taxes and Labor Supply," In *Handbook of Public Economics*, vol. I, ed. by Auerbach and Feldstein, pp. 213-263.

Eissa and Liebman, "Labor Supply Response to the Earned Income Tax Credit," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 1996, pp. 605-37.

Trostel, "The Effect of Taxation on Human Capital," *Journal of Political Economy*, 1993, pp. 327-50.

2. Analysis of taxation of income from savings (1 class)

*Bernheim, "Taxation and Savings," NBER WP #7061.

Judd, "Welfare Cost of Factor Taxation in a Perfect-Foresight Model," *Journal of Political Economy*, 1987, pp. 675-709.

3. Portfolio composition (1 class)

*Stiglitz, "The General Theory of Tax Avoidance," *National Tax Journal*, National Tax Association, 1985, pp. 325-337.

Gordon, "Taxation of Investment and Savings in a World Economy," *American Economic Review*, 1986, pp. 1086-1102.

Poterba and Samwick, "Taxation and Household Portfolio Composition: U.S. evidence from the 1980's and 1990's," NBER WP #7392.

Burman and Randolph, "Measuring Permanent Responses to Capital Gains Tax Changes in Panel Data," *American Economic Review*, 1994, pp. 794-809.

4. Deductible or excludable items (1 class)

*Feenberg, "Are Tax Price Models Really Identified: The Case of Charitable Giving," *National Tax Journal*, National Tax Association, 1987, pp. 629-633.

Gruber-Poterba, "Tax Incentives and the Decision to Purchase Health Insurance," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 1994, pp. 701-33.

Kaplow, "Transfer Motives and Tax Policy," NBER Working Paper No. 6340, 1997.

B. Corporate income taxation

1. Behavioral effects

a. Dividends (1 class)

*Poterba-Summers, "The Economic Effects of Dividend Taxation," in *Recent Advances in Corporate Finance*, ed. by Altman and Subrahmanyam, Richard D. Irwin, 1985, pp. 227-284.

Bernheim-Wantz, "A Tax-Based Test of the Dividend Signaling Hypothesis," *American Economic Review*, 1995, pp. 532-551.

b. Debt-equity decisions (1 class)

*Miller, "Debt and Taxes," *Journal of Finance*, 1977, pp. 261-75.

*Myers-Majluf, "Corporate Financing and Investment Decisions when Firms Have Information that Investors Do Not Have," *Journal of Financial Economics*, Elsevier Science Publishers, 1984, pp. 187-221.

c. Investment decisions (2 classes)

*Hassett and Hubbard, "Tax Policy and Investment," NBER Working Paper No. 5683, 1998.

Cummins, Hassett, and Hubbard, "A Reconsideration of Investment Behavior Using Tax Reforms as Natural Experiments," *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, 1994, pp. 1-59.

DeLong and Summers, "Equipment Investment and Economic Growth," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, M.I.T. Press, 1991, pp. 445-502.

d. International issues (1 class)

Altshuler and Grubert, "Repatriation Taxes, Repatriation Strategies and Multinational Financial Policy," NBER WP # 8144, 2001.

C. Estate taxation (1 class)

Kaplow, "A Framework for Assessing Estate and Gift Taxation," NBER Working Paper No. 7775, 2000.

D. Government debt (1 class)

*Kotlikoff, "Taxation and Savings," *Journal of Economic Literature*, 1984, pp. 1576-1629.

E. Inflation (1 class)

*Auerbach, "Inflation and the Tax Treatment of Firm Behavior," *American Economic Review*, May 1981, pp. 419-42.

Feldstein, "Capital Income Taxes and the Benefits of Price Stability," NBER Working Paper No. 6200, 1997.