

Econ 216, Fall 2021

Optional HW

due the final day of exam week

This assignment Asks you to briefly research some pressing issues facing different Central Banks around the world. This is extra credit. Each satisfactorily answer will gain you 20% on a HW assignment. There is a limit of three extra credit awards which includes extra credit from attending job market seminars.

I am looking for 1-3 pages per question. As always, provide proper references as appropriate.

1. A new covid-19 variant, Omicron, has been identified. There is concern that this variant could either be more contagious than current versions, or that vaccines and past infection may infer less immunity against it. Discuss how the Federal might adjust its monetary policy to different variant-related scenarios.
2. The Bank of England is not only dealing with the pandemic but another supply shock, Brexit, Explain how Brexit has complicated policy for the Bank of England.
3. Japan has dealt with *deflationary* pressures since about 1990. Discuss why these pressures have persisted for so long and how the Bank of Japan has tried to cope with them.