

AS/A2 Economics Conference

December 03, 2009 in Central London (C405) Conference starts at 11.00am and ends no later than 4:30pm

As one of the most experienced organisers of student conferences our aim is always to give you a memorable and useful day. Many regular clients tell us that our conferences are great motivators - events they always look forward to. We hope to welcome you!

Programme *

What I would do if I were Chancellor Rt Hon Vince Cable MP, Lib Dem Shadow Chancellor

Horrified by rising house prices and personal debt, Vince Cable forecast the recession long before his political opponents had spotted it - and it turned out he may well have had the right answers as well. He has attracted high praise from across the political spectrum for his response to the banking crisis. Vince Cable has been spoken of by some as a replacement for Alastair Darling. He is an excellent speaker and we are delighted to welcome him to the conference.

The causes of the credit crunch and recession Stephanie Flanders, Economics Editor, BBC

- Has it ever happened before?
- Did anyone see it coming?
- Is it all America's fault?
- What about the greedy bankers?
- Do we need better regulation?

The Recession: cures and consequences Hugh Pym, Chief Economics Correspondent BBC

- Did we ever really do away with boom and bust?
- How bad will inflation and unemployment get?
- Can we spend our way out of recession?
- Is Britain really better placed than other countries?
- What's the future for interest rate manipulation as a technique for antiinflation policy?

How to lie with economic statistics! (or to make sense of data) Tim Harford - 'the Undercover Economist', the FT

- What are the things to look out for when interpreting data from the media?
- What sort of spin can be put on official figures?
- What does the inflation rate actually tell us about our cost of living?
- If the claimant count was so discredited under the Conservatives, why does Labour still use it?
- Balance of Payments figures used to win or lose elections, now they hardly register on the radar. What is going on?

In the light of recent currency turmoil, is it now time for Britain to join the Euro? Professor John Sloman, the Economics Network

- What has been happening to exchange rates and why?
- The importance of speculation and the carry trade
- Sterling and the credit crunch
- Vulnerability outside the euro
- Loss of independence inside the euro

The Laffer Curve: a guide to policy or a laughing stock? Dr. Charles Smith, Senior Examiner

- What are the microeconomic purposes of taxation?
- Is our tax system a fair one?
- The 50p tax band: triumph or disaster?
- What evidence is there that more equal societies have more successful economies?

Are there market-based solutions to problems of the environment? Professor John Sloman, the Economics Network

- Market failures and problems of (a) global warming; (b) traffic congestion
- How can governments alter market signals?
- Is this the best approach?
- Emissions trading: an effective solution to climate change?

Brief outlines of related conferences

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AS/A2 SOCIOLOGY (C403)

November 16, 2009
in Central London

- **Is there really more crime today?** Professor Jock Young, University of Kent
- **The challenge of dealing with research**, Dr Steve Taylor, LSE
- **What's happening to families?** Professor Ros Edwards, London South Bank University
- **Important changes happening in education today?** Sophie Moullin
- **The state of religion 2009**, Dr Kristin Aune, University of Derby,
- **Gender/women**, Dr Alison Phipps, University of Sussex
- **Class and stratification – the record in the UK!** James Turner, The Sutton Trust
- **How to achieve your best in Sociology**, Jonathan Blundell, Senior Examiner

AS LAW (C400)

December 14, 2009
in Central London

- **Sentencing – do judges really deliver?** Imran Khan, Lawyer
- **Precedent**, Jacquie Martin, former Chief Examiner and author
- **Statutory Interpretation**, Chris Turner, Chief Examiner and author
- **Legislation and delegated legislation**, Jennifer Currer, former Senior Examiner and author
- **Alternative Dispute Resolution**, Baria Ahmed, Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution
- **Tips for success from the Chief Examiner**, Chris Turner, Chief Examiner and author
- **Magistrates or Juries?** John Thornhill, Chair, The Magistrates Association

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* Please note the speakers will not necessarily appear in the above orders. We reserve the right to amend the programmes where circumstances dictate. Conferences described in this brochure are organised by 'A Level Masterclasses Ltd'