

Economics 421 Syllabus

Introduction to Econometrics II

Summer 2015

Lecture: MTWR 12:00 – 1:50 MCK 221

Lab: F (2 sections) MCK 442

Instructor: Tuan Nguyen
Office: PLC 507
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 10:30 – 11:30
Tuesday/Thursday 2:30 – 3:30
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Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the process and methods of econometrics. Econometrics concerns the use of economic data to estimate economic relationships, to statistically evaluate hypotheses, and to forecast. We want students to not only understand but also to be able to apply the methods taught in this course.

Prerequisites: Math 242 (Calculus), Math 243 (Probability and Statistics), EC 321 (Introduction to Econometrics I)

Objectives: The objectives of this course are for the student to:

1. Gain an understanding of the process of econometrics
2. Gain an appreciation of the application of statistical and econometric methods to economic problems
3. Gain a working knowledge of elementary statistics and regression analysis
4. Gain an understanding of the use of computers in econometric models

Course Text: Dougherty, Christopher, Introduction to Econometrics, 4th ed. (Oxford University Press: Oxford, 2011). Note: Chapter summaries and a variety of other items are available on the book website. Students are recommended to consult the following link: <http://global.oup.com/uk/orc/busecon/economics/dougherty4e/>

Canvas: Canvas contains all the course's materials such as the syllabus, homeworks, and practice exams. Regular announcements are posted on Canvas. Students are strongly encouraged to check the announcements regularly. E-mails may also be used to communicate with the class.

Grading: Final grades will be based on quizzes, homework assignments, a midterm, and a final. Your course grade will be determined as follows:

20% QUIZZES
20% HOMEWORKS
25% MIDTERM
35% FINAL

Quizzes: There will be six (6) unannounced in-class quizzes during the term. These will take place at the end of the lectures and will cover materials that I go over during that particular lecture. The lowest two (2) scores will be dropped.

Homework: There will be two (2) homework assignments in this class. Each assignment will be due at the particular time indicated below. Late homework will not be accepted. You are more than welcome to work with classmates on the assignments, **but any work that you turn in has to be your own.**

Tests: There will be one midterm and one final in this class. In the case of a missed midterm due to unanticipated emergency situations, the student will be allowed to put the weight of the missed exam on the final exam, provided notification is received as soon as possible and there is verification of the emergency. **There is no make-up final exam.** Do not take this class if you already know you cannot make one of the scheduled exams.

Labs: There is a lab associated with this class. Those signed up for the lab will have use of the computer lab during specific time periods. The lab will consist of instruction (topics, homework review, grading, etc.) and computing tips necessary to complete homework assignments. Throughout the term, a program called STATA will be used. It is available in the SSIL lab (McKenzie Hall 4th Floor). All of the homework assignments will require the use of STATA. If you wish to have a copy of the program, there are various options for purchasing it. For more information, contact the SSIL lab. The SSIL lab also has a wide variety of other programs available.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: Academic dishonesty (from plagiarizing work to cheating on exams) will not be tolerated. Please acquaint yourself with the Student Conduct Code, which is published in the *Schedule of Classes* each term. **If there is evidence to indicate cheating occurs on a graded item, the student will receive an automatic zero (0) for that item.**

Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements with me during the first week of the term. Please request that the counselor for students with disabilities (164 Oregon Hall) send me a letter verifying your disability.

Important Dates:

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|---------|--------------------------------|
| June 22 | Class starts |
| June 27 | First homework due at 9:00 am |
| July 2 | Midterm |
| July 11 | Second homework due at 9:00 am |
| July 17 | Final exam |

Outline of Course Material: The following is a *tentative* schedule of lecture. It should be viewed as such and may be subject to change throughout the term.

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| Week 1 | Review Heteroskedasticity (Ch. 7) |
| Week 2 | Stochastic Regressors & Measurement Errors (Ch. 8) Simultaneous Equation (Ch.9) |
| Week 3 | Binary Choice and Limited Dependent Variable (Ch. 10) Introduction to Time Series (Ch. 11) |
| Week 4 | Autocorrelation (Ch. 12) Nonstationary Time Series (Ch. 13) Introduction to Panel Data (Ch. 14) – if time permits |

Academic Deadlines:

| Deadline | Last day to: |
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| June 23: | Drop this course (100% refund, no W recorded) |
| June 24: | Drop this course (75% refund, no W recorded) |
| June 25: | Change to or from audit |
| June 25: | Add this course |
| June 25: | Withdraw from this course (75% refund, W recorded) |
| June 29: | Withdraw from this course (50% refund, W recorded) |
| July 1: | Withdraw from this course (25% refund, W recorded) |
| July 9: | Withdraw from this course (0% refund, W recorded) |
| July 11: | Change grading option for this course |

Instructor’s Notes: This is a rather challenging class, made even more so because of the shortened summer schedule. However, I think it is also one of the more important and practical classes that you’ll take here at the UO. Here are some guidelines that might help you do well:

- Keep up with the textbook reading. After every class, I will post a “recap” of the materials that we have gone over and the materials being covered in the next class, along with the corresponding chapters in the textbook. You’ll be in pretty good shape if you keep up with these readings.
- Start the homework early. Since we only have two assignments over the entire course, each of them will be quite lengthy as they cover materials across multiple topics. Get started early so you don’t have to scramble at the last minute. Working on the homework is also a good way to reinforce what you have learned during the lectures.
- Look at the sample questions for the midterm and final on Canvas to get a feel of the actual exams.

- If you are having problems, don't hesitate to seek help. Ask questions during lectures, come to office hours, talk to your classmates. It is essential that you do not fall behind early, because at the rate we are going it will be very difficult to catch up.
- Remember: I am not here to make your life miserable. If you are willing to meet me half-way by showing up to class, doing your homework, and going to office hours if you have any problem, I will do everything within my power to help you succeed!