

Syllabus
Econ 321: Introduction to Econometrics
Winter 2011

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Class Schedule: MW 2:30:00-3:50pm in MC 2054

Office hours: M: 4pm-5pm
W: 9am-11am
Please feel free to email me to set up an appointment if these hours do not fit your schedule.

Course Objectives

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the theoretical concepts and tools used in econometrics. We will learn when and how to apply multivariate regression analysis. We will see the basic assumptions and techniques used to run estimations and make inferences in the context of a linear equation framework. We will learn to recognize specification and data problems and what to do about it. We will see additional tools to handle time series and panel data. Each topic will be approached with a mix of intuitive explanations, theoretical characterization and practical applications, including interpretation of regression output.

Prerequisites Econ 221 or equivalent

Required Readings “Introductory Econometrics: A Modern Approach” by Jeffrey M. Wooldridge (3rd or 4th edition). It is on reserve at the Dana Porter Library.

UW-ACE

Class announcements, notes, assignments and any relevant information will be posted on the Angel network (ACE) at <https://uwangel.uwaterloo.ca/uwangel/frameIndex.htm>.

Planned Topics (with references to Wooldridge’s chapters)

	Topics	Tests/Assignments
Week 1	The Nature of Data Analysis (Chapter 1 + Appendices B & C)	
Week 2	Simple Regression Analysis (Chapter 2)	
Week 3-4	Multiple Regression Analysis: Estimation (Chapter 3)	Test 1: Jan 31 st
Week 5	Multiple Regression Analysis: Inference (Chapter 4 and 5)	
Week 6	Regression Analysis: Further Issues (Chapter 6)	A1: Feb 14 th
Week 7	Multiple Regression Analysis with Binary Variables (Chapter 7)	
Week 8	Heteroscedasticity (Chapter 8)	Test 2: March 7 th
Week 9	Specification and Data Problems (Chapter 9)	
Week 10-11	Time Series Data (Chapters 10-12)	A2: March 28 th
Week 12	Panel Data (Chapter 13)	

Student Responsibilities

There will be two term tests. The first one will be on Monday January 31th and the second term test will be on Monday March 7th. Both term tests will be during class hours.

Two assignments will be given during the term. Each assignment is due at the beginning of class on the due date. Most of these assignments require students to use data and the statistical software program STATA. STATA is available in the following Arts computing labs: PAS 1237, PAS 1098 and HH 236. You can also buy a small version of it through the course grad plan. The information is at <http://www.stata.com/order/new/edu/gradplan.html>.

Classroom Expectations

Turn off and do not answer your cell phone. Laptop computers are not permitted in class unless the student can show that it is used for the purpose of note taking.

Complete assignments on time. Be on time for class. Unforeseen events occur and students have multiple demands on their time. If you must arrive late or leave early, provide advance notice to the instructors whenever possible.

Grading

Although group work is permitted and encouraged, students must submit separate assignments for evaluation purposes. Any assignment submitted late will receive a points penalty.

The course grade will be computed based on two weighting schemes:

Scheme 1

Assignments	20% (A1=10%, A2=10%)
Term Test 1	25%
Term Test 2	25%
Final Examination	30%

Scheme 2

Assignments	20% (A1=10%, A2=10%)
Term Test 1 or Test 2	25%
Final Examination	55%

The final grade will be based on the maximum of the grades under each scheme.

Missed Exam

There is no make- up exam for the term tests. Students will be graded on the alternative scheme (scheme 2).

Normally, a student who has been ill ([Verification of Illness Form](#)) required and missed the scheduled final exam MUST petition the Department of Economics Undergraduate Office

(**confirmation of the illness to the instructor(s) within 48 hours**) to write the Departmental Deferred Examination. If the student has failed to write the Departmental Deferred Examination, the student will automatically receive a grade of 0% for the missed deferred final examination.

Please download and fill out the [Special Deferred Exam Request Form](#) and attach the supporting documentation before submitting to the **Instructor** for departmental approval. Due to illness on the day of the exam (and not that you are unprepared), you are given the deferred privilege. Please be ready to write the deferred exam on short notice.

Avoidance of Academic Offenses

All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71, Student Academic Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71, Student Academic Discipline <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>. If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are the graduate advisor and the Associate Dean of Graduate Affairs. Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>

Note for Students with Disabilities

The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.