ECON 8110 - Syllabus

Fall 2025

M-W 2:20pm-3:35pm, (Benson Hall C101)

Course Website: through eLC.

1 General Information

- Main Instructor: Carolina Caetano
- Secondary Instructor: Gregorio Caetano

  Carol will focus on teaching the technical aspects of the methods, while Greg will focus on teaching the practical aspects of the methods.

- **Email: GradMetricsUGA@gmail.com**

  We are always available for questions after class, or by appointment. Write us an email to schedule.

- Class materials, announcements and assignment rules will be published on eLC. Set up your notifications so that you always receive notice of any new announcement in a timely manner.

2 Course Description

ECON 8110 is the third course in the economics department's advanced econometrics sequence. It covers methods of identification of causal effects based on randomization (or quasi-randomization), such as Experiments, Instrumental Variables and Regression Discontinuity Designs. ECON 8080 is a prerequisite.

3 Assignments

Performance will be evaluated on the basis of homeworks (80% of the grade) and participation (20% of the grade). There will be 4 homeworks throughout the semester, and you will be given at least one week to complete each one, but often much more time than that. Each homework will have some questions that require data work (in either Stata or R, your choice), as well as questions that require conceptual work. You may receive help from your classmates, but your answers must be your own.

We strongly recommend that you strive to complete the homeworks by yourself before asking for help. Econometrics methods are learned through practice. If you do not practice, the course material will not fixate in your brain, and you will have wasted your time with this course. We also warn you that the material is highly cumulative. Failure to learn the earlier parts will impact your ability to learn the following material.

4 Teaching Assistant

- Victoria Milani (VMilani@uga.edu).

5 Course Material

We follow closely the book "Mostly Harmless Econometrics" (see reference below), specifically chapters 1, 2, 4 and 6. We will also provide notes, papers and book excerpts for other more advanced topics we will cover. You may find it valuable to also refer to the book "Causal Inference, the Mixtape" for a less technical introduction to some of the material, and the book "Impact Evaluation" for a more technical and advanced treatment of some of the topics we will cover.

- Angrist, J. and J.-S. Pischke, *Mostly Harmless Econometrics*, Princeton Press.
- Cunningham, S., *Causal Inference, the Mixtape*, Yale University Press.
- Frölich, M. and Sperlich, S., *Impact Evaluation*, Cambridge University Press.

6 Class Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory. We take attendance (we may just mark presence without calling names). If you must miss a class, let us know by email. You are responsible for finding out what was announced and covered in any class you miss.

7 Communication

We are available after class for questions, and by appointment. Be mindful of not emailing us questions that can be answered in person after the next class. Programming questions must be directed to the TAs. For questions related to the class, use the email for the course (GradMetricsUGA@gmail.com), not our UGA email address.

8 Course Statements and Policies

- UGA Student Honor Code: "I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate academic dishonesty of others." A Culture of Honesty, the University's policy and procedures for handling cases of suspected dishonesty, can be found at honesty.uga.edu.

- The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

- UGA Well-being Resources: UGA Well-being Resources promote student success by cultivating a culture that supports a more active, healthy, and engaged student community. Anyone needing assistance is encouraged to contact Student Care & Outreach (SCO) in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-8479 or visit sco.uga.edu. Student Care & Outreach helps students navigate difficult circumstances by connecting them with the most appropriate resources or services. They also administer the Embark@UGA program which supports students experiencing, or who have experienced, homelessness, foster care, or housing insecurity. UGA provides both clinical and non-clinical options to support student well-being and mental health, any time, any place. Whether on campus, or studying from home or abroad, UGA Well-being Resources are here to help.

  - Well-being Resources: well-being.uga.edu
  - Student Care and Outreach: sco.uga.edu
  - University Health Center: healthcenter.uga.edu
  - Counseling and Psychiatric Services: caps.uga.edu or CAPS 24/7 crisis support at 706-542-2273
  - Health Promotion/ Fontaine Center: healthpromotion.uga.edu

- Accessibility & Testing: https://accessibility.uga.edu/

  Additional information, including free digital well-being resources, can be accessed through the UGA app or by visiting https://well-being.uga.edu.

Recommended Syllabus Statement on Inclusive Excellence: The Terry College of Business is committed to promoting an inclusive learning and working environment among its students, faculty, and staff. This class welcomes the open exchange of ideas and values freedom of thought and expression and provides a professional environment that recognizes the inherent worth of every person. It aims to foster dignity, understanding, and mutual respect among all individuals in the class.

Use of AI for Coursework: Unless explicitly stated, artificial intelligence-based technologies, such as ChatGPT, must not be used to generate responses for student assignments.

Additional Resources Related to Various Policy Statements: CTL has provided examples of UGA syllabus policy statements, and a repository of syllabus policies for generative AI tools. Whether students are encouraged or restricted from engaging with generative AI tools, a transparent policy will help ensure that your expectations are clear to students. Instructors can find more information and advice in the CTL resource Generative AI for Instructors.