

**ECONOMICS 421
INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMETRICS
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
SUMMER 2016**

Monday - Thursday: 10:00am - 11:50am
Lillis 112

Instructor: Michael Jerman

Contact Information:

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Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday:
12:00pm - 1:00pm

Course Description: This is the second course in a two-quarter sequence introducing students to econometrics. In this course we will relax the standard assumptions of the baseline ordinary least-squares model that was introduced in Math 243 in Econ 230. By the end of this course you should have the ability to confront the bulk of economic issues using econometric tools. This includes identifying theoretical problems that threaten identification in the standard least-squares model and implementing the appropriate statistical model using Stata.

Prerequisites: The prerequisite for this course is Econ 320, the first part of the econometrics sequence.

Textbook: The textbook we will reference is *Introduction to Econometrics*, by Christopher Dougherty (ISBN: 978-0199567089). New and used versions are available from the Duckstore. Used and international versions can be found online for around \$20.

Canvas: All announcements, assignments, and grades will be posted on Canvas (canvas.uoregon.edu). This is the official website for the course, and you will be responsible for any and all information that is posted there. Therefore if you have any difficulties accessing Canvas it is imperative that you resolve them as quickly as possible by contacting the UO Libraries Computer Help Desk at (541) 346-1807.

Attendance: Your grade will not formally depend on your attendance during the lectures, but you will be responsible for everything that is discussed in class. As a general rule you should NOT expect slides, notes, or other materials to be made available outside of class.

Labs: There are two lab sessions for the course, which meet on Fridays at 12:00pm or 2:00pm. The labs are held in the computer lab in Mackenzie 442. We will primarily use this time to learn how to implement the various techniques in Stata, which will be required to complete the homework.

Software: Stata is the program that we will use for this course. It is available in the SSIL lab, and student editions can be purchased for use on your personal computer for \$38 (this is the price for a six-month license – other licenses are available).

It is strongly recommended that you use a cloud-based storage system (such as Dropbox or Google Drive) and regularly backup your work. This will allow you to easily access and update documents and programs when switching between computers. At the very minimum you should have a reliable USB flash drive.

Homework: There will be three online homework assignments due at the beginning of the first class every week (Monday June 27th, Tuesday July 5th, Monday July 11th). These assignments will be posted and **submitted on Canvas only**. You can enter your answers manually through Canvas or upload a pdf file directly.

No late homeworks will be accepted. You are encouraged to work in groups, but each person must submit their own assignment.

Exams: The two-hour midterm examination is scheduled for Wednesday, June 29th. The comprehensive final examination will be given in class on Thursday, July 14th at 10:00am (our usual class time). A non-graphing calculator is permitted for each exam.

No makeup exams will be given. If the midterm is missed due to a *documented* emergency the weight of the exam will be placed on final. An emergency that causes you to miss the final will result in an incomplete for the course.

Grades: Your grade will be calculated based on the following weights:

Participation:	5%
Homework:	30%
Midterm:	30%
Final:	35%

The *minimum* letter grade that you will receive based on your weighted total of points earned is given below:

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
97	93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60

Academic Integrity: You are expected to adhere to the university's Student Conduct Code, which is available at the following website:

<https://uodos.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/StudentConductCode.aspx>

This code defines cheating as “any act of deception by which a student misrepresents or misleadingly demonstrates that the student has mastered information on an academic exercise that the student has not mastered.” At a minimum, cheating will result in an grade of “F” for the course.

Disabilities: Please notify me as soon as possible regarding any disability-related barriers to participation. Specific testing accommodations must be arranged at least one week prior to the midterm or final examinations. You are also encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Center (formerly Disability Services) in 164 Oregon Hall at (541) 346-1155 or uoaec@uoregon.edu.

Student Athletes: Accommodations based on conflicts with athletic schedules must be arranged at least one week prior to the date of conflict.

Statement on Gender-Based Violence: I strongly support the University Senate Task Force to Address Sexual Violence and Survivor Support, which has encouraged all instructors to include the following language on their syllabi:

The UO is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic and dating violence and gender-based stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences gender-based violence (intimate partner violence, attempted or completed sexual assault, harassment, coercion, stalking, etc.), know that you are not alone. UO has staff members trained to support survivors in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

Please be aware that all UO employees are required reporters. This means that if you tell me about a situation, I may have to report the information to my supervisor or the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity. Although I have to report the situation, you will still have options about how your case will be handled, including whether or not you wish to pursue a formal complaint. Our goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources you need.

If you wish to speak to someone confidentially, you can call 541-346-SAFE, UOs 24-hour hotline, to be connected to a confidential counselor to discuss your options. You can also visit the SAFE website at safe.uoregon.edu.

Below is a short list of other community resources that may be helpful:

- UO Women's Center, McArthur Court. (541) 346-4095. womenctr@uoregon.edu.
 - Lane County Sexual Assault Support Services, 591 West 19th Avenue. 24 hour crisis and support line: (541) 343-7277. sass-lane.org.
 - UO Counseling and Testing Center. counseling.uoregon.edu.
 - UO Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Education & Support Services Program, 164 Oregon Hall. lgbt.uoregon.edu.
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Tentative Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Week 1	6/20 EC 320 Review	6/21 Heteroskedasticity	6/22 Consistency	6/23 Time series
Week 2	6/27 Autocorrelation	6/28 Non-stationarity	6/29 Midterm exam	6/30 Applications
Week 3	7/4 Holiday: No class	7/5 Panel data	7/6 Instrumental variables	7/7 Regression discontinuity
Week 4	7/11 Applications	7/12 Binary choice	7/13 Catch-up and Review	7/14 Final Exam