



**Attendance:** There is no attendance policy in this class. You are free to attend or not attend class, this is your decision. However, attendance is a major factor in how well you will perform in the class. No points are artificially added or subtracted based on attendance. I appreciate your arriving on time and not leaving class early. If you miss class, you should NOT ask me for the material you missed; it is your responsibility to get this information from one of your classmates.

**Academic Honesty:** Please note that academic misconduct (cheating) will NOT be tolerated. In addition, students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of The UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity. This code forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submissions of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Academic evaluations in this course include a judgment that the students work is free from academic dishonesty of any type; and grades in this course therefore should be and will be adversely affected by academic dishonesty. Students who violate the code can be expelled from UNC Charlotte. The normal penalty for a first offense is zero credit on the work involving dishonesty and further substantial reduction of the course grade. In almost all cases, the course grade is reduced to F. Copies of the code can be obtained from the Dean of Students Office. Standards of academic integrity will be enforced in this course. Students are expected to report cases of academic dishonesty to the course instructor.

If you are in doubt when contemplating an action, ask me first!!

**Make-up Projects:** Make-up exams are generally not offered. Out-of-class assignments turned in late can earn a maximum of 60% of the original point value.

**Cell Phone Externalities:** All beepers, pagers and cell phones must either be turned off prior to class starting or placed in silent mode. The proliferation of cell phones and other communication devices has only increased the negative externalities imposed on others when they activate during class.

**Laptop Externalities:** The use of tablets, laptops, and desktop computers in this class is restricted to uses that are not distracting to the professor or other students.

**Statement on Diversity:** The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and maintained. Therefore, we celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.

**Important dates:**

- First Day of Class: January 9
- No Class: January 16 (MLK, Jr Day); March 6 (Spring Break)
- Classes End: Tuesday, May 2
- Last Class: Monday, May 8
- Take-home Midterm Exam: due Friday, March 17 5:30 PM EDT
- Final Exam: due Wednesday May 10 5:30 PM EDT

**Course Outline (Subject to Change)**Part I. What's on the Left Hand Side?

1. OLS/MLE and Non-standard Standard Errors
2. Binary response models: linear probability model, probit, logit.
3. Multinomial response models: multinomial probit and logit (unordered and ordered)
4. Censored and Truncated Data: Tobit type models
5. Count data: Poisson, Negative Binomial, Zero Inflated models
6. Duration data: Hazard and Competing Risk Models
7. Sample Selection

Part II: What's on the Right Hand Side?

8. Causal Theory and Causal Inference Using Observational Data
9. Panel data models
10. Difference-in-differences
11. Regression Discontinuity Models
12. Matching Models
13. Quantile Regression
14. Instrumental Variables
15. Model validation, meta-analysis], bootstrap
16. Review

## **Seminar Report Guidelines**

Students have the option to substitute attendance to four of the Department of Economics or Department of Finance Research Seminars during the spring semester for writing a term paper. The seminars are generally held on Friday mornings in the Friday Building but early in the semester job candidates are often visiting and therefore many seminars are held on other days. Students who choose this option are required to download the [Seminar Report](#) form from the class moodle site and submit a completed form by the class following the seminar attended as well as sign attendance sheet at the seminar itself.

Students who cannot attend these seminars can substitute a term paper for this portion of the course.

## **Term Paper Guidelines**

Students have the option of writing a short term paper involving econometric analysis. The paper is an opportunity to apply the econometric tools learned in class to a real-world issue chosen by the student. I recommend that you choose a topic in which you are interested but also with a narrow focus. A narrow focus increases the probability that the project will both be completed by semester's end and be of sufficient quality. If you have trouble choosing a paper topic, I can offer suggestions.

I recommend you begin thinking about this project as soon as possible and to avoid putting off writing the paper until the last few days of class. A good strategy is to talk to me about your project early in the semester, to keep in contact with me concerning your data and estimations, and to have me review a rough draft before the final draft is submitted.

The final version of the term paper is due by May 8, 2017 at 5:30 PM EDT.

There are a few guidelines that you must follow:

- Papers should be no more than 12 double-spaced, single-sided pages printed no greater than 12 font;
- Papers should be generally structured in the following manner:
  - Introduction of the economic/econometric problem
  - Brief review of previous literature dealing with your problem
  - Introduction of your econometric model and data including data source(s)
  - Review and interpretation of your estimation results
  - Concluding remarks
  - Reference list
  - Econometric Results in tabular form
  - Figures
- You must provide an electronic form of your data, programs, program output and paper. If I do not receive all required files, you will receive a zero on the term paper.

**Plagiarism: I will not hesitate to initiate academic dishonesty proceedings against anyone who plagiarizes.**