

ECON 3112-002
Econometrics
Fall 2019
TR 1:00pm – 2:15pm
Room: Friday 155

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Office Hours: Tues/Thur: 2:30pm – 4:00pm and by appointment as needed

Text

Wooldridge, Jeffrey M. 2016. *Introductory Econometrics: A Modern Approach, 6th Edition*. Mason, OH: South-Western Cengage Learning. I will be following this (6th) edition of the book in class and for problem sets, but you are welcome to use an earlier version.

Course website

I will post most course related materials to the course Canvas page. These materials include problem sets, project information, and (at least partially complete) lecture notes. However, I cannot guarantee that all information covered in class will be posted (see attendance policy below).

Course Description and Objectives

This course will provide an introduction to the fundamentals of econometrics, aiming to equip students with basic but essential analytic tools widely used in applied econometrics. The goal is to help students understand how to apply these basic techniques themselves to conduct research on business and social issues.

Prerequisites

Students must have completed the following courses with grades of C or above: (ECON 2101 or ECON 1201) and (ECON 2102 or ECON 1202) and (MATH 1120 or MATH 1241 or MATH 1242) and (STAT 1220 or STAT 1221 or STAT 1222) and INFO 2130.

Software

We will use STATA for conducting statistical analysis this course. It is available on all Belk College computers, and accessible via Citrix (instructions for this access will be provided). If you wish to obtain STATA for your own computer you can get a discounted student edition:

<http://www.stata.com/order/new/edu/gradplans/student-pricing/>

(Note: STATA/IC will be sufficient for this course.)

We will meet in the computer lab several times during the semester to learn some of the basics of STATA, but you may also find a website maintained by UCLA helpful; it provides many examples and other resources: <http://www.ats.ucla.edu/stat/stata/>

Attendance

Attendance is strongly encouraged but will not count directly towards the course grade. Students are responsible for all information and materials presented in class. If you must miss a class, you will be responsible for getting notes and any handouts from a classmate.

Grading

Course grades will be based on the number of points you earn on three in-class exams, problem sets, and the course project, weighted as shown below. There will NOT be opportunities for extra credit.

Weights for Final Grade Calculation

Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3	20%
Problem Sets	20%
Project	20%

Scale for Assigning Letter Grades

90% - 100%	A
80% - 89%	B
70% - 79%	C
60% - 69%	D
Below 60%	F

Re-grading: If you would like your exam or problem set re-graded, you must submit a re-grade request in writing within 1 week from when the graded exams or assignments are passed back in class (if you miss this class, your deadline is not extended). Your request must clearly note *where* and *why* you think you deserve additional points. Please note that your entire exam or problem set will be re-graded, so your final score may go up or down.

Problem Sets

I will assign problem sets periodically throughout the semester. The problem sets are designed to strengthen your understanding of the material and will be very helpful in preparing for the exams. No late problem sets will be accepted.

Exams

Each exam could be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. The exams will cover material from the book, lectures, and problem sets. Students should bring pencils to exams. I will provide basic non-graphing calculators for the exams. Students will not be allowed to share calculators, and no other electronics are allowed to be out during exams; this means no cell phones. Missed exams will be given a grade of zero. (Rare exceptions are decided at the discretion of the instructor and will require, at a minimum, advance notice and adequate written documentation.)

Project

The goal of the project is to equip students with the skills to formulate research questions, create a dataset, identify suitable methods for analysis, interpret results, and understand any remaining weaknesses. Details on the course project will be posted later in the semester. The final project is due at 1pm on Tuesday, December 12, in Canvas. No late projects will be accepted.

Course Outline (subject to change)

Exam 1: Tuesday, September 17 (during class time in regular room)

Exam 2: Tuesday, October 22 (during class time in regular room)

Exam 3: Thursday, November 14 (during class time in regular room)

We will meet in the computer lab (Friday 280) instead of the regular classroom on these days:

Thursday, August 29

Thursday, September 12

Thursday, October 17

Tuesday, November 19

Thursday, November 21

Tuesday, December 3

The material we will cover in the text includes at least some parts of the following chapters.

Appendices A, B, C – Review of Basic Math, Statistics, and Probability

Chapter 1 - The Nature of Econometrics and Economic Data

Chapter 2 - The Simple Regression Model

Chapter 3 - Multiple Regression Analysis: Estimation

Chapter 4 - Multiple Regression Analysis: Inference

Chapter 5 - Multiple Regression Analysis: OLS Asymptotics

Chapter 6 - Multiple Regression Analysis: Further Issues

Chapter 7 - Multiple Regression with Qualitative Information: Binary (or dummy) Variables

Chapter 8 - Heteroskedasticity

Chapter 9 - Specification and Data Problems

Chapters 10, 11, 12 - Time Series

Chapter 17 - Binary Choice models (if time permits)

Course Policies

Email communication: Email is the best way to reach me outside of office hours or class time. I will try to respond to your email in a timely manner (within 24 hours), but an immediate response is not guaranteed. Please use appropriate email etiquette in any communication (e.g., include salutation, signature (name), and no abbreviations). For guidance on email etiquette, see <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/636/1/>

Punctuality: I expect you to be on time for class, to complete assignments in a timely manner, and to take exams when scheduled. I will end on time but please do not start packing up until the class is completely done. If you know that you need to leave early, please inform me and sit as close to the door as possible to minimize disruptions.

Learning environment: Please be respectful to your classmates and turn off the ringer on your cell phone and refrain from texting or any other non-coursework related use of your phones, tables, or laptops during class.

Life happens: If you become seriously ill, experience the death of a loved one or have a life altering experience (e.g., divorce) that is negatively influencing your participation in class, please contact me as soon as possible so we can discuss your options. If emergencies arise that require an absence from class, be sure to get the notes and other information that was covered in class from a student you trust. See more on student support services below.

Do your own work! While I have no problem with you working with your classmates to understand the material, please do not turn in answers that are identical (or nearly identical) to anyone else's. See more information on academic (dis)honesty below.

Other Important Reminders

The above is subject to change. The course information outlined in this syllabus may be modified at any time, depending on how the course progresses; any such changes will be clearly communicated by announcements in class and via email.

Academic Honesty. All students are required to read and abide by the Code of Student Academic Integrity. Violations of the Code of Student Academic Integrity, including plagiarism, will result in disciplinary action as provided in the Code. Definitions and examples of plagiarism are set forth in the Code. The Code is available from the Dean of Students Office or online at <http://legal.uncc.edu/policies/up-407>.

As a condition of taking this course, all required papers/projects may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to VeriCite for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the VeriCite reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. No student papers will be submitted to Vericite without a student's written consent and permission. The consent form is available on Canvas. If a student does not provide such written consent and permission, the student will be required to write a short reflection paper on research methodology or an annotated bibliography prior to submission of the final project.

Accommodations for Disabilities. UNC Charlotte is committed to access to education. If you have a disability and need academic accommodations, please provide a letter of accommodation from Disability Services early in the semester. For more information on accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at 704-687-0040 or visit their office in Fretwell 230.

Diversity Statement: 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 socioeconomic status.

Student Support Services: UNC Charlotte has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more. These helpful resources include: (1) University Counseling Center (counselingcenter.uncc.edu, 7-0311); (2) Student Health Center (studenthealth.uncc.edu, 7-7400); or (3) Center for Wellness Promotion (wellness.uncc.edu, 7-7407).

Please be aware that many UNC Charlotte employees, including all faculty members, are considered Responsible Employees who are required to relay any information or reports of sexual misconduct they receive to the Title IX Coordinator. 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 contact any of the above mentioned on-campus resources, who are not required to report the incident to the Title IX Coordinator. Additional information about your options is also available at titleix.uncc.edu under the "Students" tab.