
Course: ECN 425 (SL: 75871) and MAT 394 (SL: 80208)

Term Period: August 20 – December 13**Classroom: BAC 209****Time: TTH 12:15 - 1:30 pm****Office: BAC 679 (Phone: 480-965-6574)****Email: miniahn@asu.edu****Office Hours: TTH 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm****Web: www.public.asu.edu/~miniahn**

Course description

ECN 425 is designed to acquaint you with basic methods of analyzing data. Economists analyze a variety of available data to explain economic phenomena and test economic theories. However, it is impossible to obtain the data that can perfectly explain all the truth. This course is concerned with learning to reach sensible conclusions from an imperfect data set; in other words, we are concerned with statistical inference.

Required Textbook

Stock and Watson: *Introduction to Econometrics*, 2nd ed. (Pearson-Addison Wesley), 2007.

Teaching Assistant

Mr. Marcos Perez

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Course Outline

The schedule listed below is just an estimate. Adjustments, if necessary, may happen during the semester.

1. Introduction: Chapter 1
2. Review of Probability and Statistics: Chapters 2 - 3.
3. Linear Regression with One Regressor: Chapters 4 - 5.
4. Linear Regression with Multiple Regressors: Chapters 6 - 7.
5. Nonlinear Regression Functions, Chapter 8.
6. Internal and External Validity, Chapter 9.
7. Regression with Panel Data: Chapter 10.
8. Regression with a Binary Dependent Variable: Chapter 11.
9. Instrumental Variables Regression: Chapter 12.

Schedule for Examinations

First Mid-term Exam: October 2 (Tuesday), during the regular class time.

Second Mid-term Exam: November 1 (Thursday), during the regular class time.

Final Exam: December 11 (Tuesday), 12:20 pm - 2:10 pm.

Grade:

- (1) Four regular assignments:

The best three of the four assignments count 10% of the final grade. But you must turn in all four assignments. A maximum grade of C will be awarded to those students who choose NOT to complete all four homework assignments. Late turn-in will not be graded unless prior notice is given. The low weight assigned to homework does not mean that it is unimportant. The assignments are intended to encourage group discussions. **To complete each assignment, you can make a group that consists of up to three members.** Each group turns in only one copy of answer sheets.

- (2) One term paper:

You can make a group of up to three members to write a term paper (maximum 10 pages long) including tables, but excluding the list of references. It counts 20% of final grade. Type the paper. (Hand-written papers will not be accepted.) The font size should be 12 or greater. Note that the number of pages is not necessarily correlated with grade. Concise and compact papers are strongly encouraged. The paper is **due 12:15 pm, November 27 (Tuesday)**. For the paper, each group should collect data, analyzes the data using appropriate econometric techniques, and provides correct interpretations of estimation results.

- (3) Three Examinations:

Each of two mid-term exams will count 20%, while the final exam counts 30% of your final grade. The final exam is comprehensive. Make-up exams will not be given to you except under the most extraordinary circumstances. Also, make-up exams will be granted only with prior notice.

Readings:

The lecture will not cover all topics in the textbook. At the same time, some topics in the lecture will not be covered in the book. Therefore, I urge you to participate in the class. You are responsible for all topics covered in class. My lecture notes will be available on the Blackboards of ECN 425 and MAT 394. In addition, I recommend you to visit often the website of the textbook, http://wps.aw.com/aw_stock_ie_2. You can find exercise questions, answers and many other supplementary study-guiding materials.

Eviews:

To complete some assignments and term paper, you need to analyze actual data with statistic software, called Eviews. You can access remotely this software from the W.P. Carey website, using the system called Citrix. You can find Citrix and Eviews tutorials from the blackboards of ECN 425 and MAT 394. For any question related to Citrix and Eviews, contact Mr. Perez. Another tutorial of Eviews can be found from the textbook website.