Econ 570: Economic Applications of Statistical Analysis
UNC at Chapel Hill, Department of Economics
Fall 2013

<u>Instructor Information</u>:

Mike Aguilar

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Office Hours: TBD and by appointment

<u>Class Schedule</u>:

T,R 11:00am-12:15pm Gardner Hall Rm 307

<u>Course Materials</u>:

Required Text: *Introduction to Econometrics* by Christopher Dougherty. 4th ed.

STATA: It is required that you use STATA during this course. You may either purchase a copy (visit http://software.sites.unc.edu/software/, follow to Stata GradPlan, and order a license for Stata/IC 13), access in the campus computing libraries, or connect via the VCL (https://vcl.unc.edu/).

Sakai: Assignments, announcements, grades, readings, and other information will be posted at sakai.unc.edu. Sakai will be the primary method of communication for this course, so please check it frequently.

<u>Course Credit</u>:

Econ 400 is a pre-requisite for this course.

<u>Goal of Course</u>: Econometrics is the application of statistical techniques to answer questions of economic interest. By the end of this course you should have the skills to construct and estimate a statistical model, test the relationships of interest, and interpret the results. We will give equal weight to theory and application by exploring rigorous mathematics and implementation of computational software.

Tentative Course Outline

Week(s)	Topic
1-2	*Probability and Statistics Review*
3-4	*Simple Regression*
5-6	*Multiple Regression*
7	*Nonlinear Models and Transformations*
8-9	*Dummy Variables*
10-11	*Specification of Regression Variables*
12-13	*Heteroscedasticity*
14-15	*Binary Choice*
16	*Stochastic Regressors and Measurement Error*

Grading	% of Course Grade	Date	Details & Policy
Final Exam	(30%)	12/12/2013 12:00pm-3:00pm	Comprehensive exam. Missing the Final Exam without a valid excuse from the Dean will result in a zero exam score.
Midterm	(30%)	10/03/2013	Missing the Midterm without an "excused" absence results in a zero score for that Test. If you miss the Midterm with an "excused" absence, the Final Exam will account for 60% of the course grade.
Homework	(40%)	TBD	There will be several homework assignments throughout the semester. No "make-ups" will be given. If you miss an assignment due to an "excused" absence, your Homework grade will be reweighted among the remaining homework assignments.
Extra Credit	(5pts)	TBD	You may earn up to 5 extra credit points added onto your overall course grade. The opportunities to do so will be presented to you in two ways. First, we will have a series of in-class exercises. Successful completion of these exercises in the allotted time will earn you extra credit points. Second, there will be group exercises, which will consist of very quick in-class presentations on a pre-defined topic. Each group will have two opportunities during the semester to present to the class.

Students associated with Disability Services must contact me one week prior to each Test.

Excused Absences: Illness or participation in University sanctioned activities. Documentation from coach or doctor must be provided. You must fill out the "Excused Absence" form found on the Blackboard site, and turn it in to me as soon as possible.

Letter grades are computed from the total points earned during the semester and assigned based on the scale nearby. There is no maximum number of A's nor B's awarded. However, in previous courses $20\% - 25\%$ of my students have earned in the A range, $30\% - 40\%$ have earned in the B range, and $20\% - 30\%$ have earned in the C range. Although the grade distribution may change this semester, the past scores should give you a sense of my grading standards.

A	$x \geq 95\%$
A-	$90 \leq x < 95$
B+	$85 \leq x < 90$
B	$80 \leq x < 85$
B-	$75 \leq x < 80$
C+	$70 \leq x < 75$
C	$65 \leq x < 70$
C-	$60 \leq x < 65$
D+	$50 \leq x < 60$
D	$40 \leq x < 50$
F	$x < 40$