

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Department of Economics

Fall 2009

**ECO 441: Introduction to Econometrics**

**Professor:** Ozkan Eren

**Class Room:** BEH, 221

**Office:** BEH, 521

**Class Time:** TR, 4.00-5:15 pm

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**Web Site:** <http://faculty.unlv.edu/oeren/>

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 1:00-3:00 pm, Thursday 1:00-3:30 pm or by appointment (please contact me through e-mail to set up an appointment).

**Course Description:** This course is designed to present the basic concepts of econometrics with real life applications. The topics are geared to first time regression analysis users. However, it goes beyond the fundamentals of regression analysis and extends the scope to nonlinear models, limited dependent variable models and instrumental variable estimations.

**Required Materials:**

- *Introduction to Econometrics, James H. Stock and Mark W. Watson, ISBN: 0-321-27887-9*
- *Subscription to STATA statistical package.* This course is registered with the Stata Corporation so that students may order Stata and related documentation online at reduced prices using *GradPlan* program between the dates of 08/25/2009 and 12/18/2009 at [http://www.stata.com/order/new/edu/gradplans/gp2-order\\_p1.html](http://www.stata.com/order/new/edu/gradplans/gp2-order_p1.html). To order at reduced prices, you need to specify the Course ID (password) DA77H. There are many versions of Stata with different capacities. The two less expensive versions are:
  - a) Small Stata software with Getting Started manual (Windows and Macintosh only) \$48.00/annual (capacity: limited to analyzing datasets with a maximum of 99

variables on approximately 1,000 observations. It can have at most 38 right-hand-side variables in a model).

- b) Stata/IC with Getting Started manual (Windows, Macintosh and Linux) \$ 95.00/annual (capacity: allows datasets with as many as 2,047 variables. The number of observations is limited only by the amount of RAM in your computer. It can have at most 798 right-hand-side variables in a model).

**Grading and Course Requirements:** Grades will be based on two midterm exams, a final exam and several problem sets given throughout the semester. Each midterm will count 25% of the course grade. The (comprehensive) final will count for 30%. The remaining 20% of the course grade will be determined by the problem sets. Problem sets and the answer keys will be posted on my webpage. You are encouraged to discuss the problem sets with your classmates; however, you must hand in your own work. Class attendance is not mandatory, but you are responsible for everything that goes on during lectures. No late homework is accepted. No make up exams will be given unless you have the following excuses: sickness supported by an official note from the physician, religious holiday (you must see me at the beginning of the semester), participation of university activities at the request of university authorities or some extreme cases (e.g. accident, death in the family). Otherwise, if you miss an exam, you will receive a score equal to the lowest grade in the class minus fifty points.

Grades are tentatively assigned on the following scale:

Scale	Letter Grade
100-90	A, A-
89-80	B+, B, B-
79-74	C+, C
73-70	C-
69-60	D+, D, D-
Below 60	F

**Schedule:** Tuesday, October 6, 2009: First Midterm  
Monday, November 2, 2009: Last Day to Drop a Course  
Tuesday, November 10, 2009: Second Midterm  
Thursday, November 26, 2009: No Class (Thanksgiving)  
Friday, December 4, 2009 Instruction Ends  
Final Exam (The date will be announced in class)

**I reserve the right to change the exam schedule and course line.**

**Class Conduct:** Each student is expected to contribute and help to maintain a positive classroom environment conducive to learning. Do not socialize or read newspapers during class, and be sure your beepers and cell phones are turned off. If you must arrive late or leave early, inform me in advance and do so quietly.

You are expected to fully comply with the UNLV Honor Code (Student Academic Misconduct Policy). Please make sure to read UNLV's Academic Integrity Misconduct Policy at <http://studentlife.unlv.edu/judicial/misconductPolicy.html>.

**Disability Accommodations:** Documented disability services are available at the Disability Resource Center, Reynolds Student Service Complex, Room 137, 702-895-0652. You can also obtain the relevant information at <http://studentlife.unlv.edu/disability/>.

**Religious Observance:** Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence.

**Excused Absences for University Extracurricular Activities:** Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity should be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination or other missed assignment for making up the work.

**Copyright Policy:** “Using somebody else's work without permission is just not right. Whether it is copying a chapter or two from a book, pirating a video copy of a new movie, or using photographs off the Internet, the copyright of the owner of that material must be protected. Likewise, your work, whether it is a photograph, a monograph, or a pictograph, is protected under the law. Just as you cannot use copyrighted material without permission, somebody else cannot use your material without permission. At the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, however, the bottom line is this: You are wholly responsible for violations of copyright law. The University is in no way liable, even for employee actions. For more information on copyright policy of the university, please refer to: <http://www.unlv.edu/committees/copyright.html/>.

## Course Outline

- 1) Review of Probability (CH 2)
- 2) Review of Statistics (CH 3)
- 3) Linear Regression with One Regressor (CH 4)
- 4) Regression with a Single Regressor: Hypothesis Tests and Confidence Intervals (CH 5)

### **First Midterm** (Tuesday, October 6, 2009)

- 5) Linear Regression with Multiple Regressors (CH 6)
- 6) Hypothesis Tests and Confidence Intervals in Multiple Regression (CH 7)
- 7) Nonlinear Regression Functions (CH 8)

### **Second Midterm** (Tuesday, November 10, 2009)

- 8) Regression with a Binary Dependent Variable (CH 11)
- 9) Instrumental Variables Regression (CH 12)

**Final Exam** (The date will be announced in class)