



Department of Economics Course Outline

Course:	Economics 395 [Use of Statistics in Economics]	Term:	Fall 2010
Lecture Time:	TR 14:00 – 15:15	Section:	03
Lab Times:	Monday 5-6 pm Wednesday 2-3 pm Thursday 2.30-3.30 pm	Place:	Lecture: SA 145 Lab: SS 020
Instructor:	Eugene Choo	Telephone:	(403) 210 9490
Office:	SS 446		
Office Hours:	R 11 – 12pm	E-Mail:	echoo@ucalgary.ca

Textbook(s):

Hill, *Use of Statistics in Economics*, 2009 John Wiley & Sons [**Required Text**]
Lee C. Adkins, R. Carter Hill, *Using Stata For Principles of Econometrics*, 3rd Edition, 2008
John Wiley & Sons [**Required Text**]

Book(s) on Reserve:

R. Carter Hill, William E. Griffiths, and Guay C. Lim, *Principles of Econometrics*, 2008 John Wiley & Sons

Blackboard:

This course will make use of blackboard – students who are registered in the course can logon at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>

Course Outline:

Prerequisites: Econ 201, 203 and Stats 211 or 213.

This course focuses on understanding how statistical tools are used in modeling random phenomena in economics. It builds on the statistics and probability theory presented in Stats 211 or 213. Besides extending the theoretical foundation of statistics, Econ 395 also familiarizes students with the practical application of the regression analysis to problems in economics. The course focuses on the intuition and use of statistical reasoning to answer questions of interest to an economist, the gathering and manipulation of economic data, and the practical use of standard econometric software.

The course is divided into 4 broad segments.

1. **Review of Probability Theory, Estimation and Inference** -
Rules of Probability and Expectation, Conditional and Marginal concepts, the concept of Independence, Random Variables, Sampling Distributions and Inference
2. **Classical Regression Analysis** -
Simple and Multiple Regression, Hypothesis Testing in Regressions
3. **Relaxing classical Assumptions in Regression Analysis** –
Specifications, Omitted Variable and Heteroskedasticity
4. **Data Gathering, Manipulation, Analysis using STATA** -
Searching and downloading economic data, Regression analysis in STATA.

Students MUST attend lab presentations. The course will use software Excel and STATA.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Topic	Units	Grade	
Assignments	6	30%	To be discussed in 1 st lecture
Midterms	2	30%	Dates to be determined in the first week.
Final Examination	(2 Hours)	40%	As scheduled by the Registrar

The format and due dates of the assignments and midterm will be discussed during the first week of classes. Late assignments will not be accepted. Students may work in small groups of 2 students on assignments, and a group file is to be handed in. Students in the group will receive the same mark for that assignment.

Tests and final exams are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, and then converted to letter grades. The course grade is then calculated using the weights indicated above. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+	97 – 100	B+	81 – 85	C+	66– 69	D+	53 – 56
A	90 – 96	B	75 – 80	C	61 - 65	D	49 – 52
A-	86 - 89	B-	70 - 74	C-	57 - 60	F	0 - 48

Programmable calculators are NOT allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations. Non-programmable calculators WILL be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations, but cell-phones are strictly forbidden during the writing of examinations.

No deferred midterm will be given. In case of documented illness or family emergency, the extra weight will be shifted to the final examination. The Instructor should be *notified in advance* if a student will be unable to write a midterm. In any case, documentation must be provided as soon as possible (within a day or so of the missed midterm).

There will be a Registrar scheduled **final examination**, lasting 2 hours, and it may be held in a gym. The FULL COURSE will be covered.

Tests and exams MAY involve multiple choice questions.

Students' Union Vice-President, Academic

Alyssa Stacy

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Students' Union Faculty Representative (Arts)

Phone: 403-220-3913 Office MSC 251

E-mail: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

Society of Undergraduates in Economics (S.U.E.)

E-mail: sue@ucalgary.ca

www.ucalgary.ca/sue/

Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (assignments, midterms, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor *within fifteen* days of the work being returned to the class.
- Midterm tests and the final examination will only be given on the indicated dates, not before.
- Make-up midterm tests/assignments and deferred midterm tests/assignments **will not be given**. In cases of documented illness, documented family emergency, or documented religious observance, extra weight will be given to the final examination.
- It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333
Emergency Assembly Point – Social Sciences Food Court