

Huron University College
Department of Economics
Eco 2222A– Intermediate Econometrics I
Fall 2017
Classroom: V214
Time: Tuesdays 10:30am-11:30am
Thursdays 9:30am-11:30am

Instructor: Dr. Mahdiyeh Entezarkheir

Office: V122

E-Mail: Please send your emails to: prof.mahdiyeh@gmail.com

Phone: 519-438-7224 ext217

Instructor's Office Hours: Thursdays 11:30am to 12:30pm. If this is not conducive to your schedule, please feel free to email me so that we can set up an appointment.

Course Webpage:

<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

Please check announcements of the course in the above address regularly.

Course Description and Objectives

The objective of this course is familiarizing students with descriptive statistics, probability, confidence intervals, tests of hypotheses, and simple and multiple linear regression. Concepts will be explained using examples and problems. There is a large amount of material to cover in this course. I will attempt my best to cover as much as the limited time will permit.

Course Method

This course is designed to introduce students to statistical methods needed in economics. We begin the term with some introduction to data in statistics. We proceed with explaining descriptive statistics such as mode and median. Then, we will move to an introduction on probability and probability distributions. Sampling, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, simple and multiple regressions, and more advanced topics on regression analysis such as heteroskedasticity will be also covered in this course.

In order to help students to develop analytical and quantitative skills to handle economic problems with data analysis, a considerable amount of practice questions will be solve during each lecture.

Prerequisites

Elementary algebra and calculus, Economics 1021A/B and 1022A/B; 0.5 from Mathematics 1225A/B, Mathematics 1230A/B, Calculus 1000A/B and 0.5 from Mathematics 1229A/B, Mathematics 1600A/B, Calculus 1301A/B or Calculus 1501A/B.

Completion

The final grade is a weighted average of the following components:

- Group assignment or individual assignment 30% (Details will be specified in class)
Note: Dependent on the number of students, we might have a poster presentation. In that case 20% will be considered for the poster and its presentation. 10% will be for assignment. More details will be provided in class.
- Midterm, 35% [**October 26** during class time]
- Final exam, 35%
- Group bonus Pop-Quiz (on Top of 100%)

-Assignment (30%)

- Assignments are group assignments.
- Number of students in each group will be decided in class.
- I will group students in alphabetical orders, and I will announce groups on Owl.
- If a student would like to change his or her group and join another group, that student needs to get into a mutual agreement with a student in the other group. Then, both students should email me about their group change. Instructor will not do the negotiations.
- **Any group change must be done by September 28. Changes after this date are not allowed.**
- If a student in a group does not participate, it is the duty of the rest of the group to inform the instructor. How?
 - A student who feels a groupmate is shirking should send an email to that student, **cc me (prof.mahdiyeh@gmail.com)** in that email, and explain the problem to that student **at least a week** before the due date of the assignment.
 - I will also contact that student, and if I am convinced that the suggested student is indeed shirking, I will give that student zero on that assignment.
 - I do not accept any complaint from groupmates after the assignment is submitted.
- Each group will solve the assignment and hand in only one copy, which is typed (not hand-written) and stapled, on the due date of the assignment right in the beginning of the class.
- Late or missed assignment submission for a group results in mark of zero.
- **Duplicate** submission of an assignment will result in the mark of zero for the whole group as it is a waste of time for me.
- Each assignment will be solved in class on the due date. Thus, a late assignment does not make sense.
- **No answer key for assignments** will be posted on-line. It will be solved on the board. Please be in class to get the correct answer.

-Midterm exam (35%)

- Midterm is based on the lectures which will be specified by the instructor.
- The format of the exam will be explained in the class.
- All midterms should be collected within **15** days from the day that marked midterms are returned in class. After 15 days they are shredded.
- Any complaint on the midterm mark should be done within **15** days from the day that marked midterms are returned in class. No complaint on the midterm mark will be considered after this date. Any student that submits a test for remarking should understand that their grade may improve, remain unchanged or perhaps even decrease as a result of the remarking process.
- **No make-up tests will be provided, if a student is absent.** For Academic Accommodation for Medical/Non-Medical Grounds please refer to the appendix that follows this outline. In case a proper documentation is not provided in a timely manner, the student receives no grade on the test and his/her final grade will be computed in accordance with the specified assessment above.
- If a proper documentation is provided, **the grade of the missed test will be prorated to the final exam of the course.**

-Final Exam (35%)

- Final exam will be scheduled by the registrar during the December Examination Period (Dec. 10 -21).
- **The final exam will cover all course material for the whole term.**
- The Registrar's Office will send a final grade to each student.

-Bonus Pop-quiz

- There will be pop-quizzes throughout the term in the class time.
- Each quiz is worth of 1%, and it is a bonus mark on top of 100%.
- Depending on the pace of lectures, there will be around 5 to 10 quizzes. Therefore, be in class not to miss these bonus marks.
- If a student comes to the class after the quiz distribution, that student is more than welcome to join the class but he/she cannot take the quiz.
- If for whatever reason a student misses a quiz, even if he or she has a doctor's note, or any other acceptable reason for being absent, that student will miss the pop quiz mark. Remember this is a bonus mark.
- The mark for the pop quiz will not be provided throughout the term. Please do not ask.

Textbook

Required: Paul Newbold, William Carlson, and Betty Thorne, Statistics for Business and Economics with Student Solutions & MyStatLab RVP.

- The textbook is available at the BookStore at western
- The textbook is accompanied by a student solution manual and MyStatLab.
- Textbook is required as
 - you should read the chapters in advance.
 - you should read specific pages
 - you should solve specific practice questions from the text.

Sources for Practice Questions

- Examples solved during lectures: I will solve practice questions during lectures as much as time permits.
- Sets of practice questions with their solutions are posted on owl.
- Group assignments during the term.
- Bonus pop-quizzes during the term.
- The student solution manual which is accompanied the textbook: This book contains detailed solutions to all even numbered exercises and applications in the textbook.
- MyStatLab which is bundled by your textbook and contains tutorial exercises which are algorithmically generated for unlimited practice. The code for MyStatLab will be posted in Owl.

Tentative Course Schedule

We are going to cover the following topics during lectures, as much as time permits:

- Descriptive Statistics (Chapters 1, 2)
- Introduction to Probability (Chapter 3)
- Probability Distribution (Chapters 4 and 5)
- Sampling and Sampling Distribution (Chapter 6)
- Intervals (Chapters 7 and 8)
- Hypothesis Testing (Chapters 9 and 10)
- Simple Regression (Chapter 11)
- Multiple Regression (Chapter 12)
- Additional Topics in Regression Analysis (Chapter 13)

Lecture Notes and Practice Questions Solved during Lectures:

- I will post lecture slides (if any) before class on **the course webpage for your convenience.**
- These are the lecture notes that I base my lectures on, but of course I elaborate on them in the class. These notes are useful for review, but they are not meant to take the place of lectures. Students who rely on notes only, traditionally do not do well on their exams in my courses.
- Additionally, I solve a lot of practice questions during lectures. To get solutions, students need to be present in the lectures. I do not provide answer key to those questions separately. Please do not ask. Answers will be written by the instructor on the board only.

- Students who are present during lectures and get the written answer on the board for practice questions are more than welcome to ask questions during office hours with regards to those solutions. However, if a student was absent, I do not solve the question for the absent student separately during office hours. Thus, absent students should not expect such a service from the instructor.
- All the materials covered in lectures either on the posted slides or not are in exams.

Communication with the Instructor:

- Please only e-mail the instructor for administrative purposes and please only email to this address:
prof.mahdiveh@gmail.com
- When emailing the instructor, the **subject of the e-mail must contain Econ 2222**. Otherwise, the email will not be considered as I do not know exactly who the sender is.
- I answer your course related questions in person to help you understand better and avoid any miscommunication via email or phone. So use office hours or feel free to make an appointment. I also welcome as many questions as possible during class time.

Note on Recording Lectures and Cell phones:

- Please respect class and your friends and turn off your cell phone during lectures.
- Instructor prohibits recording her lectures and taking pictures from the board.



Appendix to Course Outlines

Prerequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Provost and Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars

Membership in the community of Huron University College and the University of Western Ontario implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. The academic and social privileges granted to each student are conditional upon the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

In the classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Students can avoid any unnecessary disruption of the class by arriving in sufficient time to be seated and ready for the start of the class, by remaining silent while the professor is speaking or another student has the floor, and by taking care of personal needs prior to the start of class. If a student is late, or knows that he/she will have to leave class early, be courteous: sit in an aisle seat and enter and leave quietly.

Please see the *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities* at:

<http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/StudentLifeandSupportServices/StudentDiscipline>

Technology

It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Academic Accommodation for Medical/Non-Medical Grounds

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc

(a) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising

University Senate policy, which can be found at

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf,

requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform_15JUN.pdf.

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

(b) Accommodation on Medical Grounds for assignments worth less than 10% of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly

When seeking accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth less than 10% of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic

advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. The instructor may not collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

(c) Non-medical Grounds: Consult Instructor Directly

Where the grounds for seeking accommodation are not medical, the student should contact the instructor directly. Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor. Apart from the exception noted below, academic advisors will not be involved in the process of accommodation for non-medical reasons.

Where a student seeks accommodation on non-medical grounds where confidentiality is a concern, the student should approach an academic advisor with any documentation available. The advisors will contact the instructor after the student's request is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the challenge without breaching confidence. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified that significant circumstances are affecting or have affected the student's ability to complete work, and the student will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. Before denying a request for accommodation where documentation has been submitted to an academic advisor, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Statement on Academic Integrity

The International Centre for Academic Integrity defines academic integrity as "a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From these values flow principles of behaviour that enable academic communities to translate ideals to action." (CAI Fundamental Values Project, 1999).

A lack of academic integrity is indicated by such behaviours as the following:

- Cheating on tests;
- Fraudulent submissions online;
- Plagiarism in papers submitted (including failure to cite and piecing together unattributed sources);
- Unauthorized resubmission of course work to a different course;
- Helping someone else cheat;
- Unauthorized collaboration;
- Fabrication of results or sources;
- Purchasing work and representing it as one's own.

Academic Integrity: Importance and Impact

Being at university means engaging with a variety of communities in the pursuit and sharing of knowledge and understanding in ways that are clear, respectful, efficient, and productive. University

communities have established norms of academic integrity to ensure responsible, honest, and ethical behavior in the academic work of the university, which is best done when sources of ideas are properly and fully acknowledged and when responsibility for ideas is fully and accurately represented.

In the academic sphere, unacknowledged use of another's work or ideas is not only an offence against the community of scholars and an obstacle to academic productivity. It may also be understood as fraud and may constitute an infringement of legal copyright.

A university is a place for fulfilling one's potential and challenging oneself, and this means rising to challenges rather than finding ways around them. The achievements in an individual's university studies can only be fairly evaluated quantitatively through true and honest representation of the actual learning done by the student. Equity in assessment for all students is ensured through fair representation of the efforts by each.

Acting with integrity at university constitutes a good set of practices for maintaining integrity in later life. Offences against academic integrity are therefore taken very seriously as part of the university's work in preparing students to serve, lead, and innovate in the world at large.

A university degree is a significant investment of an individual's, and the public's, time, energies, and resources in the future, and habits of academic integrity protect that investment by preserving the university's reputation and ensuring public confidence in higher education.

Students found guilty of plagiarism will suffer consequences ranging from a grade reduction to failure in the course to expulsion from the university. In addition, a formal letter documenting the offence will be filed in the Provost and Dean's Office, and this record of the offence will be retained in the Provost and Dean's Office for the duration of the student's academic career at Huron University College.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Policy on Special Needs

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Provost and Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Provost and Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Provost and Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Provost and Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Class Cancellations

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post that information on the Huron website, <http://www.huronuc.ca/AccessibilityInfo> (“Class Cancellations”).

Mental Health @ Western

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Academic Advising

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation [see above], students should contact an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services (huronsss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/AcademicAdvisorsandServices>

Department Chairs and Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about their individual programs. Their contact information can be found on the Huron website at:

<http://www.huronuc.ca/Academics/FacultyofArtsandSocialScience>