

**ECON 120A -- SYLLABUS (Fall 2014)**  
**Foster, UCSD, October 23, 2014**

Teaching Staff and Consultation Hours			
Name/Position	Times	Room	Contact Info
Carroll B. Foster (PhD/Lecturer)	MWF 10 <sup>30</sup> -11 <sup>30</sup> am	Price Center near Tapioca Express	cfoster @ mail.ucsd.edu
Zhenting Sun (25%) Asad Dossani (50%) Peicong Keri Hu (R)	_____ Th, 9 <sup>30</sup> -10 <sup>30</sup> am	ECON 115 ECON 115 n/a	zhs004@ ucsd.edu adossani@ ucsd.edu p5hu@ ucsd.edu
Yann Panassie (37%) Zheng Fang (25%) Sungje Byun (25%)	? 1-2 pm	SEQ 233 SEQ 234 ECON 116	yannp@ ucsd.edu zfang@ ucsd.edu s1byun@ ucsd.edu

Course Information

- Course Title: ECONOMETRICS A [nmax = 300]
- Lectures: MWF, Solís 104  
B00 (814167) -- 8-9 am C00 (814170) -- 9-10 am
- Discussion sections: all in CENTER 109  
B01 -- W, 8-9 pm B02 -- W, 9-10 pm C01 -- F, 2-3 pm C02 -- F 3-4 pm
- Description: Statistics for economists. Probability and sampling theory, statistical inference (estimation and hypothesis testing). Homework uses EXCEL spreadsheets.
- Prerequisites: Math 10C or 20C or 31BH.

Books, Webpage, and Materials

- Wonnacott × 2, *Intro. Statistics for Bus. and Econ.*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. [Bookstore **(optional)**]
- Bernstein, *Against the Gods*, Wiley, 1998. History of probability. [If you are interested]
- Course webpage: <http://ted.ucsd.edu>

Course Outline & Reading List					
Top 1	PRELIMINARIES <sup>1</sup>	Ch. 1	Top 5	USEFUL DISTRIBUTIONS	§4-3, 4-5
Top 2	DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS	Ch. 2	Top 6	SAMPLING DISTRIBUTIONS	Ch. 6
Top 3	PROBABILITY	Ch. 3	Top 7	ESTIMATION	Ch. 7 - 8
Top 4	RANDOM VARIABLES	Ch. 4 - 5	Top 8	HYPOTHESIS TESTING	Ch. 9

Calendar

- Holidays: Tuesday, 11 NOV (Veterans Day); Thursday-Friday, 27-28 NOV (Thanksgiving)
- Midterm: B00 and C00 -- Friday, 7 NOV (in class)
- Final:  
B00 -- Monday 15 DEC, 8-11 am \_\_\_\_\_  
C00 -- Wednesday 17 DEC, 8-11 am \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>1</sup> Much of this will be introduced in the first two discussion sections.

Examinations and Grading

- Exams are open notes/closed book; calculator required. Bring stat tables (at TED).
- Midterm = 90 points; cumulative final = 300; graded homework = 10 (adjusted).
- No bathroom breaks during midterms. One person at a time during finals; you leave your paper with a TA before leaving the room.
- Late homework penalty = 1/2 score. No papers accepted after answers posted, nor via e-mail.
- Regrade period for midterm and homeworks is 1 week after papers first returned in class.
- If you arrive late to an exam, I will allow you to take the exam in the time that remains *as long as no one has turned in an exam and left the room*. Once a paper has been turned in, you will get a zero if you arrive late.
- No rescheduled or make-up exams. You MUST take the final with the rest of the class on schedule during finals week. (Make travel/wedding plans accordingly, and if you will have too many finals on one day, drop one of the courses.) If you miss the midterm for a verifiable medical, legal or sports reason, your midterm grade will be your grade on the final. Notify me promptly that you will miss the midterm or you get a zero. Unexcused absences also result in a zero.

About Cheating

1. There is a LOT of it at UCSD (9 cases on my Winter 2014 Ec 120C midterm, for example).
2. I hate it!
3. I routinely give multiple versions of tests. Only the TAs know which version you have.
4. If I suspect a violation of academic integrity, I withhold your score and/or grade and send your paper to AIC for resolution. AIC will contact you and tell you what to do.
5. If you are found guilty by AIC, they will impose penalties, and I will give you an F in the course.

Honors Sections

There is an honors section (Econ 120AH) for this class every Fall Term. It involves an extra unit and is capped at 20 students, so you can explore the material in greater depth and work more closely with your instructor. If you have been an A student in calculus and principles of economics, enrolling in the honors section is highly recommended.