Instructor: Grace Yan Li
Spring Quarter 2007
**Class Meets: TTh 11:00 – 12:20 pm**
**Pepper Canyon 109**

Office: 114 Economics
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Office Hours:    Tue 9:30 pm – 10:30 am

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## ECONOMETRICS 120A

### Course Description
As the first of the econometrics sequence, this course introduces students to the science of statistics. It is designed to provide students with building blocks necessary to construct rigorous econometric analysis. These building blocks include basic statistics, probability rules, and the formal methods used by statistician to learn about the real world from the data.

### Course Materials
Wonnacott, T.H. and R.J. Wonnacott, (1990) Introductory Statistics for Business and Economics, Fourth Edition, John Wiley and Sons: New York. Chapters: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

### Grading:
Your grade will be based on 1) homework assignments, 2) Midterm Exams, and 3) Final Exam
Homework assignment: probably 4.
Two midterm examinations: **April 24th** and **May 17th** in class.
Final exam: **June 12th (11:30 am - 2:30 pm).**

Final score one: homework (20%) + First Midterm (20%) + Second Midterm (20%) + Final Exam (40%)
Final score two: homework (20%) + Best Midterm (20%) + Final Exam (60%)
Final grade will be based on the higher of the two numbers.

### Exam policies
- You will only need a pen or pencil, and a simple calculator for exams. Exams are close book and you might not use notes. No headphones, cell phones etc. are to be used in any manner during an exam.
- If you arrive late to an exam, you can take the exam in the time that remains as long as no one has turned in his/her exam and left the room. If a classmate has already turned in his/her exam and you arrive later, you will earn a zero on the test.
- All grading problems (exams and problem sets) must be rectified within a week my returning the work. There will be no regrading of exams written in pencil.
- No makeup midterm exams. A missed midterm exam automatically commits a student to the second option (Final score two).
- Makeup final exams will only be given if absence is due to medical reasons (doctors certificate required). Makeup exams will be at least as difficult as the regular exam, most likely harder.

**WebCT:** A course webpage is available at http://webct.ucsd.edu. This is where you access the syllabus, class handouts, a discussion board, your grades, homework assignments, answer key, etc. Please check this page regularly.

## Requirements

- Regular class attendance. You should come to every class (lecture and discussion sessions). If you should miss a class, it is your responsibility to get notes or any possible handout or problem assignment.
- Come to class prepared: You should always review your notes from the last lecture.
- You are encouraged to discuss the homework problems with other students. However, do turn in your own version of the answers.
- Turn in your homework on time. Assignments are due at 12:30 pm on the day specified. You can hand in the homework at the end of class, please do not interrupt class or come to my office to hand in assignments. The answer key will be immediately posted on the web, so late assignments will not be accepted.

## Some Suggestions

- Form a study group with one or two other students in the class.
- Take lecture notes and complete the missing details.
- Statistics is palatable in small doses. Small amounts of effort on a regular basis will be more effective than spending sleepless nights just before an exam.
- Writing down what you learn and doing problems on your own are very important. Reading the lecture or text material over and over again will probably not be sufficient.
- Bring any difficulties to the attention of the TA or instructor promptly.

**Disability:** If you have a documented disability, please bring your documentation and come to talk to me as soon as possible so that I can make suitable accommodations for you. If you believe that you may have a disability and will desire accommodation, please register with the Office for Students with Disabilities, Building 202 University Center as soon as possible. For information on the steps for academic accommodation, please see http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app3.htm.

**Tentative Schedule (exam dates will not change)**

| Week | Days | Topic | Textbook Chapter |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | April 3rd | Nature of Statistics | 1 |
|   | April 5th | Descriptive Statistics: center, spread | 2 |
| 2 | April 10th | Descriptive Statistics: Excel, transformations, graphs | 2 |
|   | April 12th | Basic Probability | 3 |
| 3 | April 17th | Basic Probability | 3 |
|   | April 19th | Probability Distributions: discrete random variables | 4 |
| 4 | April 24th | **First Midterm Examination** | 1-3, part of 4 |
|   | April 26th | Probability Distributions: continuous random variables | 4 |
| 5 | May 1st | Two Random Variables | 5 |
|   | May 3rd | Two Random Variables | |
| 6 | May 8th | Sampling | 6 |
|   | May 10th | Sampling | |
| 7 | May 15th | Point Estimation | 7 |
|   | May 17th | **Second Midterm Examination** | 4-6, part of 7 |
| 8 | May 22nd | Point Estimation | 7 |
|   | May 24th | Hypothesis Testing | 9 |
| 9 | May 29th | Hypothesis Testing | 9 |
|   | May 31st | Confidence Intervals | |
| 10 | June 5th | Confidence Intervals | 8 |
|   | June 7th | Confidence Intervals | |
| 11 | June 12th | **Final Exam (11:30 am - 2:30 pm)** | |