

Economics 120C – Econometrics
Spring 2009
MWF 1:00 – 1:50 pm, Center Hall 101

Instructor

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Office Hours: Mon, Wed 9-30 – 10:30 am, Mon 2:30 - 4:30 pm
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Teaching Assistants

Jung, Heea hej001@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Fri 2:00-3:30 pm (Sequoyah Hall 227)

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Office Hours: Thu 10:00 – 11:30 am (Sequoyah Hall 205)

Shin, Ji Yong y0shin@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Tue 5:00 – 6:30 pm (Economics 114)

Song, Suyong s7song@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Thu 3:30 – 5:00 pm (Economics 119)

Discussion Sections

Tuesday 7:00 – 7:50 pm, Center Hall 101
Tuesday 8:00 – 8:50 pm, Solis Hall 107

Econ 120C - Econometrics C

Course Description

The objective of Econ 120C is to provide you with knowledge of econometrics in theory and applications. By the end of the course, you should be skilled users of basic econometric methods and critical interpreters of empirical studies.

Course Materials

Required Textbook: “Introduction to Econometrics” by James H. Stock and Mark W. Watson, 2nd edition.
Chapters to be covered: 8, 10, 11, 12, and 14.

Required Software: The software for this course is STATA (www.stata.com). Students can use STATA in the computer lab in Economics Building #100, and in other computer labs on campus. Microsoft Excel may also be used to do basic regression analysis. Do not use other software packages.

Course Web Page

A course webpage is available at <http://webct.ucsd.edu>.

It will include information relevant to the course, such as announcements, homework assignments, practice problem sets, solutions, syllabus, schedule and more. You should check this page regularly.

Lectures and Discussion Sections

It is important to come to every lecture. If you should miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the notes and any information provided in class. There are two weekly discussion sections for this course. You may attend either section as suits your schedule. The discussion sections are not mandatory. However, you are **strongly recommended** to attend them since the TAs will go over practice problems, the kind of problems you may encounter on exams. You will also be able to ask the TA any question about the material covered in the lectures during these discussion sections. The first discussion section will take place April 7th.

Homework

There will be three homework assignments in this course. You will be required to use Stata to complete them. They will be graded on effort, not on the correctness of answers. If you honestly attempt all the questions in the homework, you will get 100%. Complete all your homework assignments on your own. Remember, homework is assigned to assist you in learning the software and at the same time it is a good check of your understanding of the statistical and econometrical concepts taught in class.

Grading

20% Homework Assignments
35% Midterm Exam
45% Final Exam

The midterm examination is scheduled to **Friday, May 8th**, at lecture time. The final exam will take place on **Thursday, June 11th** from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm and will be cumulative. The dates for the exams are not negotiable. There are no make up exams. If you miss a midterm for a justifiable and verifiable medical/legal reason, your midterm grade will be your grade on the final. Otherwise you will receive a zero, no exceptions!!

The overall course grade, computed using the weights specified above, will be curved. In general, the class average corresponds to the lowest B-.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty will be treated in this course as a serious violation of university rules. As stated in the UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship: *"Integrity of scholarship is essential for an academic community. The University expects that both faculty and students will honor this principle and in so doing protect the validity of University intellectual work. For students, this means that all academic work will be done by the individual to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind."* You can find information on the university's policy on academic integrity at this website: <http://www.ucsd.edu/current-students/academics/academic-integrity/index.html>.

Honors Section

A small number of students in the course are also enrolled in an honors section with carries an additional unit of credit. Students in the honors section will be required to conduct an empirical analysis using one of the methods covered in the Econ 120 course sequence. The results of the analysis must be written in a short paper. At the end of the quarter, honor section students will present their papers to each other. If you are enrolled in the honors section, you can visit the additional course webpage available at <http://webct.ucsd.edu>, by selecting Econ 120CH.

Tentative Schedule (exams dates will not change)

Days	Topic	Textbook Chapter
Apr 1 st - Apr 3 rd	Review (Central Limit Theorem, Sampling Distribution, Correlation and Causality)	1-3
Apr 6 th - Apr 10 th	Nonlinear Regression Functions	8
Apr 13 th - Apr 15 th April 17 th	Nonlinear Regression Functions Discrete Choice Models	8 11
Apr 20 th - Apr 24 th	Discrete Choice Models	11
Apr 27 th - May 1 st	Instrumental Variables Regression	12
May 4 th - May 6 th Fri May 8th	Instrumental Variables Regression Midterm Examination	12 8, 11 and 12
May 11 th - May 15 th	Regression with Panel Data	10
May 18 th - May 20 th May 22 nd	Regression with Panel Data Time Series Regression	10 14
May 27 th - May 29 th	Time Series Regression	14
Jun 1 st - Jun 5 th	Time Series Regression	14
Thu Jun 11th 11:30 am - 2:30 pm	Final Examination	8, 10, 11, 12 and 14