ECON 178 – ECONOMIC & BUSINESS FORECASTING
SYLLABUS (FOSTER -- SPRING 2010)

Teaching Staff and Consultation Hours			
Name/Position	**Times**	**Room**	**Contact Info**
Carroll B. Foster (PhD/Instructor)	MWF, 10-11 am	Price Center East	cfoster@ ucsd.edu
Ayelen Banegas	Th, 3-5 pm	SEQ 224	mbanegas@ ucsd.edu

Course Information

- Lecture: (ID = 679355), MWF, 8-8^{50} am, CSB 001.
- Description: Intro to forecasting (including simultaneous-equation and Box-Jenkins methods). used for sales/marketing forecasts and macroeconomic policy simulation. Homework assignments use STATA program.
- Prerequisite: Econ 120C.
- Course webpage: *http://webct.ucsd.edu*

Books and Materials

- Bowerman/O'Connell/Koehler, *F'casting, Time Series and Regression*, 4th ed. (2005). [Bookstore]
- Stock/Watson, *Intro to Econometrics*, custom or 2nd ed. (2007). [From Ec 120C]
- Enders, *Applied Econometric Time Series*, Wiley (1995). [Graduate level for those interested]

Calendar

- Change grade option or drop w/o "W" thru F, 23 APR; drop w/o "F" thru F, 28 MAY
- Holidays: Monday, 31 MAY (Memorial Day)
- Midterm Exam: Wednesday, 5 MAY, in class
- Final Exam: Friday, 11 JUN, 8-11 am, CSB 001

Examinations and Grading

Midterm = 100 points; cumulative final = 290; homework = 10 (adjusted). Exams open book and notes. Regrade 1 week after papers returned. Late penalty = 1/2 score.[1] No make-up exams.[2]

COURSE OUTLINE/READING LIST		Bowerman *et. al.*	Stock/Watson
Top 1	BASIC CONCEPTS	ch. 1-2	§9.3
Top 2	SMOOTHING & TRENDS	§6.1, 6.5; §8.1, 8.3	
Top 3	SEASONAL MODELS	§4.5, 4.10; §6.3 - 6.4; ch. 7; §8.4 – 8.6	§7.1 - 7.2
Top 4	FORECAST ACCURACY	§4.4; ch. 5; §8.2, 8.5 - 8.6	§6.4
Top 5-7	ARIMA I - III	§6.2, 6.6; ch. 9-10	Ch. 14
Top 8	SYSTEM SIMULATION & VAR		Ch. 16

[1] Take early papers to SEQ 245. No paper accepted after answers are posted, and none via e-mail.
[2] Please note that you MUST take the final with the rest of the class on schedule on the last day of finals week. (Make your travel and wedding plans accordingly!)