

York University

Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Department of Economics Fall 2019

Course # and Title

AP/ECON 3210 B: Use of Economic Data

Course Webpage

<https://moodle.yorku.ca/>

Course Instructor/Contact

Name: Laura Salisbury
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Office Hours: M,T,W: 2:30-3:30
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Lecture Time and Location

Time: T 11:30-2:30
Location: CLH-H

Prerequisite / Co-requisite

AP/ECON 2500 3.00 or equivalent. Note: No credit will be retained for this course for students who have successfully completed or who are currently enrolled in AP/ECON 4210 3.00. Course credit exclusions: HH/PSYC 3030 6.00, SC/MATH 3330 3.00. Note: Acceptable course substitutes are available in the Calendar.

Course Description

Introduces the theory and practice of empirical analysis of economic models. Develops tools to estimate economic relationships involving two or more variables and to test their significance. Relies on the use of Canadian data sets and statistical software packages to show how linear regression analysis is applied.

Weighting of Course

Course grades will be based on two assignments, online quizzes, a midterm exam, and a final exam. The assignments will collectively be worth 20% of your final grade, and the quizzes will

be worth 5%. The remaining portion of your grade will be calculated as follows: if your midterm score is higher than your final score, the midterm will be worth 25% and the final will be worth 50%. If your final score is higher than your midterm score, the final will be worth 75%. The midterm will be held on **October 8th** during class time. The date of the final exam is TBD.

Missed Exams

There will be no make-up for the midterm exam. If a student misses the midterm for any reason, the final exam will simply be worth 75% of the final grade. A deferral for the final exam will be granted **for reasons deemed acceptable by me**. In such cases students, should submit a deferred exam application together with the supporting documents (e.g. attending physician's statement) to the economics department to my attention. The date and time of the deferred exam will be set at a later date. Students who may require further extensions or accommodation will have to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

Quizzes

I will post 5 short quizzes to moodle over the course of the semester. You will have one week to complete them. You will get substantial credit for making an attempt, even if you do not get the right answer. These quizzes are largely for your benefit. Please use them to check in with your understanding of the material.

Assignments

You will complete two assignments for credit.

The first is a note taking assignment. You will do this in groups of two or three. You will sign up to take notes on one lecture, which the members of your group will collaborate on. I anticipate 3 or 4 groups taking notes on each class. You will submit an electronic copy of your notes to me within **one week** of your chosen class. **If I do not receive your notes within a week of your chosen class, you will receive a grade of zero.** I will choose one set of notes to post on moodle for the rest of the class to have access to. The note taking assignment will be worth 5% of your final grade. **If your group's notes are selected for posting, you will receive a one percentage point bonus on your final course grade.**

The second assignment will involve analyzing data with statistical software. We will build a dataset as a class – I will distribute a questionnaire to you at the beginning of the course (with questions based on the Canadian Census), which you will distribute to two people, and then submit their responses to me. I will compile responses into a single dataset. You will use this dataset to answer a series of questions that I will distribute to you midway through the course. The assignment is due on **November 19th**. I will accept late assignments with a nominal late penalty until the last day of classes (**December 3rd**). You may work in groups of up to three people. This assignment will be worth 15% of your final course grade; you will receive credit for submitting answers to the questionnaire, as well as for the answers to the assignment.

Problem Sets (ungraded)

In addition to assignments, I will post problem sets on the course website, which will not be graded, but are intended to prepare you for the midterm and final exams.

Grading

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.). I reserve the right to make adjustments to the grading scheme as required.

Course Text / Readings

The (required) text for the course is **Principles of Econometrics, 5th Edition**, by **R. Carter Hill, William E. Griffiths, and Guay C. Lim**

Statistical Software

You will need to use statistical software to complete your assignments. We will use R, which is an open-source software that can be downloaded free of charge here: <https://www.r-project.org/>. We will spend some class time working with this software, so do not fear if you have never used it before. I will post supporting material on the course website.

Important Course Information for Students

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage;

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/index-policies.html/>

- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

Course Outline and Approximate Schedule

Dates	Topics	Required Reading
Sep 10 th	Introduction to Econometrics; Probability Primer	Chapter 1
Sep 17 th	Simple Linear Regression Model	Chapter 2
Sep 24 th	Interval Estimation and Hypothesis Testing	Chapter 3
Oct 1 st	Interval Estimation and Hypothesis Testing, cont'd	(Chapter 3, cont'd)
Oct 8 th	Midterm Exam	
Oct 15 th	Reading Week – No Class	
Oct 22 nd	Prediction, Goodness-of-Fit, and Modeling Issues	Chapter 4
Oct 29 th	Multiple Regression	Chapter 5
Nov 5 th	Multiple Regression, cont'd	(Chapter 5, cont'd)
Nov 12 th	Further Inference in the Multiple Regression Model	Chapter 6
Nov 19 th	Further Inference in the Multiple Regression Model, cont'd <i>R assignment due</i>	(Chapter 6, cont'd)
Nov 26 th	Using Indicator Variables	Chapter 7
Dec 3 rd	Final Exam Review	