

Faculty Liberal Arts and Professional Studies
Department of Economics

Course AP/ECON 3210 3.0, Section O - Use of Economic Data

Term: Winter 2022

Prerequisite / Co-requisite: Econ 2500

Please note that this is an online course. The course material will be posted on Moodle, the lectures and office hours will be held on Zoom.

Course Instructor

Xianghong Li

416-736-2100 Ext. 77036

1068 Vari Hall

xli@yorku.ca

Lectures:

Tuesday & Thursday 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Zoom invitation link: <https://yorku.zoom.us/j/92635253573>

Office Hours:

Thursday 8:00pm – 9:10pm

Zoom invitation link: <https://yorku.zoom.us/j/98794181399>

There are two individual meeting slots, 8:00pm to 8:20pm, every Thursday. If you would like to have a one-on-one meeting with the instructor, please sign up on Moodle to schedule a 10-minute individual appointment on Zoom. If these time slots are not taken, they become available for all students.

Email Policy: Only administrative questions will be answered by email. For course content related questions, please come to my virtual office hours or ask in class (usually the beginning or the end of a class will be good time to fit in questions).

Course Announcements: Weekly update will be sent on Friday. Additional message may be sent out during the week if there is an important course announcement. You are responsible to follow course announcements closely.

Course Description:

This course introduces students to economic data analysis. Topics include economic data, descriptive analysis, and linear regression models. The primary emphasis of the course will be on linear model specification, estimation, and interpretation of regression results. Skills of utilizing one regression software package are required. STATA is the recommended package, and it will be the package used in class. Limited support (key commands) will be provided for an alternative package R, which is a free download software package. You need to use a software package for practice problems, tests, and exams.

STATA software:

<https://www.stata.com/order/new/edu/profplus/student-pricing/>

Recommended license: STATA/BE for student single-user

Textbook:

Jeffrey Wooldridge, Introductory Econometrics A Modern Approach, 7th edition (older editions are acceptable)

Detailed course coverage is posted on Moodle

Practice Problems: Practice problems by chapter will be posted on Moodle. You should work on them to keep up with the course. These practice problems are intended for learning and are not to be submitted. Solutions will be provided. It is very important for you to solve those problems before checking the solutions.

Term Tests:

Over the term, there will be three types of tests, in-class pop quizzes, midterm exam, and final exam. Pop quizzes are given to help you maintaining routine after-class review and keeping up with the course. Time of quizzes will not be announced. Midterm will cover the first half of the course material. The final will be comprehensive with more emphasis on the second half of the course material.

This is an online course with all exams held on Moodle. For each exam, you need

1. Computer
2. Pen/Pencil
3. Camera
4. White paper (dark paper making handwriting or drawing hard to read)

You need a computer with a RELIABLE internet connection for exam-taking. Phones and tablets WILL NOT WORK. Exam-taking also requires a camera to take pictures of your handwriting solutions. Given your devices and settings, you need to find out a reliable and time-saving method of transferring pictures from your camera device to computer and finally uploading into the Moodle quiz system. A video demonstration is provided on Moodle - How to Handle Problem-Solving Questions in Moodle. A trial module, Test Module - Problem- Solving Questions, is available for you to streamline your submission process of problem-solving questions. This test module stays open until the end of the term.

To protect academic integrity, the following rules will be enforced without exception.

Exam Rules:

1. Although all exams are open book and open notes, independent work is required. All instances of academic dishonesty in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities and can be punishable according to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty.
2. Student participation in a test hampered by technical issues such as internet interruption, computer malfunction, or power outage will be treated as a missed test (see the course outline regarding missed quiz and midterm).
3. There are two types of questions in tests, problem-solving and multiple-choice. If you need clarifications regarding problem-solving questions during a test, please email me (xli@yorku.ca) and make sure you copy the first sentence of the question at the beginning of your email. Due

to the double shuffling setting (both order of questions and order of choices shuffled), questions regarding the multiple-choice section cannot not be answered during a test.

4. For the problem-solving questions, you may choose to type your answer in the text box provided by Moodle, and/or upload handwriting or hand drawing images. Typed answer in an uploaded file is not acceptable and will receive zero mark.
5. Acceptable image file types include PDF and all commonly used image file types accommodated by the Moodle Quiz system (max file size 100MB). Budget extra time for file uploading.
6. No email submission will be accepted for ALL QUIZZES.
7. For the midterm and final exams, the problem-solving Section comes before the multiple-choice Section. If you encounter a technical issue, images of handwriting answers to problem-solving questions can only be accepted by email (xli@yorku.ca) before the pre-announced deadline, for example 20 minutes before the exam ends, to reflect the sequential navigation constraint of the whole exam.

Term Test Re-grade:

You may submit a request to have your term tests re-check or final exam re-grade. Quiz and midterm re-check requests need to be sent within one week of grade release. In your email request, you must identify the questions and the possible errors and/or omissions.

Re-grading of your test will be done in a manner consistent with the rest of the class. A re-check or re-grade may result in a raised mark, lowered mark or no change. In the process, the instructor has the authority to re-grade other questions on the exam if they find it necessary to do so.

Midterm: March 3rd in class

Final: TBA

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.). Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.

Evaluation Weighting Scheme

In-Class Pop Quizzes	40%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

Missed Tests

Given the current situation of the ongoing pandemic, if you miss a quiz or midterm exam, there is NO need to submit a document. There will be no make-ups for the quizzes and midterm exam. The weight of a missed midterm will be shifted to the final exam. Up to half of the quiz weight can be shifted to the final exam. All the weighting adjustment will be applied automatically without a request.

If you decide to request for a deferred standing for the final exam, please check the department rules. The students who have been granted a deferred exam will be notified the date and time of the deferred exam at a later date. Students who may require further extensions or accommodation will have to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

Hardware and software requirements

Softwares: Zoom & Moodle

Hardware:

You will need a stable Internet connection for lectures and office hours. If relying on a computer, a microphone is needed for participation.

You need a computer with a RELIABLE internet connection for exam-taking. Phones and tablets WILL NOT WORK. Exam-taking also requires a camera to take pictures of your handwriting solutions.

Here are some useful links for student computing information, resources and help:

[Student Guide to Moodle](#)

[Zoom@YorkU Best Practices](#)

[Zoom@YorkU User Reference Guide](#)

[Computing for Students Website](#)

[Student Guide to eLearning at York University](#)

To determine Internet connection and speed, there are online tests, such as [Speedtest](#), that can be run.

Academic honesty and integrity

In this course, we strive to maintain academic integrity to the highest extent possible. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing SPARK's [Academic Integrity module](#) at the beginning of the course. Breaches of academic integrity range from cheating to plagiarism (i.e., the improper crediting of another's work, the representation of another's ideas as your own, etc.). All instances of academic dishonesty in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities, and can be punishable according to the [Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

The following declaration is from the Economics Department.

Private Third-Party Tutoring Companies, Academic Honesty and Support Resources

Many private, third-party tutoring companies advertise their services to YorkU students. One way you can help eliminate these advertisements is by changing your eClass profile settings to private (see instructions below). Some of these private companies claim to be affiliated with, or recognized and supported by, York University. Some also claim to help you by providing you with quiz and test answers, suggesting that this practice is safe and permitted by York. These claims are not true. York University has not officially recognized or endorsed any third-party tutoring service. When you are provided with quiz, test and exam answers, you run the risk of violating the [university's academic honesty policy](#). Students have been caught using these services to cheat and gain unfair advantage over honest students. The cheating students and "tutors" have received academic dishonesty punishments ranging from failing courses, to being expelled, to losing their YorkU degrees. Officially supported resources to help students learn course material will be provided by YorkU officials, such as your professors and your department. These services are offered at no cost to you as a student. Your professor will likely provide weekly office help hours to meet with students and if you are a first- or second-year student and would like help with course material, make sure you join one of our weekly [Peer Assisted Study Sessions \(PASS\)](#). If you require help with any of your numeracy-related courses that involve math, statistics or Excel, drop in online to meet with one of our peer tutors at the [Student Numeracy Assistance Centre at Keele \(SNACK\)](#). If you are ever unsure of whether a resource is

allowable or endorsed by YorkU, please feel free to email the Department of Economics at lapsecon@yorku.ca and they would be happy let you know.

To hide your email address in eClass: Step1: Click your name on the top-right of the eClass website, then click "Profile" on the drop-down menu; Step 2: Under "User details" click "Edit profile"; Step 3: From the "Email display" drop-down menu choose "Hide my email address from non-privileged users"; Step 4: Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the "Update profile" button.

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) - <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/>

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the 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

Add/Drop Deadlines

	FALL (TERM F)	YEAR (TERM Y)	WINTER (TERM W)
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 21	Sept. 21	Jan. 23
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 5	Oct. 26	Feb. 7
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 12	Feb. 11	March 18
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript)	Nov. 13 - Dec. 7	Feb. 12 - April 10	March 19 - April 10