

## Economics 395(L01) Use of Statistics in Economics

Instructor:	Dr. L. Vojtassak	Lecture Location:	ST 126
Phone:	403 220 6550	Lecture Days/Time:	TR 08:00 – 10:45
Email:	<a href="mailto:vojtass@ucalgary.ca">vojtass@ucalgary.ca</a>	Lab Location:	SS 020
		Lab Days/Time:	TR 10:55 – 11:45
Office:	SS 336		
Office Hours:	T 12:00 – 12:50	Spring 2016	

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Congress Conference is during May 26 – June 5, 2016 – NO CLASSES

### Course Description

The use of statistical principles in economics. Topics include: the gathering of economic data; basic data manipulation and hypothesis testing; and the statistical estimation of economic relationships. The two-variable and multivariate linear regression model is introduced. The core of this course comprises summarizing and doing basic inference based on the principles from Random Variables, Expectation Theory, Probability Distributions, Hypothesis Testing and the Two-Variable and Multi-Variable Linear Regression Model.

Laboratory: Quantitative analysis using standard statistical software, Stata

### Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

Building on the fundamental mechanics of statistics and probability as presented in Stats 211 or 213, Econ 395 students will become familiar with the empirical application of statistical principles to problems of measurement in economics. The course focuses on the intuition and application of statistical reasoning, the gathering and manipulation of economic data, and the use of standard econometric software.

### Prerequisites/corequisites

Economics 201, Economics 203, Statistics 205, 211 or 213.

### Required Textbook(s)

Pedace, *Econometrics for Dummies*, 2013 John Wiley & Sons

### Reserved Readings

Pedace, *Econometrics for Dummies*, 2013 John Wiley & Sons

*Statistics for Management and Economics*, 8th Edition, Keller.

*Principles of Econometrics*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Hill, Griffith, Lim.

*Using Stata for Principles of Econometrics*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Adkins, Hill.

**Course Requirements/Assessments:**

Students MUST attend lab presentations. The course will use software Excel and Stata.

Midterm Examination	<b>35%</b>	June 16, 2016 Session in class
5 Assignments (4 best count)	<b>20%</b>	Due dates: Tuesdays May 24, 2016 June 7, 2016 June 14, 2016 June 21, 2016 June 28, 2016
		All assignments are due at the beginning of class!
Final Examination	<u><b>45%</b></u>	
	<b>100%</b>	

**Desire2Learn**

This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

**Grade Determination and Final Examination Details**

Department of Economics Criteria for Letter Grades. Economics professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

Grade	Grade Point Value	Description	Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	4.00	Outstanding	C+	2.30	
A	4.00	Excellent-superior performance, showing-comprehensive understanding of subject matter	C	2.00	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70		C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation. (See individual undergraduate faculty regulations.)
B+	3.30		D+	1.00	
B	3.00	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.	D	1.00	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
B-	2.70		F	0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements
			I	0	Incomplete – unsatisfactory (effective January 2007)

**Grading Scale**

A+	95 – 100	B	73 – 76	C-	60 – 62
A	85 – 94	B-	70 – 72	D+	56 – 59
A-	80 – 84	C+	67 – 69	D	50 – 55
B+	77 – 79	C	63 – 66	F	0 – 49

Tests and final exams are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, then converted to letter grades. The course grade is then calculated using the weights indicated above.

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

**Assignments**

1. Assignments are to be submitted at the beginning of class on the date due. In exceptional cases they may be handed in before that date to the instructor personally. Answers to assignments will be either discussed in class shortly after each assignment falls due or posted on the D2L. For this reason late assignments will be given a score of zero, although you may still wish to have the work corrected and returned without a score being recorded. Please do not slide assignment under my office door – they will not be marked.
2. Students are encouraged to discuss the assignments with their classmates. Students may work in small groups of 2 students on assignments, and a group file is to be handed in.

**Examinations**

1. Test and exams will not consist of the multiple-choice questions.
2. The midterm examination will be held in classroom during regular lecture hours and will last 90 minutes.
3. There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination, lasting 2 hours. It will be a comprehensive examination of all-material covered in the course.
4. The exam must be completed during the specified time. Extra time will not be given for any reason.
5. All examinations will be closed-book.
6. Deferred examinations will not be given except in the case of the Final Examination, where this possibility is provided for in the university's Academic Regulations.
7. THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED EXAMS under any circumstances, nor may the exams be written early. Students unable to write the exams because of documented illness, family emergency, religious observance, or university-sanctioned event will have the weight shifted to the final examination; otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam [www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred\\_final](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final)

Under no circumstance will this be accommodated by the department. Any student who finds it necessary to miss the midterm must notify the instructor in advance and produce a valid medical certificate or other required documentation in order to have the weighting adjusted. This adjustment will result in the final exam counting for 80% of the final grade and the assignments counting for 20% of the final grade.

8. Examinations will not be given before the indicated examination date. For further information see the 2015-2016 Calendar.
9. The use of a simple calculator during test and examination is permitted. The use of graphing calculators, cell phones, and computers is not permitted.

### Reappraisal of Grades

**For reappraisal of graded term work, see Calendar I.2**

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

**For reappraisal of final grade, see Calendar I.3**

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 7 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 7 days. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 7 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 7 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

### Notes

1. Students should be aware of the academic regulations outlined in The University of Calgary Calendar.
2. **The use of cell phones for any purpose in class is prohibited. Computers may be used for note-taking purposes only.**
3. Students will be responsible for all material listed on the course outline, regardless of whether or not the material has been covered in class, unless the instructor notifies the class that the material will not be covered.
4. Please note that the following types of emails will receive no response: emails not addressed to anyone in particular; emails where the recipient's name is not spelled correctly; anonymous emails; emails in which the sender has not identified which course and section he/she is taking; and, emails involving questions that are specifically addressed on the course outline.

**Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct,

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html>

**Academic Accommodation**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

**Important Dates**

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

Faculty of Arts Students' Association (F.A.S.A.):

Economics Department Representative

Office: SS 803, E-mail: [econrep@fasaucalgary.ca](mailto:econrep@fasaucalgary.ca) Web: [www.fasaucalgary.ca](http://www.fasaucalgary.ca)

Society of Undergraduates in Economics

[www.ucalgarysue.com](http://www.ucalgarysue.com)

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career partnerships with the Career Centre through hosting industry nights and information sessions, recognizing achievements in teaching, and organizing social events for members. They invite you to join by contacting [sue@ucalgary.ca](mailto:sue@ucalgary.ca).

*Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources*

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580 or email them at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.

- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Library Block.
- Online writing resources are available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/resources/writing-support>

### **Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at

[www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints)

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course

### **Safewalk**

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year.

**Call 403-220-5333**

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