

# ECO 375 H1F: Applied Econometrics I

Fall 2017, L0201

Department of Economics, University of Toronto

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**Office:** GE 306  
**Office hours:** Thursday 11:00am – 12:00pm and 3:00pm – 4:00pm, GE 306  
**Lectures:** Thursday 1:00pm – 3:00pm, SS 1071

**TA (tutorials):** Matthew Tudball  
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**Tutorials:** Friday 12:00pm – 1:00pm, SS 2117

**TA (grading):** Dongyu Mao  
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## Course Description

Econometrics combines elements of economic theory, statistics, probability theory, and mathematics. The primary objective of the course is to provide students with a solid theoretical and practical foundation for the interpretation of empirical evidence in economics. The course is built around the statistical foundations and economic application of the multiple regression model. Students will gain practical experience working with economic data using statistical software.

## Previous Training

*Prerequisites:* (i) ECO200Y1 or ECO204Y1 or ECO206Y1  
(ii) ECO220Y1 (70%) or ECO227Y1 or STA257H1+STA261H1  
*Recommended:* MAT221H1 or MAT223H1 or MAT240H1  
*Exclusion:* ECO374H1, ECO327Y5

The prerequisites are checked by the administration of the Department of Economics and students will be removed from the course list if the prerequisites are not met.

## Textbook

"Introductory Econometrics" by J. M. Wooldridge, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, South-Western Cengage Learning. The book can be purchased at the University of Toronto Bookstore or from various online bookstores. A copy of the book has been placed on reserve at the Robarts Library.

## Course Website

The course website on **Blackboard** is accessible through <https://portal.utoronto.ca>. Lecture slides will be posted on the course website. I recommend bringing them to class, either printed or on a tablet/laptop. The Blackboard site will also be used to distribute problem sets and the accompanying data, to manage class communications, etc.

## Software

**Stata IC, version 15.** Earlier versions are also admissible, but they may not be supported by the instructor or TA. Students can purchase Stata at discounted prices (see <http://sites.utoronto.ca/ic/software/detail/stata.html> for details). Buy a six-month license of Stata IC, version 15 if you do not plan to take other courses using STATA (such as ECO475).

## Evaluation

The final grade is based on the following:

Task	Weight	Due date
Midterm	40 %	October 20, 2017
Two graded problem sets	10% (5% each)	October 4, 2017 November 22, 2017
Final Exam	50 %	Final Exam Period

The **midterm** will be held on Friday October 20 from 11am to 1pm (during the tutorial time) in room [TBD].

- The midterm will have 90 minutes duration.
- Students who do not write the test will be given a grade of zero, unless I receive:
  - (1) an email from the student to indicate that they will not be able to write the midterm, on the day of the midterm, and
  - (2) an appropriate medical note explaining why the test was missed, to be provided before the scheduled make-up midterm.
    - The medical note must be provided using the University of Toronto medical certificate; only original notes will be accepted (I will not accept photocopies or emailed certificates); no other documentation will be accepted.
    - The note must be completed by a Medical Doctor and must clearly indicate the doctor's OHIP registration number.
    - The note must clearly state that on the date of the test, the student was too sick to write the test. Illness before the test is not sufficient grounds for missing the test. Nor will I accept notes that indicate that the student would have performed "sub-optimally."
    - To comply with these requirements, it is expected that the student will have met with the doctor on the date of the test.
    - I will review each sick note to determine whether there are sufficient grounds for a student to be excused from a test. Part of this review process may include meeting with the student, and/or following up with the physician.
    - It is an academic offence to feign illness to avoid a test.
- If a student has been excused from a test on medical grounds, he or she will be permitted to write a **make-up test** to be held on Friday October 27 from 11am to 1pm in room [TBD].
  - The make-up test will be worth the value of the midterm.
  - Consistent with university policy, there will be no "make-up" test for the make-up test. A grade of zero will be applied if the make-up test is requested but missed.
  - Note that it is unlikely that the make-up test will be graded before November 6, the last day to drop courses without penalty.
- If students wish to appeal a grade, they must provide a written explanation of why they believe their grade is mistaken, and submit it to the instructor within one week of the midterm being returned to the class.

There will be two **graded problem sets**.

- Graded problem sets must be submitted through the Blackboard in a Portable Document Format (PDF). Students will be instructed how to generate a PDF file during a tutorial session. Neither paper submission nor email submission will be counted. Problem sets are due at 11:59pm on their due date.

- Both text and STATA log files need to be submitted.
- Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero, unless I receive:
  - (1) an email from the student to indicate that he/she will not be able to submit the assignment on time, by 11:59pm on the assignment due date, and
  - (2) an appropriate medical note explaining why the assignment could not be submitted on time, within the week following the assignment due date; the medical note must satisfy the same requirements as for the midterm (see above).

### **Additional problem sets**

Additional problem sets will be distributed throughout the semester and will form the basis of the tutorials. They will consist of both theoretical and computer- (data-) based problems. The additional problems sets will not be graded, but serve to prepare students for the exams. Students are highly encouraged to complete the additional problem sets.

### **Academic Misconduct**

Copying, plagiarizing, or other forms of academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Any student caught engaging in such activities will be subject to academic discipline ranging from a mark of zero on the assignment, test or examination to dismissal from the university as outlined in the academic handbook. Any student abetting or otherwise assisting in such misconduct will also be subject to academic penalties. As a student it is your responsibility to ensure the integrity of your work and to understand what constitutes an academic offence. If you have any concerns that you may be crossing the line, always ask your instructor. **Ignorance of the rules does not excuse cheating or plagiarism.**

For more information regarding the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters please visit

<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>.

For accessibility accommodation see <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.

## Tentative course schedule

Session	Date		Topic	Material
1	Sept.	7	1. Syllabus 2. Overview of Econometrics 3. Statistics Review	Ch 1, App A, B, C.1, C.2, C.5, C.6
2		14	4. Simple and Multiple Regression – Estimation	Ch 2, 3
3		21	5. Matrix Algebra for Regression Analysis 6. Multiple Regression in Matrix Algebra	Appendix D.1-D.6 Appendix E.1
4		28	7. Multiple Regression – Properties 8. Multiple Regression – Inference	Appendix E.2, Ch 3 Ch 4
	Oct.	4	<i>Problem set 1 due</i>	
5		5	9. Multiple Regression – Further Issues 10. Multiple Regression – Qualitative Info.	Ch 6 Ch 7
6		12	10. Multiple Regression – Qualitative Info. (continued) 11. Heteroskedasticity	Ch 7 Ch 8
7*		19	12. Specification and Data Problems Review	Ch 9
		20	<i>Midterm</i>	
8		26	13. Instrumental Variables	Ch 15
9	Nov.	2	14. 2SLS 15. Simultaneous Equations	Ch 15 Ch 16
		6	<i>Last day to drop the course without penalty</i>	
		6-10	<i>Fall reading week</i>	
10		16	16. Time Series 17. Endogeneity in Applications	Ch 10 Slides
		22	<i>Problem set 2 due</i>	
11		23	17. Endogeneity in Applications (continued) 18. Asymptotic Analysis	Slides Ch 5, App C.3, E.4
12		30	18. Asymptotic Analysis (continued) Review	Ch 5, App C.3, E.4
	<i>Exam period</i>		<i>Final exam</i>	

\* TA Matthew Tudball will give the lecture and lead the review in Week 7.