



TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

ECON 50343 ECONOMETRICS

Professor:	Kiril Tochkov	Semester:	Spring 2008
Office:	Economics Building 109	Meeting times:	T/TH 3:30-4:50pm
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Course Description

This course is an introduction to econometrics and is designed to provide students with the theoretical knowledge and practical experience necessary to conduct applied economic research. While mathematics will be used to present formal proofs, the emphasis of the course will be on gaining intuitive understanding of the principles of econometric analysis. The objective of the course is to familiarize students with the statistical tools so that by the end of the semester they are able to conduct independent research using economic data.

Prerequisites

A 'C' or better in ECON 10223 and 10233 and either MATH 10043 or INSC 20153 or graduate standing in business.

Required Text

Studenmund, A. H.: *Using Econometrics: A Practical Guide*, 5th ed., Addison Wesley, 2006.

The textbook is available at the TCU bookstore and is bundled with a student version of EViews, a statistical package that will be used in the course. EViews is installed on all machines in the computer lab at the Department of Economics. The disk you get with the book is for your personal use and can be installed on your private computer or laptop. EViews will be used in class to demonstrate concepts using real world data, but if you prefer a different statistical package, you are free to use it for your homework assignments. The textbook offers a useful website with data sets and an EViews tutorial which can be found at:

http://wps.aw.com/aw_studenmund_useecon_5/

Grading Policy

Your grade will be based on two exams, homework assignments, and attendance. The corresponding weights are as follows:

Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
Homework	30%
Attendance	10%

Exams and Homework

Two exams will be given in this course. Although the final exam is cumulative, the emphasis will be on the material covered after the midterm. The final exam is scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 3:00-5:30pm. No make-up exams will be given. Unforeseeable, university-sanctioned absences will result in additional weight being placed on the other graded items. Athletes or others knowing they will miss an exam for university excused reasons must take the exam in advance.

Several homework assignments will be handed out during the semester and have the purpose of enhancing your understanding of the material and preparing you for the exams. They will involve the application of statistical tools discussed in class to analyze real world data. The data sets will be provided and will focus mostly on economic variables. Late homework will not be accepted and will result in a failing grade.

Attendance

In order to do satisfactory work it is imperative to come to class on a regular basis. Attendance will be taken in every class. Students are allowed to absent themselves three times during the entire semester with no explanation required, and with no penalty. For every additional absence, you will lose 1% from the 10% assigned to attendance. Except as required by TCU's Official Absence policy, there will be no excused absences. Therefore students are encouraged to save their three sanctioned absences for emergency situations.

When you come to class, it is essential that you are rested and focused. If I see that you fall asleep, check your cell phone, talk excessively, or read materials not related to the class, you will be asked to leave the classroom immediately and will be marked officially absent for the class.

Extra credit

There will be no extra credit of any kind. Please plan to do well on the required material.

Grading scale

Grades will be assigned on the following scale:

100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
59 or less	F

To determine your grade, your overall percentage will be rounded to the nearest whole number.

Academic Honesty

Academic misconduct in all forms is regarded as a serious offense. It is a violation of the TCU Code of Student Conduct (<http://www.sa.tcu.edu/handbook/code.htm>) and will not be tolerated. Cheating during an exam will result in a failing grade.

Students with disabilities

Texas Christian University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 regarding students with disabilities. Eligible students seeking accommodations should contact the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities in the Center for Academic Services located in Sadler Hall, 11. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the Coordinator as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. Further information can be obtained from the Center for Academic Services, TCU Box 297710, Fort Worth, TX 76129, or at (817) 257-7486.

Course Outline

Week 1	Introduction; Review of Probability Concepts
Week 2	Overview of Regression Analysis (Ch. 1)
Week 3	Ordinary Least Squares (Ch. 2)
Week 4	Learning to Use Regression Analysis (Ch. 3)
Week 5	The Classical Regression Model (Ch. 4)

Week 6	Hypothesis Testing (Ch. 5)
02/28	MIDTERM
Week 8	Specification Issues (Ch. 6-7)
Week 9	SPRING BREAK
Week 10	Multicollinearity (Ch. 8)
Week 11	Serial Correlation (Ch. 9)
Week 12	Heteroskedasticity (Ch. 10)
Week 13	Time-Series Models (Ch. 12)
Week 14	Forecasting (Ch. 15)
05/08	FINAL EXAM