

University of Kentucky - Department of Economics
Economics 391 – Fall 2014
Economics and Business Statistics

Course Information:

Professor: Dr. Carlos Lamarche
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 Office phone: 257-3371
 Lectures: TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm, 301 B&E Building
 Office Hours: TR, 4-6 PM, and upon request, 302B Mathews Building
 Course Web Site: <http://gatton.uky.edu/Faculty/lamarche/ec391/ec391.html>

Course Description:

A survey of statistical techniques relevant to modern economics and business, with major emphasis on correlation and regression, Bayesian decision theory, index numbers, time series analysis, and forecasting models.

Prerequisites:

STA 291 or equivalent

Tentative Course Schedule:

The following schedule should be considered preliminary.

Week	Date	Topic	Reference
1	August 28	Random Variables	K 7
2	September 2	Discrete Probability Distributions	K 7
3	September 9	Continuous Probability Distributions	K 8
4	September 16	Sampling Distributions	K 9
5	September 23	Introduction to Estimation	K 10 & lecture notes
6	September 30	Introduction to Hypothesis Testing	K 11 & K 12
7	October 7	Linear Correlation and Estimation	K 16
8	October 14	Midterm Exam	K 16 & lecture notes
9	October 21	Regression Line Estimation	
10	October 28	Inference and Goodness of Fit	K 16 & lecture notes
11	November 4	Multiple Regression	K 17 & lecture notes
12	November 11	Hypothesis Testing in Multiple Regression	K 17 & lecture notes
13	November 18	Model Building and Nominal Independent Variables	K 18
14	November 25	Transformations for Nonlinear Regression	K 18 & lecture notes
15	December 2	Introduction to Time Series	Lecture notes
16	December 9	Analysis of Variance	K 14
17	December 16	Final Exam	

Required textbook:

1. Statistics for Management and Economics, G. Keller, (2012), South-Western, 9th edition (K).

Attendance Policies and Excused Absences:

It is students' responsibility to attend class. Students however need to notify the professor of absences prior to class when possible. S.R. 5.2.4.2 defines the following as acceptable reasons for excused absences: (a) serious illness, (b) illness or death of family member, (c) University-related trips, (d) major religious holidays, and (e) other circumstances found to fit "reasonable cause for nonattendance" by the professor.

Students anticipating an absence for a major religious holiday are responsible for notifying the instructor in writing of anticipated absences due to their observance of such holidays no later than the last day in the semester to add a class. Information regarding dates of major religious holidays may be obtained through the religious liaison, Mr. Jake Karnes (859-257-2754).

Students are expected to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the classes scheduled for the semester are missed (excused or unexcused) per university policy.

Verification of Absences:

Students may be asked to verify their absences in order for them to be considered excused. Senate Rule 5.2.4.2 states that faculty have the right to request "appropriate verification" when students claim an excused absence because of illness or death in the family. Appropriate notification of absences due to university-related trips is required prior to the absence.

Academic Integrity:

Per university policy, students shall not plagiarize, cheat, or falsify or misuse academic records. Students are expected to adhere to University policy on cheating and plagiarism in all courses. The minimum penalty for a first offense is a zero on the assignment on which the offense occurred. If the offense is considered severe or the student has other academic offenses on their record, more serious penalties, up to suspension from the university may be imposed.

Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic conduct. Each student is advised to become familiar with the various forms of academic dishonesty as explained in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Complete information can be found at the following website: <http://www.uky.edu/Ombud>. A plea of ignorance is not acceptable as a defense against the charge of academic dishonesty. It is important that you review this information as all ideas borrowed from others need to be properly credited.

Part II of *Student Rights and Responsibilities* (available online <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>) states that all academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about the question of plagiarism involving their own work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording or anything else from another source without appropriate acknowledgement of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else's work, whether it be a published article, chapter of a book, a paper from a friend or some file, or something similar to this. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work which a student submits as his/her own, whoever that other person may be.

Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by the student, and the student alone. When a student's assignment

involves research in outside sources of information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she employed them. If the words of someone else are used, the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content and phraseology intact is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these Rules shall apply to those ideas which are so generally and freely circulated as to be a part of the public domain (Section 6.3.1).

Accommodations due to disability:

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754, email address: jkarnes@email.uky.edu) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.

Course Grade:

The grade distribution is 90-100% = A, 80 – 89% = B, 70 – 79% = C, 60 – 69% = D, below 60 = F. However, I reserve the right to curve the grades as I see fit.

The grades will be based on: Problem Sets (30%), Midterm (30%), and Final (40%).