

Econ 345-003
Introduction to Econometrics
Spring 2019
Department of Economics
George Mason University

Instructor: Kendra H. Asher
Location: Innovation Hall 135
Time: 7:20pm - 10:00pm (Tuesday)
Email: khathaw3@gmu.edu
Office Hours: Before/After class or by appointment

Grade

50% Weekly Quizzes
(Lowest 2 grades will be dropped – no quiz January 22 or during presentations weeks)
15% Presentation
5% Class Participation
30% Final Exam

Textbook

Introductory Econometrics: A Modern Approach (6th edition) by Jeffrey M. Wooldridge
ISBN-13: 978-1305270107

Note: Previous editions of this textbook are available online in PDF form. If used, students are responsible to make sure the chapters correspond to each week's readings, as the quizzes and final exam will be based on the 6th edition's text.

In addition to the textbook readings I will occasionally send out econometric papers, which will be discussed in class.

Schedule (tentative) –

January 22 – Chapter 1, Appendix A2-A4

Listen to:

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/12/22/679083038/researchers-show-parachutes-dont-work-but-there-s-a-catch>

and

<https://www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=473128291>

January 29 - Chapter 2, Appendix B3-B4C

February 5 - Chapter 3

February 12 – Chapter 4, Appendix C5-C6

February 19 – Chapter 5 & 6

February 26 – Chapter 7 & 8

March 5 – Chapter 9

March 19 – Chapter 10

March 26 – Chapter 11

April 2 – Chapter 12

April 9 – Presentations

April 16 – Presentations

April 23 – Presentations

April 30 – Chapter 13 & 14

TBD - Final Exam

Weekly Quizzes

Every week (excluding the first week and presentation weeks) there will be a quiz with 5-10 questions based on the previous week's assigned readings and lecture. You will need to master the previous weeks material in order to learn the new material. The quiz will be handed out at 7:20pm and I will allow until 7:35pm for them to be completed. If you show up late to class, you still will only have until 7:35pm to turn in your quiz. Your lowest two quiz grades will be dropped.

On some quizzes there will bonus questions (extra credit). Each bonus question can raise your final class grade by 0.5%. Bonus questions can be based on any of the past readings or lectures. Any bonus points received on a quiz, regardless of if that quiz was dropped from your final grade, will be added to your final grade.

Presentation

Your presentation will be 5-8 minutes long, followed by a few minutes for questions from the class. It will be on an econometrics paper of your choice, or if you would like to present original work, that is fine as well. The paper you are presenting must first be approved by me. By February 26th, turn in a paper (email is fine) with the top 3 papers you'd like to present on, along with 3-5 sentences on why this paper interests you. If your first choice hasn't already been assigned to another classmate and is appropriate, I'll approve that choice. If both you and another classmate chose the same or very similar papers (unless you have opposing opinions),

and both requests are turned in on the same day, I will assign the paper to whoever has the best explanation for why he or she wants to present on that topic.

To receive an “A” you must not only present the paper well, but give criticisms of it based on what you learned in class or based on other papers you read on the subject.

A good place to look for an article to present is in the journals listed on page 626 of your textbook.

Final Exam

The Final Exam is cumulative and closed book. Its questions will be similar to the questions on the weekly quizzes. In fact, be sure to study the quizzes because you may see some repeats!

Academic Integrity:

Please see George Mason University’s Honor Code <https://oai.gmu.edu/mason-honor-code/>

Cheating, plagiarism, lying and stealing are prohibited and incidents of such will be reported to the Honor Committee.

Office of Disability Services:

Let me know if you have a disability and require accommodation. Also contact the office of disability services. All accommodations must be arranged through that office.
<https://ds.gmu.edu/>.

Enrollment:

You are responsible for verifying your own enrollment. Please see the Registrar’s Website for relevant deadlines <https://registrar.gmu.edu/>.