Economics 671: Econometric Analysis I

Location:
Lectures: MW 8:30-10:00AM in 1449 Mason Hall
Office hours: Monday After class in Lorch 309
Discussion: Tuesday 5:30-7:00PM in 268 Weiser (starting September 11)

Graduate Student Instructor:
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Important dates:
First day of class: Monday, September 10
Last day of class: Monday, December 10.
Midterm: TBA
Final exam: Thursday, December 20, 8:00-10:00AM.

There will be no class on Monday, October 15 (Fall break).

Course requirements:
The course covers basic topics in probability theory, descriptive statistics, estimation, and statistical inference, including the classical linear regression model. The aim of the course is to lay the foundations for more advanced econometrics courses such as Economics 672, 675 and 676. Course grades for Economics 671 will be based on one midterm exam (40 percent), a final exam (40 percent) and regular homework assignments (20 percent). Assignments are due by the end of class (or under my office door by the end of class). There will be no extensions for homework assignments. Some assignments involve use of the matrix algebra software MATLAB which is available in the department’s econometrics lab and online through the university. Everyone is responsible for preparing their own problem set solutions. Problems will be graded on a scale of $\sqrt{+}$, $\sqrt{-}$, and $F$. The University of Michigan standards regarding academic integrity apply.

This course is not appropriate for Master students. In particular, students from the Master programs in Economics and in Public Policy are not allowed to take this course and will be dropped if they attempt to enroll. Please consult your adviser for alternatives. Ph.D. students from fields other than economics or finance should obtain my permission at the beginning of the term, since not everybody will have the prerequisites required for this course. This is a demanding course. Ph.D. students from fields other than economics or finance may wish to consider alternative options, if they are not prepared to put in the effort required to keep up with the material.
Required textbook:

Coursepack:
Includes lecture notes, old exams, problem sets and MATLAB instructions. Available at Dollar Bill (on Church Street) and as a pdf file on ctools. Please bring your copy to class.

Further Background Readings:

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