

ECO 6936 Economic Data Analysis

Professor: Hector H. Sandoval

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Office hours: Monday 1:00 - 3:30pm, MAT 325

TA: TBA

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Course Description

This course will provide students with a comprehensive overview of data management, exploring, and analysis. It is designed to serve as a bridge between economic theory, statistics/econometrics, and practical work. The emphasis throughout the class will be placed on providing hands-on experience with data analysis using Stata. The course will use actual individual- and aggregate-level data, with particular attention paid to the United States and Florida economies. The individual-level data (microdata) will come from ongoing surveys, including the American Community Survey (ACS), which provides information on demographics, housing, economics, and other topics; and the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), which gathers data on the family as a whole and on individuals residing within the family, emphasizing the dynamics and interactive aspects of family economics, demography, and health. The aggregate-level data will come from federal agencies, such as the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), and the Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED), among others. At the end of the course, students will know how to use real-world data to perform statistics and econometric analyses.

Students should be comfortable with introductory statistical concepts covered in STA 2023 (or equivalent). Training with Stata will be provided in this course.

Optional Textbooks & Other Resources

1. Acock, A. C. (2018): "A Gentle Introduction to Stata". Stata press, 6th Edition.
2. Freedman, D., Pisani, R., & Purves, R. (2007): "Statistics". W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., Fourth Edition.
3. Mehmetoglu, M., & Jakobsen, T. G. (2016): "Applied Statistics Using Stata: A Guide for the Social Sciences". Sage. Online resources: <https://study.sagepub.com/mehmetogluandjakobsen>
4. Kohler, U., and Kreuter, F. (2012): "Data Analysis Using Stata". Stata press, 3rd Edition.
5. Stata online resources: <https://www.stata.com/learn/> and <https://www.stata.com/features/>

Exams, Assignments, & Grading

Grades will be distributed as follows: assignments 55%, participation 10% , midterm 15% (**Tuesday February 25, 2019**), and final project 20% (due on **Wednesday May 1st, 2019**). For the assignments, you are encouraged to collaborate with other students, but you should submit your own individual problem sets for grading. Problem sets submitted after the deadline are **not** accepted. The final project will involve writing a small empirical research paper using the tools learned in class. You may work in groups of two or three for the final project.

Policies

“Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.”

“Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.”

“Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.”

Course Outline & Detailed Schedule

MONDAY		WEDNESDAY	
Jan 7th	1	9th	2
Lecture 1: Introduction to Stata			
14th	3	16th	4
Lecture 2: Handling time-series (Population)			
21st	5	23rd	6
Holiday		Lecture 3: Data management (Labor market statistics)	
		<i>Assignment #1 due</i>	
28th	7	30th	8
Lecture 4: Sampling (Consumer confidence)		<i>Assignment #2 due</i>	
Feb 4th	9	6th	10
Lecture 5: Inference		<i>Assignment #3 due</i>	
11th	11	13th	12
Lecture 6: Bivariate inference (Consumption)		<i>Assignment #4 due</i>	
18th	13	20th	14
Lecture 7: Bivariate regression (Growth)		<i>Assignment #5 due</i>	
25th	15	27th	16
<i>Midterm</i>			
Mar 4th	17	6th	18
Spring break (no class)		Spring break (no class)	
11th	19	13th	20
Lecture 8: Multiple regression			
18th	21	20th	22
Lecture 9: American Community Survey (ACS)		<i>Assignment #6 due</i>	
25th	23	27th	24
Lecture 10: Causality		<i>Assignment #7 due</i>	
Apr 1st	25	3rd	26
Lecture 11: Logistic regression (Poverty & Inequality)		<i>Assignment #8 due</i>	
8th	27	10th	28
Lecture 12: Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)		<i>Assignment #9 due</i>	
15th	29	17th	30
Lecture 13: Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED)		No class	
22nd	31	24th	32
Student Presentations		Student Presentations (cont.)	
<i>Assignment #10 due</i>		<i>Assignment #10 due</i>	
29th	33	May 1st	34
		<i>Final project due</i>	