

**Franklin and Marshall College
Department of Economics**

**ECO 210: Economic Statistics
Instructor: Dr. Ece H. Guleryuz**

Fall 2013 Course Syllabus

Lecture Time and Room: ECO 210 Monday – Wednesday - Friday, 2:30pm-3:20pm, STA 114
Office: 326 Stager Hall
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Telephone: 717-358-4720
Office Hours: Monday 3:30pm-5:30 pm, Wednesday 3:30pm-5:30pm, other times by appointment

Statistics can be defined as the study of reasoning from data. Descriptive statistics and statistical analysis are used in many disciplines including economics, business, politics, sociology, psychology, and biological sciences. The goal of this course is to introduce students to statistical thinking, statistical techniques, and analyzing and making inferences from data.

The primary course objective is to make an introduction to statistical concepts and techniques as they are used in economics. Topics include descriptive statistics, sampling, probability, estimation, confidence intervals, hypothesis tests, and regression analysis. ECO 210 is waived as a requirement for the economics major for students who have completed MAT 216. Prerequisites: ECO 100 and ECO 103.

Course Objectives: Throughout the semester, the students will obtain sound knowledge about the following statistical concepts:

- Collection of meaningful data
- Data analysis using graphical and numerical techniques
- Basic probability rules
- Statistical analyses for one and two variables
- Analysis of simple linear regressions

In this sense, the course seeks to provide a sound basis for further study in econometrics.

Course Approach: The conduct of the course will be performed according to the following principles: active learning and participation, conceptual understanding, appropriate use of technology, and rigorous analyses of data. The majority of class time will be spent working through a series of activities and problems designed to guide you in the development of a thorough understanding of statistical reasoning and techniques. You will be encouraged to work collaboratively in a group including two or at most three people on some of these activities, while we will work through others as a class.

This approach will serve your learning better than passively listening to lecture, **but you must actively participate**. Please come to class expecting to participate, think, and learn, and spend the necessary time outside of class to prepare and to consolidate what you have learned. Specifically:

- Come to class prepared by having read the Overview and completed the Preliminaries questions for each topic. (Some days will also have data collection assignments to be completed online.)
- Actively use your text to take notes, highlight key points, and create your own glossary of key terms.
- Spend some time after each class to review the definitions, Watch Out, and Wrap Up sections, and to complete the Self Check and Homework problems. Although homework will be collected weekly, I encourage you to do it after each class.
- **Ask questions whenever you need to!!!**

Homework assignments and handouts will be posted on eDisk or will be sent as e-mail attachments.

How to have access to the course files on eDisk

- Sign into eDisk.
- Go to 'People' file and find my file according to my surname, 'Guleryuz'.
- Go to the file 'Courses', and then to the file 'ECO 210'.
- Go to the file 'Distribution', then you will have access to the course materials.

Course Materials

Required text: McClave, Benson and Sincich. Statistics for Business and Economics, 12th Edition.

The textbook is available at the campus bookstore. You should bring the textbook to every lecture since we will be actively using it.

Stata: In this course, we will use the statistical software package Stata. It will be installed on the classroom laptops, which will be available to us every day. The Department of Economics has a license for all students in this course to install it on your own laptops, which you will probably find convenient for working on homework and the regression project. Please bring your laptop to Tami Lantz in the Department of Economics office, and she can provide you with the installation instructions. Stata will also be available on computers in the Innovation Zone.

The best way to have a solid progress with your Stata knowledge is to use it. Stata is easy to learn. **UCLA Academic Technology Services, and Princeton University Data and Statistical Services provide open-to-public online tutorials of Stata including visual presentations. These can be accessed directly from <http://www.ats.ucla.edu/stat/stata/> and http://dss.princeton.edu/online_help/stats_packages/stata/**

Course Policies and Norms

We all have responsibility for creating an environment which facilitates the learning process. Therefore, I ask everyone to please adhere to the following course norms and common courtesies:

- Come to class on time, prepared to work, with cell phones turned off, and all external needs attended to before class. **If I see any of you busy with their cell phones (for ex.: texting) I will ask you to leave, and this will be counted as an unexcused absence.** You will be working with a partner most of the time, so please be ready to work without interruption for 50 minutes.

- Do not talk to others when I am talking -- but please DO talk to your group partner(s) when working on collaborative activities.
- We will use computers in class regularly. When we are using computers, use them only for the in class activities. **Do not check email, surf the web, sign in to Facebook, or engage in any other non-class activities.** This is distracting to you and everyone around you. **If you do so, I will ask you to leave, and this will be counted as an unexcused absence.**
- You may bring a beverage, if it does not become a problem for your computer, but please do not bring food.

Attendance in this course is mandatory. Even more so than in most classes, you must be here and fully engaged in order to learn. You will not be able to “catch up” on classes missed by reading the text or copying someone’s notes. Therefore, more than 4 unexcused absences will result in significant deductions from your participation grade. Note that participation in class is 15% of your grade. Absences will be excused only in the case of serious emergency or unavoidable conflict, and should be cleared with me in advance unless impossible. Missed quizzes and exams that are not excused in advance will not be made up.

Academic Honesty

I encourage you to study together, discuss the material, work on homework problems together, and proofread each other's regression project papers. However, all work you hand in must be your own. If you have any questions about where the line between appropriate collaboration and cheating lies, I encourage you to come and talk to me about it. It is your responsibility as an F&M student to be familiar with the definition of Academic Dishonesty and relevant procedures on pages 193-194 of the F&M Catalog.

Academic Statement

Grading is the prerogative of the professor. Judgment about the quality of students’ work is the sole prerogative of the professor. Grading is based solely on the quality of students’ work. It is not based on effort, or on students’ hopes and aspirations beyond this class. Students are entitled to ask for an explanation of anything unclear about the corrections their work receives. Students are also entitled to ask the professor to double check the assessment of their work and the determination of their grade. Students are not entitled to question the judgment of the professor, or to request special consideration. Any behavior intruding on the professor’s professional judgments is inappropriate and unwelcome. If, after asking for and receiving any necessary clarification from a professor, a student believes s/he has been treated unfairly, that student has the right to appeal the professor’s judgment to the Chair of the Department (or, in cases where the professor is the Chair of the Department, to the Office of the Provost)

Grading:

Grades will be computed as follows:

Two Midterms	25% each	50%
Final		25%
Homework		10%
Attendance		5%
Regression Project		10%

Grading Scale:

Grading Scale	
A	95 - 100
A -	90 - 94.9
B +	85 - 89.9
B	80 - 84.9
B -	76 - 79.9
C +	72 - 75.9
C	68 - 71.9
C -	64 - 67.9
D +	60 - 63.9
D	56 - 59.9
F	0 - 55.9

A homework will be assigned after the Friday lecture, and weekly homework(s) will be collected *at the beginning of class on the assigned day*. **No late homeworks will be accepted under any circumstances. Late or not submitted homeworks will be given a grade of zero.** Please staple pages together when you hand in a multi-page assignment (to minimize the chance that I lose a page or get them mixed up).

VII. Course Calendar (Tentative)

Date _____ Topic _____

Week 1:

Aug 28-30 Chapter 1

Week 2:

Sep 2-4-6 Chapter 1 / Chapter 2

Week 3:

Sep 9-11-13 Chapter 2 / Chapter 3

Week 4:

Sep 16-18-20 Chapter 3 / Chapter 4

Week 5:

Sep 23-25-27 Chapter 4 / *Exam 1: Chapters 1-4 (Sep 27)*

Week 6:

Sep 30/Oct 2-4 Chapter 5

Week 7:

Oct 7-9-11 Chapter 6

Week 8:

Oct 16-18 Chapter 7

Week 9:

Oct 21-23-25 Chapter 7 / Chapter 8

Week 10:

Oct 28-30/Nov 1 Chapter 8 / Chapter 9

Week 11:

Nov 4-6-8 Chapter 9 / *Exam 2: Chapters 5-8 (Nov 8)*

Week 12:

Nov 11-13-15 Chapter 10

Week 13:

Nov 18-20-22 Chapter 11

Week 14:

Nov 25 Chapter 11

Week 15:

Dec 2-4-6 Chapter 12

*****FINAL EXAM DURING THE EXAM WEEK**