

Econometrics II – Winter 2021
ECONOMICS EC2123B-002
Department of Economics
Western University

January 2021

General Information:

Instructor: Rory McGee
Office: 4061 SSC
Phone: 519-661-2111 ext. 85270
E-mail: rmcgee4@uwo.ca
Office hours: Office hours will be held online using Zoom.
Mondays 7:30-8:30 PM ET and Thursdays 4-5 PM ET
Delivery mode: Online, asynchronous
Course website: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>
Undergraduate inquiries: 519-661-3507 or SSC Room 4075 or econugrd@uwo.ca

Registration:

You are responsible for ensuring you are registered in the correct courses. If you are not registered in this course, the Department will not release any of your marks until your registration is corrected. You may check your timetable by using the Login on the Student Services website at <https://student.uwo.ca>. If you notice a problem, please contact your home Faculty Academic Counsellor immediately.

Prerequisite Note:

The prerequisites for this course are **Economics 2122A/B or Statistical Sciences 2035** with a mark of 70; and 0.5 course from: **Mathematics 1225A/B, Calculus 1000A/B, Calculus 1500A/B.**

The antirequisite for this course is **Economics 2223A/B**

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken any anti-requisite courses. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed.

If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

Course Objectives:

The objective of this course is to provide the basic knowledge of econometrics that is essential to analyze economic data. It covers the basic tools of estimation and inference in the context of single equation linear regression model. This course serves as an introduction to regression analysis, beginning with multivariate probability distributions and the classical linear regression model, and then moving to multiple linear regression and other extensions.

Course Learning Outcomes:

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the fundamental concepts of econometrics, and interpret regression results.
- Analyze the properties of the linear regression model.
- Perform valid statistical inference in the linear regression framework (hypothesis testing, confidence interval etc.)

Textbook(s) and Course Materials:

- Jeffrey M. Wooldridge, *Introductory Econometrics: A Modern Approach*, 7th edition, Cengage, 2016.

Earlier versions may have a similar presentation of the material, but individual chapters may be rearranged

Communication:

Students should check the course OWL site every 24-48 hours

Email:

Primary contact with the professor will be via email (rmcgee4@uwo.ca) AND students must use their Western email account (@uwo.ca). Emails from students using another domain (e.g. @gmail or @outlook) will be ignored. Please ensure that your email has subject line starting with "EC 2123," this will minimize the risk of your email being overlooked or perceived as spam.

Zoom:

The course content is delivered primarily using OWL. Office hours (and any unscheduled tutorials and synchronous lectures) will be delivered via Zoom. Students will be able to "Join" with a Zoom meeting using the tool on OWL.

My office hours are listed on page 1. Please feel free to join to my Zoom office hours using UWO e-mail to seek help or to discuss matters related to the course. If my scheduled office hours conflict with your schedule, you can request an appointment with me via email.

Conduct in a Zoom meeting will adhere to guidelines outlined by Western University. Summary of which follows:

- Students must be able to identify themselves in a Zoom meeting. Identification can

include, but not limited to; activating student's webcam for visual confirmation, or verbal confirmation.

- Students must have a microphone and on mute when joining the Zoom meeting.
- Students will preferably have a webcam available.
- **Failure to identify yourself in a Zoom Meeting will result in your removal from the meeting, and you will be unable to reconnect.**

Technical Requirements

- Laptop or Computer
- Stable internet connection
- Microphone
- Webcam

For technical support, see the OWL Help page or contact Western Technology Services Helpdesk (<https://wts.uwo.ca/about-wts/contact.html>). Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers for OWL; update your browser frequently.

Assessments and Grading:

All regularly scheduled assessments in this course will be held online on OWL. The tentative coverage, date, length and weight of the assessments in the calculation of your course grade are as follows:

Assessment	Tentative Dates*	Tentative Coverage	Length	Contribution to Grade
Quiz 1	January 27 th	Ch. 1 -3	1 hour	10 %
Quiz 2	February 10 th	Ch. 1-5	1 hour	10 %
Assignment 1	Due by February 24 th	Ch. 1-5	n/a	10 %
Quiz 3	March 10 th	Ch 1-8	1 hour	10 %
Quiz 4	March 24 th	Ch. 1-8, 10-12	1 hour	10 %
Assignment 2	Due by March 31 st	Ch. 1-8, 10-12	n/a	10 %
Final Exam	TBA (Exam Period)	Ch. 1-8, 10-12	3 hours	40%

* Exact dates will be provided on OWL, either by Announcement or Calendar or both.

Quizzes:

- Quizzes will be timed
- Able to start quiz on a 24-hour basis (midnight to midnight, London Ontario time) to accommodate students outside of Canada.
- The instructor will only be available to answer questions relating to quizzes by email between 8:30AM and 10:30AM and between 5:30PM and 8:30PM London Ontario time on the day of a quiz. This does not guarantee any individual email an immediate response in this time interval. Emails relating to the quiz received outside of this interval may not receive responses until the next time interval. Please ensure that your email has subject line starting with “EC 2123 Quiz” to ensure speedy response.
- Cumulative but with more emphasis on new material
- Questions will be randomized from a question bank
- Mixed format (a combination of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and/or short answer questions)
- During quizzes students are forbidden to communicate with any person other than an examination proctor or the instructor.

Assignments:

- MS Word template for the assignment will be provided
- Complete sample assignment will be provided for guidance of your assignment
- Submitted on OWL and using Turnitin

Final:

- Questions will be randomized from a question bank
- Mixed format (a combination of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and/or short answer questions)
- Open Book
- During exams students are forbidden to communicate with any person other than an examination proctor or the instructor.

Missed assignments and quizzes:

Assignments must be submitted on time

- Late assignments without illness self-reports will not be accepted
- Late assessments with illness self-reports must be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report
- Missed quizzes/exams without illness self-reports or approved, documented official accommodation will be given a mark of zero

Students with an approved absence from two or fewer quizzes will have the weight of the missed quiz(zes) transferred to the final exam. Students who miss more than two quizzes during the term will not be permitted to reweight them to the final exam and will receive a zero grade for these missed quizzes. In addition, they are likely not to have met the course learning outcomes and may not be permitted to pass the course, regardless of grades received on the previous or remaining quizzes. They should contact the instructor for additional steps.

Students who miss any assessment (whether a quiz or final exam) must follow Western University's procedures for approval of their absence in order to receive an accommodation. Please see the Please Note Department Policies for 2020-2021 section of this syllabus for details on these procedures. If during the Winter 2021 term Western University announces any changes to these procedures, please follow those procedures.

Topics Covered and Readings:

The course will follow the required textbook (see above). The tentative outline is as follows:

1. Introduction to Econometrics and Economic Data
 - Chapter 1
2. Simple Linear Regression
 - Chapter 2
3. Multiple Linear Regression: Estimation
 - Chapter 3
4. Multiple Linear Regression: Inference
 - Chapter 4
5. Multiple Linear Regression: OLS Asymptotics
 - Chapter 5
6. Multiple Linear Regression: Further Issues
 - Chapter 6
7. Multiple Linear Regression: Dummy Variables
 - Chapter 7
8. Heteroskedasticity
 - Chapter 8
9. Time Series (if time permits)
 - Chapter 10, 11 and 12

Note: Some material in some chapters will be excluded, which will be announced as the course progresses.

Professionalism, Privacy and Copyright:

- Students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#).
- All lectures and course materials, including slides, presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by **copyright**. Students may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational purposes only.
- Students may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, assessments, or any other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without written consent of the instructor.
- Recordings (audio or video) are not permitted without explicit, written permission of the instructor. Permitted recordings may not be distributed or shared.
- Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations provided on OWL
- Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before some assessments

Tips on How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

- Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
- Complete all homework and problem sets assigned for this course even when it will not be graded.
- Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Keeping handwritten notes or notes in a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching.
- Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and meet on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
- Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you have questions or are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor and/or teaching assistant(s).

Please Note
Department & University Policies for 2020-2021

The University expects all students to take responsibility for their own Academic Programs. Students should check their registration to ensure they are enrolled in the correct courses.

Academic Rights and Responsibilities: Students should be familiar with their “Academic Rights and Responsibilities” as outlined [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar. Claiming that “you didn’t know what to do” is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated procedures.

Guidelines and Policies for Students are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca>. Undergraduate information for the Faculty of Social Science can be found at: <https://www.ssc.uwo.ca/undergraduate/index.html> and for the Department of Economics at: <https://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/index.html>.

Rules of Conduct for Examinations: Students are expected to know the university’s Rules of Conduct for Examinations, available [here](#).

Cheating and Academic Offences: Students are responsible for understanding what it means to “cheat.” The Department of Economics treats cheating and other academic offences very seriously and will investigate any suspect behavior. Students found guilty will incur penalties that could include a failing grade or being barred from future registration in Economics courses or programs. The University may impose further penalties such as suspension or expulsion.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is an academic offence. Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Ideas/passages taken from another author must be referenced with footnotes or citations and acknowledged with quotation marks where appropriate. Western University uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to electronically submit their work. Those found guilty will be penalized as noted in point 3. See Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar.

Academic Appeals: Students should refer to the Student Academic Appeals section [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar. Please note the relevant deadlines.

Department Appeals Procedures: The Department will not consider an appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter with the instructor first. Students who remain dissatisfied with the outcome may submit a written appeal to the Undergraduate Director in Economics, stating the reasons for their appeal. Information on the Department of Economics’ appeals procedure and the appeals form are available [here](#).

Systematic Adjustments: Systematic adjustments of class grade distributions (either up or down) can occur in Economics courses. The systematic adjustment of a class grade distribution is **not** grounds for an appeal.

Add/drop deadlines:

Deadline to add a second term half course:

Deadline to drop a second term half course:

Tuesday January 19, 2021

Sunday March 14, 2021

Oversleeping or Misreading the Exam Schedule: Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading the exam schedule is NOT grounds for a makeup. This rule applies to all exams in the Department of Economics.

End of Term Travel: Students must book travel arrangements AFTER final exam dates have been posted; travel is not an acceptable excuse for absence from a final exam.

Rewriting Exams and Retroactive Reweighting are NOT Permitted: Students who proceed to write a test or examination must be prepared to accept the mark. Rewriting tests or examinations, or retroactive reweighting of marks, is **not** permitted.

Accommodation Policies: Students with disabilities should work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD), which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Consideration for Missed Assessments/Exams due to Student Absence: Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to receive academic consideration if they self-report a missed assessment using the online portal, provided the following conditions are met: the assessment is missed due to an absence of no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted otherwise on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office for more information about the relevant documentation. It is strongly recommended that students notify the instructor as soon as possible, ideally before the assessment, when they become aware of an absence. University policy is that students must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the SMC or immediately upon their return from their documented absence. Failure to follow University policy and procedures may result in denial of academic accommodation and a grade of zero.

Individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds or for other reasons. **All required documentation for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see:
[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs.](#)

For the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Religious Accommodation: Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

Policy Regarding Class Attendance and Engagement: If the instructor deems a student's attendance or engagement in the class to be unsatisfactory, that student may be prohibited from writing the final examination. Examples of unsatisfactory class engagement include frequent absences from an in-person or synchronous online class, lack of assignment submissions, and inadequate use of online course materials. Instructors who intend to make use of this policy will notify the student in advance.

Statement on Mental Health and Support Services: Students under emotional/mental distress should visit http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for more information and a complete list of resources on how to obtain help.