

Economics 490: Predictive Analytics Syllabus

Spring 2020

Contact Information

Instructor: Ramses Y. Armendariz, Ph.D.
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Office: DKH 116
Office Hours: Mondays from 11:00 to 12:00

Course Websites

- **Compass**
 - <https://compass2g.illinois.edu>
 - The slides used in class and the homework assignments can be found in here.
 - Grades will be posted here in “gradebook.”

Required Material

- **Textbook**
 - Prince, Jeff. *Predictive Analytics for Business Strategy*. 2019. Mc Graw Hill Education.
 - Reading assignments and some homework questions are drawn from this textbook.
- **Calculator**
 - Basic financial or statistical calculator.
 - The standard calculator is BAII Plus.
 - Calculators with functionality beyond BAII Plus are not allowed.
 - **Graphing calculators are not allowed!**

Course Objective

This course will introduce students to the standard micro-econometric tools that professionals use to analyze, interpret, and evaluate data to inform decision-making processes.

At the end of this course, students should:

1. Be able to estimate linear econometric models.
2. Know how to employ estimated econometric models to summarize data.
3. Be able to identify when the estimated model is appropriate for passive predictions, active predictions, or neither.
4. Know how to estimate parametric models to interpolate and extrapolate data.

Grading

The scale used to assign letter grades in the course will be the standard 90/80/70/60 scale with +/- grades given at +/- 3% around these cutoffs. Curves are at the discretion of the Professor. Once grades are assigned by the instructor at the end of the course, no exceptions will be made. We do not round grades.

Grade Distribution Undergraduates

Midterm 1	20%
Midterm 2	20%
Final Exam	20%
Homework	20%
Project Part A	20%

Grade Distribution Graduate Students (MSPE)

Midterm I	20%
Midterm II	20%
Final Exam	20%
Homework	20%
Project Part A	10%
Project Part B	10%

Instructional Activities

- **Homework**
 - There are 5 homework assignments. The lowest grade among all your homework assignments will be substituted by the second lowest grade.
- **Exams**
 - There will be three exams (two midterms and a final). Each mid-term will only cover the material since the last exam. The final exam will be comprehensive. Basic calculators will be permitted.
 - There are no make-ups for midterm exams. If your absence to a midterm exam is properly documented, the weight of the midterm is transferred to the final exam. This policy applies at most once.

Academic Integrity

Violations of academic integrity as given in the [Code on Campus Affairs](#) will be taken extremely seriously. Students found cheating in the course (or helping others to cheat) will be penalized according to the Code's guidelines.

Course Schedule

See Compass.