Introductory Econometrics

Professor Jack Porter
Social Sciences Building #6448
jrporter@ssc.wisc.edu
Office Hours: Monday 3:45–5:15 and by appointment

TA Ignacio Monzón
Social Sciences Building #6413
monzon@wisc.edu
Office Hours: Friday 10-12 and by appointment

Course Description
This course provides an introduction to the basic techniques of econometric analysis. The main focus is on an understanding of the linear regression model and its extensions and application.

Lectures and Sections
Each week there will be two lectures of 1 1/4 hours. In addition there will be a section meeting once a week in which problems sets and other issues from lecture will be discussed. Attendance is expected.

Prerequisites
Math 221 (Calculus) and Econ 310 (Statistics)

Books
The textbook for the course is:

Other helpful references are:
GOLDBERGER, A., Introductory Econometrics
WOOLDRIDGE, J., Introductory to Econometrics: A Modern Approach
MURRAY, M., Econometrics: A Modern Introduction
Course Websites
http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/jrporter/ec410/econ410.html
and
https://mywebspace.wisc.edu/monzon/web/teaching/uw/410/index.htm

Problems Sets
Problem sets are an important part of the class where students will conduct their own empirical analysis using the econometric techniques discussed in class. We will be using an econometrics software package called STATA; an introductory session will provide basic information on its use.

Problem sets will be assigned approximately every other week and will be due before class on the specified dates. Late assignments will not be accepted. However, the lowest problem set grade will not count toward your semester grade. Students are encouraged to work with others in the class on homework, but each student must write up his/her own solutions. Please list those with whom you worked on your assignment and also attach your STATA files.

Exam Schedule
March 7 Midterm #1 (in class)
April 11 Midterm #2 (in class)
May 15 Final (12:25p)

Grading
Grades will be based on two midterm exams (20% each), a final exam (40%), and the problem sets (20%).

Course Topics (Parenthetical chapter numbers refer to Stock-Watson)
1. Probability and Statistics Review (Chapters 2, 3)
2. Regression
   (a) Single Regressor (Chapters 4, 5)
   (b) Multiple Regressors (Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9)
3. Extensions
   (a) Panel Data (Chapter 10)
   (b) Instrumental Variables (Chapter 12)
   (c) Causality (Chapter 13)
   (d) Binary Choice (Chapter 11)
   (e) Time Series (Chapter 14)