Course Description

Economics 4630 is a course intended to prepare students for more advanced economics courses, especially ECON 4870. Students will master basic probability and statistics, estimation and hypothesis testing, as well as other probability and statistics topics. Emphasis will be placed on applications from economics. Students in this class are required to register for and attend one of the three 1-hour lab sessions taught in Gateway 141. In this lab session students will learn how to use software packages such as Excel to research statistical questions.

Course Materials

This course has one required text: the 7th edition of Basic Statistics for Business and Economics by Lind, Marchal, and Wathen. Older editions of this text may serve as substitutes.

Grading/Assessment

Students’ mastery of the concepts taught in ECON 4630 will be assessed in several ways. Students will complete a series of problem sets, and will take two midterms and a final examination. Also, students are required to complete a paper (due on December 3). Grades will be weighted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Problem sets</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab grade</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-7 page paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm I</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm II</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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All assignments are due at or before the beginning of class. Late assignments will be accepted, but 30% will be deducted for each day late. While general consulting with fellow students on the assignments is acceptable, each student must do the assignments by themselves. Failure to do so will be considered cheating (see policy below).
### Class Meeting | Topic | Chapters
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September 3 | LABOR DAY – UNIVERSITY IS CLOSED | 
September 10 | Topic 1: Introduction to Research Methods for Economists; Topic 2: Descriptive Statistics | 1, 2
September 17 | Topic 2: Descriptive Statistics; Topic 3: Probability | 3, 4, 5
September 24 | Topic 3: Probability; Topic 4: Discrete Probability Distributions | 5, 6
October 1 | Midterm I: TOPICS 1-4 | 
October 8 | Topic 5: Continuous Probability Distributions | 7
October 15 | Topic 6: Sampling Theory in Economics; Topic 7: Estimation and Confidence Intervals | 8, 9
October 22 | Topic 8: One-Sample Hypothesis Testing | 10
October 29 | Topic 9: Two-Sample Hypothesis Testing; Topic 10: Correlation | 11, 13
November 5: Midterm II: TOPICS 5-10 | | 7 – 11, 13
November 12 | Topic 11: Simple Linear Regression | 13
November 19 | Topic 12: Multiple Regression | 14
November 26 | Topic 12: Multiple Regression | 14
December 3 | Review | 
December 10 Paper Due | 
December 10 Final Examination – 2:00PM – 4:30PM: TOPICS 1-12 | 1–11; 13, 14

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**A Final Sermon...**

Your instructor does not give grades. Instead, each student is assigned a grade based on the rules described above. In other words, the student earns his or her own grade. This means that if you need a certain grade for some reason, you need to see to it that you do what is necessary during the semester to earn the grade. The fastest way to hear the word "no" is to ask the instructor to adjust your grade upward simply because it will help you achieve some goal.

How can you succeed in this course? This is a course that requires learning how to think as an economist. To achieve this goal, it will be necessary to study the material and attend class on a regular basis. Memorization and "cramming" will generally be wastes of time. Especially important is practice. I will say this again: **PRACTICE!**

What specific steps can you take to do as well as possible in this course? Consider the following strategy as a place to start:

- Attend class regularly. It is very difficult to do well in this class if you miss much class.
- Do all of the homework problems!
Cheating and Plagiarism

The UNT Department of Economics adheres to the University’s Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism. To view the complete policy go to www.vpaa.unt.edu

Cheating: The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:
1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
2. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
3. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
4. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

Plagiarism: Use of another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student’s intent, including but not limited to:
1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

The penalty for cheating or plagiarism is (at minimum) a grade of “F” for the course.

Disability Accommodation

If you have a disability for which you will require accommodation under the terms of the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, please discuss your needs with me after class or at office hours.

The Economics Department cooperates with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have not registered with ODA, we encourage you to do so. Please present your written accommodation request on or before the 4th class day.