Instructor: Dr. Rachana Bhatt
Office: Andrew Young School of Policy Studies (AYSPS), Room 529
Email: rbhatt@gsu.edu
Office Phone: 404-413-0199
Website: ULearn class webpage
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 1:30-2:30 PM, and by appointment

Course Description & Objective:
This course develops basic knowledge of applied statistics and econometrics with a focus on the relationship between economic variables. The emphasis of the course is on hypothesis testing and economic interpretation of statistical results. The course will introduce estimation approaches such as simple and multiple regression analysis, and cover topics such as hypothesis testing, heteroskedasticity, measurement error, omitted variable bias, and simple time series analysis. These techniques will be applied to real data for the purpose of policy analysis in the areas of labor markets, industrial organization, finance, development, and taxation. The class is taught through a combination of lectures, discussion, homework, and exams. Student involvement and participation in class is highly encouraged and rewarded.

Textbook:
Student Solutions Manual (optional)
Website: academic.cengage.com/economics/wooldridge

Course Outline:
Lectures
Week 1 ................................................................. Snow Days-Classes Cancelled
Week 2 ................................................................. Holiday, Ch. 1, Background
Week 3 ................................................................. Background, Ch. 2
Week 4 ................................................................. Ch. 2, Lab
Week 5 ................................................................. Ch. 2, Ch. 3
Week 6 ................................................................. Ch. 3, Lab
Week 7 ................................................................. Ch. 4, Exam 1
Week 8 ................................................................. Spring Break
Week 9 ................................................................. Ch. 4
Week 10 .............................................................. Lab, Ch. 4
Week 11 .............................................................. Ch. 6
Week 12 .............................................................. Ch. 7, Exam 2
Week 13 .............................................................. Ch. 7, Ch. 8
Week 14 .............................................................. Lab, Ch. 8
Week 15 .............................................................. Ch. 9
Week 16 .............................................................. Exam 3
Course Requirements:

Homeworks:
Some components of homework assignments will require using data and the statistical software STATA. Data sets necessary for homework can be found on the textbook’s website, but will also be posted on the class Ulearn site for download. You may collaborate on homework assignments with other students, and may turn in assignments jointly with a maximum group size of two people. Please append your "log" file to any assignments that involve STATA use.

Important Dates
HW #1 ................................................................. Wed, January 26
HW #2 ................................................................. Wed, February 9
HW #3 ................................................................. Mon, February 21
HW #4 ................................................................. Wed, March 16
HW #5 ................................................................. Mon, March 28
HW #6 ................................................................. Mon, April 11
HW #7 ................................................................. Wed, April 20

Exams
Exam 1 ......................................................... Wednesday February 23, 2011
Exam 2 ......................................................... Wednesday March 30, 2011
Exam 3 ......................................................... Monday April 25, 2011

Attendance:
Class attendance is highly recommended. Material for exams and homeworks will come from both class lectures as well as the book. The only acceptable excuses for missing a test are medical reasons or family emergencies, and an official doctor’s note or excuse must be provided. If you have a legitimate excuse, a make-up exam will be issued soon after the date of the original exam. Any issues should be discussed with me before the actual exam takes place.

Grading Policy:
Homework is due at the beginning of the class period on the appropriate due date. Late homework will not be accepted. Homeworks, class participation, and exams will count for the following percentages of your final grade.
Homework (7) ......................................................... 20%
Exam 1 ......................................................... 25%
Exam 2 ......................................................... 25%
Exam 3 ......................................................... 25%
Class Participation ......................................................... 5%
**Course Software:**
There are several statistical packages for analyzing data. In this course, we will be using STATA. This software is available for use in the AYSPS building Room 720, 7th floor. Please note that access to the AYSPS building and computer lab are restricted to the following days and hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. The front doors of AYSPS lock at 7:00 PM and you will not have access after that. However, if you are already in the building you can continue to work. If you leave anytime after 7:00 PM you will not be able to re-enter. In order to enter the computer lab, you MUST have your GSU Panther card for the door swipe.

In order to get you acquainted with STATA, I will hold 3 lab periods throughout the semester. Each lab will be scheduled during a class period, and held in Room 720 of the AYSPS Building. There are a limited number of computer terminals available in the lab, so if there are a large number of students enrolled in this class, the lab will be held during an extended class session from 2:30-4:30. If this is the case, I will ask you to split yourselves into two groups on the day of the lab. Group 1 should come from 2:30-3:30, and Group 2 from 3:30-4:30.

There are a number of learning resources online for STATA which may be helpful:

**UCLA Academic Technology Services:**
This resource includes FAQs, learning modules, a reference guide, examples, etc...

http://www.ats.ucla.edu/stat/stata/default.htm

>STATA Starter Kit>Learning Modules

**Carolina Population Center:**

http://www.cpc.unc.edu/services/computer/presentations/statatutorial

This resource includes tutorial, examples, reference commands, etc...

**Data and Statistical Services, Princeton University:**

http://dss.princeton.edu/online_help/stats_packages/stata/stata.htm

This resource includes general information on using STATA.

**Many More:**

http://www.stata.com/links/resources1.html

**Additional Information:**
All students are responsible for knowing GSU’s Policy on Academic Honesty as published in On Campus: The Undergraduate Co-Curricular Affairs Handbook. If you require special accommodations for exams, you must provide documentation from GSU Disability Services and make arrangements with me prior to the exam dates.

**Prerequisites:**
Economics 2105, 2106, and a course in introductory statistics

**Note:**
The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.