

Economics 413R— Applied Econometrics
Winter 2007—Department of Economics

Instructor: Lars Lefgren **Grader:** Mindi Martin
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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 3:00-3:50 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday 9:00-9:50 a.m.
Also by appointment

Prerequisites: Econ 388

Course Content:

This course examines the application of econometric methods. Methods are taught and examined in the context of high quality academic research.

Course Grading:

Grades will be based on the following allocation:

Class Participation	10 %
Quizzes	40 %
Final	25 %
Term Paper	25 %

Class Participation:

This is determined by evidence shown in class that you have read the papers. It will generally be determined by your ability to answer simple questions regarding the reading.

Quizzes:

There will be a quiz once per week. These quizzes will be short and you will have ten (the time limit is strict) minutes to complete the quiz. The two lowest quiz scores will be dropped.

Final Exam:

A final exam will be given in the assigned classroom. Students may not collaborate on the final exam, though they are welcome to use their notes and any non-electronic resource.

Term Paper:

A 10 page term paper (not including tables) is due on the last day of class (not the final exam). This paper may be written in groups of up to 3 individuals. Individual contributions will need to be documented, however.

Economics 413R
Applied Econometrics
Course Outline: Winter 2007 – Lefgren

	Date		Description	Quiz
Jan.	8	M	OLS Review	
	10	W	<i>Explaining the Puzzle of Cross-State Differences in Bankruptcy Rates</i>	
	17	W	<i>How Computers Have Changed the Wage Structure: Evidence from Microdata, 1984-1989</i>	Yes
	22	M	<i>What Happens When We Randomly Assign Children to Families</i>	
	24	W	Identification Strategies	Yes
	29	M	<i>Estimates of the Economic return to Schooling from a New Sample of Twins</i>	
	31	W	<i>Respiratory Hospital Admissions Associated with PM₁₀ Pollution in Utah, Salt Lake, and Cache Valleys</i>	Yes
Feb.	5	M	<i>Minimum Wages and Employment: A Case Study of the Fast-Food Industry in New Jersey and Pennsylvania</i>	
	7	W	<i>Bidding for Industrial Plants: Does Winning A 'Million Dollar Plant' Increase Welfare</i>	Yes
	12	M	Instrumental Variables Discussion	
	14	W	<i>Moving to Opportunity in Boston: Early Results of a Randomized Mobility Experiment</i>	Yes
	20	T	<i>Remedial Education and Student Achievement: A Regression-Discontinuity Analysis</i>	
	21	W	<i>Does Compulsory School Attendance Affect Schooling and Earnings?</i>	Yes
	26	M	Finding and Using Data	
	28	W	Problems with Statistical Inference	Yes
Mar.	5	M	<i>Uses and Abuses of Empirical Evidence in the Death Penalty Debate</i>	
	7	W	Maximum Likelihood and Structural Estimation	Yes
	12	M	<i>The Effect of Unemployment Insurance on Unemployment: The Case of Federal Supplemental Benefits.</i>	
	14	W	<i>What Do Parents Value in Education? An Empirical Investigation of Parents' Revealed Preferences for Teachers</i>	
	19	M	Presentation of Paper Ideas	Yes
	21	W	Selection Bias/Quantile Regression	
	26	M	<i>The Relationship between Women's Education and Marriage Outcomes</i>	Yes
	28	W	Linking Theory and Empirical Work/ <i>Sunk Costs and the Variability of Firm Value Over Time</i>	
Apr.	2	M	<i>Testing Mixed-Strategy Equilibria When Players Are</i>	Yes

4	W	<i>Heterogeneous: The Case of Penalty Kicks in Soccer</i> <i>Neoclassical Theory Versus Prospect Theory: Evidence from the Marketplace</i>	
9	M	<i>Testing a Roy Model with Productivity Spillovers: Evidence from the Treatment of Heart Attacks</i>	Yes
11	W	Student Presentations	
16	M	Student Presentations	
25	Wed	Comprehensive Final Exam 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	
