BUEC 333: First Day Handout Fall 2010

Course Title: **Econometrics**   Location: Tuesdays 11:30-2:30 WMC 3520
Professor: Krishna Pendakur
                  WMC4655   Office Hour: Tuesday 3:30-4:20 pm
                  778-782-5501 or *pendakur@sfu.ca or by appointment*   Final Exam: noon-3pm, 12 Dec 2010
Prerequisites: ECON 103 or 200, 105 or 205, BUEC 232 or STAT 270, Math 157 and 60 credit hours. Students with an
                  A- or better in BUEC 232 or STAT 270 can take this course after 30 credit hours. Students seeking
                  permission to enroll based on their BUEC 232 or STAT 270 grade must contact the Undergraduate Advisor
                  in Economics. Students with credit for ECON/COMM 236 may not take BUEC 333 for further credit. (See
                  Undergraduate Advisor in Economics). Quantitative.

MOST IMPORTANT: TONS OF STUFF IS ON MY WEBSITE FOR THIS COURSE
http://www.sfu.ca/~pendakur/teaching/2010/buec333/

This course will introduce you to econometrics, the statistical analysis of economic data. We focus on linear regression, the most common method for analyzing the statistical relationship between two or more variables. You will learn how to apply regression methods to economic data, and how to interpret the results of such analyses. You will also get some experience using statistical software, and establish a foundation for further study in econometrics.

Required Text:
A.H. Studenmund: "Using Econometrics: A Practical Guide" (6th edition) Pearson Addison Wesley, 2010.
        The 5th edition is quite similar, but you are responsible for any differences between the books. Thus, if you choose to use the 5th edition, you should study with someone who has the 6th, so that you can be aware of differences.

The course website is http://www.sfu.ca/~pendakur/teaching/2010/buec333. It is your responsibility to check it regularly. This is where assignments, readings, etc. will be posted. Specific additional readings will be posted on the course website and/or available as a custom courseware.

 There will be regular graded assignments consisting of both exam-type questions and computer exercises. The assignments will be posted on the course website. You are expected to work independently on the assignments. Cheating of any kind will result in at least a failing grade in the course.

 The computer exercises will get you doing some real econometric analysis using the EViews software package. EViews is installed on the lab computers in WMX 2502 and WMX 2506. You can also purchase a student version of EViews if you so desire. Details on lab hours and procedures will be announced in the first week of class.

I encourage you to prepare for BUEC 333 by reviewing material from your introductory statistics course. Concentrate your review on probability distributions (especially sampling distributions) and hypothesis testing. Chapter 16 of Studenmund is a good summary of this material, and you should read it before the semester begins.

Grading:

Your grade will be based on tutorial participation (10%), the assignments (15%), one midterm (30%), one quiz (10%) and a cumulative final exam (35%).

Study questions for the quiz, midterm and final are available in advance on my website. Exam questions will be similar in spirit to—but not identical to---study questions. The Midterm is 2 hours, in-class, and required. There will be 5 assignments, and your grade will depend on your best 4 out of 5.   Tutorials will focus around lab assignments, study questions and lectures. The Final is 3 hours and required. The final must be written to get a passing grade. There are no re-takes for the final *except* for medical reasons. In these cases, a note from a doctor is required to schedule a re-take.

Contact:

Of course you may contact me during my office hour. You may also contact me by email if you have done your work beforehand: you must have tried to resolve the question yourself (using available resources) *and* you must have tried to resolve the question by contacting your TA. I will not respond to any email that has not met these two preconditions.

Cheating: Cheating is bad. See our policies on academic dishonesty and expulsion from the University, http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/t10-02.html. Check our new grade: FD—**F**ail with **D**ishonour!

BUEC 333: Tentative Schedule

Lect#	Date	Topic/Activity	Reading PRIOR to lecture or tutorial; other details
1	7 Sep tutorial	Introduction: *Do Immigrants Earn Less?* no tutorials	
2	14 Sep tutorial	Statistics Review 1	Studenmund Ch17 (Ch 16 in 5th ed), your old intro stats text from BUEC 232 or STAT 270
3	21 Sep tutorial	Statistics Review 2	Studenmund Ch17, your old intro stats text
4	28 Sep tutorial	Statistics Review 3 **Asst 1 due**	Studenmund Ch17, your old intro stats text
5	05 Oct tutorial	Means, Regression and OLS	Studenmund Ch1,2,3,4,5
	12 Oct tutorial	**MIDTERM, 2 hour, in-class** midterm review	
6	19 Oct tutorial	OLS Estimates and Tests **Asst 2 due**	Studenmund Ch4,5
7	26 Oct tutorial	OLS Estimates and Tests	Studenmund Ch4,5
8	02 Nov tutorial	Endogeneity and Specification	Studenmund Ch6,7,8
9	09 Nov tutorial	Instruments and Experiments **QUIZ, 1 hour, in-class last hour; Asst 3 due in Tutorial or TA office**	Studenmund Ch14,16, TBA
10	16 Nov tutorial	Dependent Errors	Studenmund Ch9,10
11	23 Nov tutorial	TBA	
12	30 Nov tutorial	TBA **Asst 4 due**	