Course Content
The objective of this course is to introduce you to techniques and tools to deal with economic data and economic applications. Probability theory and descriptive statistics are central to modern applied economics. A clear understanding of such ideas is important in the subsequent study of economics.

Economics 245 is the foundation of a series of courses in the teaching of quantitative economics. In particular, it will introduce you to basic statistical concepts and characteristics of economic data. By providing insight into various economic data sets, you will be better equipped to summarize and interpret economic events in a meaningful and efficient fashion.

The course is roughly divided into two components: (i) descriptive economic statistics and (ii) probability and random variables. Part (i) deals essentially with how to describe and summarize characteristics of economic data. In the process of doing this we will learn about some aspects of data manipulation that are central to the way in which agencies, such as Statistics Canada, publish economic information. Part (ii) provides applications of probability, and insight into the statistical characteristics of random sampling. Such background material is necessary for us to subsequently learn about statistical inference, a topic that forms the basis for Economics 246.

LECTURES:

In Person: David Turpin Building A102.

On Brightspaces: If for any reason I cannot make it to class, I will record and post the lecture.
LABORATORY CLASSES:

Laboratory classes are scheduled for this course. You need to register in a Laboratory section. The Laboratory sessions cover formal classwork, with an instructor present, and they run **all term**. The first few laboratory classes are designed to provide you with an introduction to the EVIEWS computing package as well as Excel. A lab exercise will be assigned during that time and submission of answers to the lab exercise will *be time sensitive*. At the moment, the plan is to start the labs during the first week of term on May 18th. Labs are submitted in class. You may be required to print or upload your results to Brightspace.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lab Section</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>CRN#</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B01</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Thursday</td>
<td>31172</td>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>BEC 170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B02</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Thursday</td>
<td>31173</td>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
<td>BEC 170</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Students can now download a free version of EViews to use for assignments, etc.

**Grading**
The final grade is determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Weight in grade calculation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (4) (optional)</td>
<td>0% (20 percent if submitted)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 midterm</td>
<td>40% (30 percent if no assignments submitted)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labs (10)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40% (30 Percent if no assignments submitted)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Midterm(s):** The midterm exam is scheduled for June 7th at 12:30 p.m. in class.

**Textbook (optional)**

**Statistics for Business and Economics 15th edition**

Jeffrey D. Camm, James J. Cochran, Michael J. Fry, Jeffrey W. Ohlmann, David R. Anderson, Dennis J. Sweeney, Thomas A. Williams
Publisher: Cengage Learning
Assignment(s): There are four optional online assignments. Assignments will be posted well ahead of the due date and will close at 12 midnight PST on the due date. Make sure you have set up your account before you start the assignment.
## Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Due Dates and Exam Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic 1: Introduction</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Assignment #1 due May @ 24 midnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic 2: Descriptive Statistics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic 3: Index Numbers and Time Series</td>
<td>20, 17</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>Assignment #2 Due June 2 @ 12 midnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic 4: Probability</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Midterm June 7 @ 12:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic 5: Discrete Random Variables</td>
<td>4, 5</td>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>Assignment #3 due June14 @ 12 midnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic 6: Continuous Random Variables; Normal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment #4 due June 23 @ 12 midnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Communication:

Office hours: The University of Victoria has a site licence for Zoom conferencing. I will set a schedule Zoom meetings once a week.
https://uvic.zoom.us/j/89259287012?pwd=ZlVkYzgrNElBZENZaG5ZaGQ0YVhJUT09

BrightSpaces
- BrightSpaces is used as a means of delivering information for the course. All students are expected to be fully functional with the system. Your grades will be posted on Brightspaces.

All announcements will be posted in BrightSpaces. Students are advised to check regularly for updates.

Add and drop dates for standard 2022 Summer Session courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Start date</th>
<th>End date</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>100% fee reduction</th>
<th>Add deadline</th>
<th>50% fee reduction</th>
<th>Academic drop no fee reduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Jul 29</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Jun 5</td>
<td>Jun 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Jun 24</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>Jun 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jul 4</td>
<td>Aug 19</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Jul 10</td>
<td>Jul 11</td>
<td>Jul 21</td>
<td>Aug 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Jun 1</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>May 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jun 2</td>
<td>Jun 24</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Jun 4</td>
<td>Jun 4</td>
<td>Jun 10</td>
<td>Jun 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jul 4</td>
<td>Jul 26</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Jul 6</td>
<td>Jul 6</td>
<td>Jul 12</td>
<td>Jul 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Jul 27</td>
<td>Aug 19</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Jul 30</td>
<td>Jul 30</td>
<td>Aug 4</td>
<td>Aug 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
May 2023
May - August courses begin for all faculties
Wednesday, May 3rd

Senate meets
Friday, May 5th

Last day for Faculty of Law course changes
Wednesday, May 10th
For more details regarding Summer 2023 Important Dates, see www.uvic.ca/law/jd/courseregistration/index.php

May and May-June courses begin
Monday, May 15th

Last day for graduate students to register in a personal leave in summer
Tuesday, May 16th

University Closed (Victoria Day)
Monday, May 22nd

Senate Committee on Academic Standards meets to approve Convocation lists
Thursday, May 25th

Fees deadlines for summer
Wednesday, May 31st
See undergraduate and graduate add and drop dates for standard summer courses

June 2023
May Courses End
Wednesday, June 7th

June Courses Begin
Thursday, June 8th

First registration date for Winter Session 2023/2024
Monday, June 12th
Course registration important dates and deadlines

Spring Convocation
Monday, June 12th - Friday, June 16th

May-June and June Courses End
Friday, June 30th
University Policy

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>73-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>F or N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>0-49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students should review the University’s more detailed summary of grading.

Course Policies

This course adheres to the Undergraduate Course Policies of the Department of Economics that deal with the following issues:

- Academic concessions
- Academic integrity (plagiarism and cheating)
- Attendance
- Grading
- Inclusivity and diversity
- Late adds
- Late assignments
- Repeating courses
- Review of an assigned grade
- Sexualized violence prevention and response
- Students with a disability
- Term assignments and debarment from examinations
- Travel plans
- Waitlists

The following policies are explicitly included because of their importance.

Examinations

Participation (in-person) for all scheduled examinations is mandatory. Consideration for missed examinations will be given only on the basis of documented illness, accident or family affliction, and for no other reasons. In the event of a missed final examination, students are advised to follow the procedures outlined in the University Calendar.

Students are advised not to make work or travel plans until after the examination timetable has been finalized. Students who wish to finalize their travel plans at an earlier date should book flights that depart after the end of the examination period. There will be no special accommodation if travel plans conflict with the examination.

Waitlist Policies

- Instructors have no discretion to admit waitlisted students or raise the cap on the course.
- Students on the waitlist should discuss with the instructor how to ensure they are not behind with coursework in the event they are admitted.
- Registered students who do not participate as specified in this outline during the first week of class meetings for the winter term courses, may be dropped from the course. This will be assessed by not completing the assigned course lecture and questions during that time.
- Registered students who decide not to take the course are responsible for dropping the course, and are urged to do so promptly out of courtesy toward waitlisted students.
- Waitlist offers cease after the last date for adding courses irrespective of published waitlists.
Academic Integrity
Academic integrity requires commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students are expected to observe the same standards of scholarly integrity as their academic and professional counterparts. A student who is found to have engaged in unethical academic behaviour, including the practices described in the Policy on Academic Integrity in the University Calendar, is subject to penalty by the University.

Review What is Plagiarism for the definition of plagiarism. Note: Submitted work may be checked using plagiarism detection software.

University Policy on Human Rights, Equity and Fairness
The University is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive, supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

See General University Policies

Accessibility & Health Resources

Centre for Accessible Learning
Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, you are free to approach me; however, you must register with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) for formal arrangements to be made. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Health Services - University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.

Counselling Services - Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.

Elders’ Voices - The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

Course Experience Survey (CES)
I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey (CES) regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future.

When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to the CES log-in. You will use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be completed on your laptop, tablet or mobile device. I will remind you nearer the time, but please be thinking about this important activity, especially the following three questions, during the course.

- What strengths did your instructor demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?
- Please provide specific suggestions as to how the instructor could have helped you learn more effectively.
- Please provide specific suggestions as to how this course could be improved.
Repeating Courses
Be aware of the policy regarding the repeating of courses; see University Calendar.
In order to request permission to attempt this course for the third time, you must follow the instructions provided under the Repeating Courses policy on the Economics website. Failure to obtain permission will result in deregistration from the course. According to the University of Victoria Calendar [http://web.uvic.ca/calendar](http://web.uvic.ca/calendar)

“A student may not attempt a course a third time without the prior approval of the Dean of the Faculty and the Chair of the Department in which the course is offered unless the calendar course entry states that the course may be repeated for additional credit. A student who has not received this approval may be deregistered from the course at any point and may be asked to withdraw from his or her declared or intended program.”

In order to request permission to attempt this course for the third time, you must follow the instructions provided under the link Repeating Courses at [http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/economics/undergraduate/home/course%20policies/index.php](http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/economics/undergraduate/home/course%20policies/index.php)

Failure to obtain permission will result in deregistration from the course.

E-mail correspondence
Emails should be limited to critical matters, such as inability to “attend” class, an exam, or prolonged illness, and should include the course name and number in the subject line. Questions on course material should be asked during office hours. The standard format for writing a letter must be used. This means it should begin with a salutation (e.g. Dear….), include full sentences and it must conclude with a signature that includes your full name and V#. Text message lingo should not be used.

Electronic devices
Use what you need.

Educational Technology involving storage outside Canada
The following educational technologies, which stores or accesses your personal information outside Canada, is required for this course: Nelson’s Cengage Digital Learning for WebAssign. This product will store your information on an American server.

Personal information is required by the service. The privacy policy and the terms of use list the personal information stored outside of Canada and are available at [https://www.nelson.com/privacy.html](https://www.nelson.com/privacy.html) I encourage you to read these documents. All other technologies, including Tophat, use a Canadian server. I will make you aware if this list changes.

If you are not comfortable with your personal information being stored outside of Canada, please “speak” to me within the first week of class about using an alternative (such as using an alias or nickname). Otherwise, by continuing in this course, you agree to the use of the educational technology in the course and the storage of personal information outside of Canada.

Sexualized Violence Prevention & Response
UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. Students are encouraged to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting [www.uvic.ca/svp](http://www.uvic.ca/svp). If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Contact [svpcoordinator@uvic.ca](mailto:svpcoordinator@uvic.ca).
Learning Outcomes

Economics 245 is the first of a series of courses dealing with statistics and econometrics. At the end of the course students should:

- Understand how to appropriately deal with describing and analyzing basic data sets using economic data.
- Perform simple probability
- Enhance their personal understanding of Canadian data collection agencies.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16 First Day!</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18 Labs Start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24 Assignment 1</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Victoria Day Holiday</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7 Midterm</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>(5)</td>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14 Assignment 3</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6)</td>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>June 26</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
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**Term Assessment - Summer 2023**