

Taber's Lecture Part of Economics 706

Christopher Taber

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Course Website: <http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/%7Ectaber/706>
Office: SS 6446
Office Hours: Tues. 2:00-3:00 (for lecture material)
by appointment(for paper discussion)

Office Hours: My regular office hours will be for regular course material only. For any discussion of the papers, please make an appointment. I am around the department a lot and for those of you that will be working with me, I expect you to make appointments to discuss your research multiple times over the semester. Since some of these meetings can be long, I want to do it outside of regular office hours.

Textbook: The class will not follow a text closely, but as a reference will use Greene, William *Econometrics Analysis*, 7th Edition, Prentice Hall. Mostly Harmless Econometrics by Angrist and Pishke might be a useful reference for much of this material. Most of the readings will be empirical papers in the course that will be described in the lecture notes.

Schedule: The last class will be on Oct 24

Lecture notes and problem sets: Will be available on course website.

Outline of Course:

1. Panel Data
2. Difference in Differences
3. Instrumental Variables
4. Regression Discontinuity
5. Discrete Choice (in unlikely event that we have time)

Credits

This is a three credit course

My part of the class meets for two 75-minute class periods each week over the first half of the semester and carries the expectation that students will work on course learning activities (reading, writing, problem sets, meeting with faculty, etc.) for about 3 hours out of classroom for every class period and then about 9 hours working on paper during second half of semester.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course students will be able to:

- read and understand empirical papers in economics. This means understanding precisely how the empirical work was executed.
- critically evaluate this work. This involves understanding the crucial assumptions behind the result and being able to judge the consequences of these assumptions on the estimates.
- execute these tools on real data using Stata or another package.
- write a high quality empirical paper in economics

Misconduct

Academic Integrity is critical to maintaining fair and knowledge based learning at UW Madison. Academic dishonesty is a serious violation: it undermines the bonds of trust and honesty between members of our academic community, degrades the value of your degree and defrauds those who may eventually depend upon your knowledge and integrity.

Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to: cheating on an examination (copying from another student's paper, referring to materials on the exam other than those explicitly permitted, continuing to work on an exam after the time has expired, turning in an exam for regrading after making changes to the exam), copying the homework of someone else, submitting for credit work done by someone else, stealing examinations or course materials, tampering with the grade records or with another student's work, or knowingly

and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above. Students are reminded that online sources, including anonymous or unattributed ones like Wikipedia, still need to be cited like any other source; and copying from any source without attribution is considered plagiarism.

The Department of Economics will deal with these offenses harshly following UWS14 procedures:

1. The penalty for misconduct in most cases will be removal from the course and a failing grade,
2. The department will inform the Dean of Students as required and additional sanctions may be applied.
3. The department will keep an internal record of misconduct incidents. This information will be made available to teaching faculty writing recommendation letters and to admission offices of the School of Business and Engineering.

If you think you see incidents of misconduct, you should tell your instructor about them, in which case they will take appropriate action and protect your identity. You can also choose to contact our department administrator, Tammy Herbst-Koel (therbst@wisc.edu), and your identity will be kept confidential. For more information, refer to <https://www.students.wisc.edu/doso/academic-integrity/>

Grievance Procedure

The Department of Economics has developed a grievance procedure through which you may register comments or complaints about a course, an instructor, or a teaching assistant. The Department continues to provide a course evaluation each semester in every class. If you wish to make anonymous complaints to an instructor or teaching assistant, the appropriate vehicle is the course evaluation. If you have a disagreement with an instructor or a teaching assistant, we strongly encourage you to try to resolve the dispute with him or her directly. The grievance procedure is designed for situations where neither of these channels is appropriate. If you wish to file a grievance, you should go to room 7238 Social Science and request a Course Comment Sheet. When completing the comment sheet, you will need to provide a detailed statement that describes what aspects of the course you find unsatisfactory. You will need to sign the sheet and provide your student identification number, your address, and a phone where you can be reached. The Department plans to investigate comments fully and will respond in writing to complaints. Your name, address, phone number, and student ID number will not be revealed to the instructor or teaching assistant involved and

will be treated as confidential. The Department needs this information, because it may become necessary for a commenting student to have a meeting with the department chair or a nominee to gather additional information. A name and address are necessary for providing a written response.