ECON 2708 A – Applied Data Analysis  
Department of Economics  
Carleton University  
Fall 2020

CONTACT INFORMATION  
Instructor: Carolina Czastkiewicz  
Office: B-851 Loeb Building  
E-mail: CarolinaCzastkiewicz@cunet.carleton.ca  
Office Hours: TBD  
Lectures: Mondays and Wednesdays 10 am–11:25 am  
Tutorials: Wednesdays 11:35 am–12:55 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION  
An introduction to concepts and tools for using data to study applied economic problems. The course aims to increase students understanding of how various forms of data can offer insight into economic questions. Topics will include identifying relevant datasets, collecting and cleaning both research-ready and user-assembled data sets, data visualization, and summary statistics. In this course we will use Stata as our main software.

PRECLUSIONS and PREREQUISITES  
Prerequisite(s): COMP 1005 with a grade of C- or higher; and ECON 1402 (or equivalent), with a grade of C- or higher; and ECON 2210 (or equivalent), with a grade of C+ or higher.

Students who believe they have taken a similar background course or courses from another university must provide appropriate documentation to the Department of Economics Undergraduate Administrator, Renee Lortie.

COURSE DELIVERY  
Lectures for this course will be mostly asynchronous but we will have periodic synchronous lectures to adjust the course material as needed. Links to the videos will be provided on cuLearn for asynchronous classes and the link to Big Blue Button will also be provided on cuLearn for synchronous classes. Announcements for synchronous classes will be made one week in advance. Whether tutorials will be synchronous or asynchronous will be decided once TAs are allocated to the course. The scheduled times for the lectures/tutorials that are not used for synchronous classes will be used for office hours.

TEXTBOOKS  
There are no required textbooks for this course but here are a few useful references to have.

TUTORIALS
Tutorials will include practice exercises of the concepts reviewed in class with alternative data sources. A successful outcome in this class will crucially depend on the amount of time you put into working with data.

OFFICE HOURS
Please review the class material and come with specific questions. All questions are welcome. If you cannot make my office hours or the TA’s office hours, email me to schedule a different time/day.

EVALUATION
This course will not include exams since management of data cannot really be evaluated without asking you to work with a dataset. Hence, your performance will be evaluated based on five assignments of increasing difficulty and a final project that you will have to present by the last lecture. Each student's grade will be calculated using the following instruments and weights:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (15% each)</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final project</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Assignments: Each of the five assignments will ask you to work with a particular dataset which will be given to you or which you will have to download from a public source. The assignments will cover all the material seen in class from evaluating data sources to cleaning, analyzing and visualizing data.

Final project: The final project will require you to find a data source to analyze using the concepts described in class. A full list of requirements and guidelines will be provided during the course.

Satisfactory Performance Criteria
Students must fulfill all of the preceding course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade (D- or higher). Failure to write the final examination when the student has achieved satisfactory performance during the term will result in a grade of ‘F’ until an appeal to write the deferred final exam, if granted by the Registrar’s Office. A change of grade will be submitted when the deferred final exam has been written and the marks are available. See Academic Regulation 2.3 for the official meanings of the grades, and note that it stipulates that no course grades are final until approved by the Faculty Dean. Application to write a deferred final examination must be made at the Registrar’s Office in writing no later than three working days after the original final examination was scheduled.

REGRADING
Students seeking reappraisal of their graded work (quizzes, exams) should contact the instructor within 2 weeks after they receive their grades.
**PLAGIARISM**
Please be aware that plagiarism is serious offense at Carleton and should be recognized and avoided. For further information on how to do so, please see “Pammett on Plagiarism and Paraphrasing” at [www.carleton.ca/economics/courses/writing-preliminaries](http://www.carleton.ca/economics/courses/writing-preliminaries).

**COURSE MATERIALS**
All class material will be posted on cuLearn. Note that student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

**REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy obligation**
Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website:

**Religious obligation**
Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website:

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**
If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, visit the Paul Menton Centre website [https://carleton.ca/PMC](https://carleton.ca/PMC).

**Survivors of Sexual Violence**
As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through
academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

**Accommodation for Student Activities**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, see the policy at: https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline