

ECON 178 -- SYLLABUS (Spring 2017)
Foster, UCSD, April 10, 2017

Teaching Staff and Consultation Hours			
Name/Position	Times	Room	Contact Info
Carroll B. Foster (PhD/Lecturer)	MW 10 ⁰⁵ - 10 ³⁰ am ¹	ECON 110C	cfoster@ucsd.edu
Asad Dossani	W, 12 ³⁰ - 2 ³⁰ pm	ECON 115	adossani@ucsd.edu
Yifei Lyu	T Th, 10 ³⁰ - 11 am	ECON 123	ylv@ucsd.edu
Won-ki Seo	T, 11-noon	ECON 120	w3seo@ucsd.edu
Irina Zhecheva [R]			izhechev@ucsd.edu
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Course Information

- Course Title: ECONOMIC & BUSINESS FORECASTING [n = 117]
- Lecture: A00 (900139) -- MWF, 9-9⁵⁰ am -- PRICE CENTER THEATER
- Description: Intro to forecasting (including simultaneous-equation and Box-Jenkins methods) used for sales/marketing forecasts and macroeconomic policy simulation. Covers methods of forecast evaluation. Computer homework exercises use STATA program.
- Prerequisite: Ec 120C (may be taken concurrently).

Books, Webpage, and Materials

- No book is required.
 - Some students use Diebold, *Elements of Forecasting* (4th ed.), Thomson South-Western.
 - The Stock & Watson Ec 120C text has sections on forecasting in several places.
 - Advanced forecasting is in W. Enders, *Applied Econometric Time Series*, Wiley (1995).
- Lecture notes, problems, and stat tables at course website: **TritonEd.ucsd.edu**

Calendar

- Holidays: Monday, 29 MAY (Memorial Day)
- Homework Due: Fridays, 21 APR, 5 MAY, 2 JUN
- Midterm: Friday, 5 MAY, in class
- Final: Wednesday, 14 JUN, 8-11 am, in PRICE CENTER THEATER

Course Outline Reading List		Diebold	Stock & Watson
Top 1	BASIC CONCEPTS	Ch. 1-4	§14.1
Top 2	SMOOTHING & TRENDS	Ch. 5	
Top 3	SEASONAL MODELS	Ch. 6	§7.1 - 7.2
Top 4	FORECAST ACCURACY	Ch. 12	§6.4
Top 5-7	ARIMA I - III	Ch. 7-10, 13	Ch. 14
Top 8	TSAR/SIM/VAR		§16.1

¹ I will need a little time to get to my office from the Price Center. I will leave my office at 10:30 unless there are student remaining with additional questions. I can stay as long as you need.

Examinations and Grading

- Midterm = 40 points; final = 75; three graded STATA homeworks = 5 points total (adjusted).
- Exams are open notes/closed book. You may use my lecture notes (on paper) and **one** 8.5 x 11" sheet of your own notes (both sides); you may NOT consult or rely upon old exams or Econ Tutor materials during the exam. You need a working calculator (any kind).
- If you arrive late to an exam, I will allow you to take the exam in the time that remains *as long as no one has turned in an exam and left the room*. Once a classmate has turned in an exam, you will not be allowed to begin the exam and will get a zero.
- If you miss the midterm for a **verifiable** sports/legal/medical reason, I will excuse you and base your grade on the final exam and homework.
- No rescheduled or make-up exams, and no incompletes. You **MUST** take final with the rest of the class on schedule during finals week. Plan your schedule accordingly.
- The course is ultimately graded on a curve based on one recommended by the econ department. I don't know exactly what the curve will look like until after the finals are graded.

About Cheating

1. There is a LOT of it! Honest students are put at a disadvantage by cheaters, and I hate that.
2. I routinely give multiple versions of tests. Only the TAs know which version you have.
3. If I suspect a violation of academic integrity, I withhold your score and grade and send your paper to AIC for resolution. AIC will contact you and tell you what to do. Do not try to drop the course. If you are found not guilty, I will reenter your exam score. If you are found guilty, your college will impose penalties, and I give you an F in the course.