Purpose: This is an advanced course designed primarily for economics majors who have a solid math background and good comprehension of the material covered in Econ 300. We will revisit the material on regression that was introduced in the last third of Econ 300 in more rigorous fashion, and then consider various extensions of the basic regression model that have proved useful to economists. By the end of the course, you should: (1) have a deeper understanding of the fundamental statistical assumptions and methods employed in empirical economic research; (2) be able to read much of the empirical economics literature and construct relevant critiques of the data and methodology employed in contemporary economic research; (3) be able to carry out your own relatively sophisticated empirical analyses of economic data. This course is useful preparation for those of you interested in working in economics and finance-related areas, including those students considering graduate school. We will not have time to cover all potentially relevant material, but will discuss research strategies so that you will be able to identify relevant topics on your own for course projects and for future work.

Classes: I will announce assigned reading and hand out assignments in class, and post notices (and assignments) on the webpage as well. You are responsible for all assigned reading whether or not the material is covered explicitly in class. In the lectures I will focus on the most important topics as well as on those that are more difficult to comprehend. I will assume that you have read the relevant text before the corresponding class. Please ask questions as they arise. Please feel free to comment on the level, pace, and content of the course as it progresses.

Computer Workshops: Manolis Kaparakis will offer a series of three workshops (times TBA) on use of the statistical software package STATA, which is the package we will support for the course. QAC tutors are available for assistance in 108 ALLB throughout the semester (M-Th 3-5:30 and 7-10:30 pm, Fr 3-5:30 pm, Sun 6-10:30 pm). All data files and workshop materials for the course will be filed at P:\QAC\econ385.

Readings: There are two texts: Wooldridge, *Introductory Econometrics, 5th edition*, and Kennedy, *A Guide to Econometrics, 6th edition*. Additional short items will be handed out occasionally. We may discuss some of the papers presented in the economics department seminar series.

Coursework and Grades: There will be eleven homework assignments, a midterm, a project, and a final exam. Both tests are open-book, open-notes. The weights of the different course components in your course grade are:

- Assignments: 25%
- Midterm (March 4): 25%
- Project (May 6; automatic extension to May 11, 6 pm): 25%
- Final Exam (May 15, 2-5 pm): 25%

Assignments will be handed out Mondays and due by 6 pm Friday. They can be dropped off in the Econ 385 slot in the alcove next to the economics department office. Assignments handed in late will be penalized unless an agreement is made ahead of time with me.

Honor Code: All work handed in must be your own. This does not mean that you must refrain from discussing problems with other students as an aid to understanding the material, but it does preclude copying other students’ work. You are expected to discourage such behavior on the part of others. This distinction is generally clear enough to make in practice; when in doubt, please discuss it with me.

Accommodations: Students who request accommodations are required by the Dean’s office to provide documentation outlining their needs and to meet with Dean Patey to discuss their needs. Then please come talk to me early in the semester so we can work out accommodation specifics.