ECON 7130 - Microeconomics III
Spring 2016
Tuesday 2:40-5:40pm
BAS S337

Instructor: Jason DeBacker
Office: BAS N306
Office Hours: Tuesday 9am-11:30am, Thursday 9:30am-12pm; or by appointment
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Recommended Textbook:

- *Mostly Harmless Econometrics*, by Joshua Angrist and Jörn-Steffen Pischke , Princeton University Press, 2009.

Webpage: Announcements, problem sets, and additional readings will be posted to the class website which can be found at: http://mtweb.mtsu.edu/jdebacker/Micro3.html.

Course Description: The objective of this course is to further students thinking and understanding of applied microeconomics. Tools we cover in this course will include theoretical models of microeconomic behavior and cutting edge identification strategies. The course will stress the relationship between theoretical and empirical models and the identification of causal effects.

Class Preparation: Students are expected to have read the relevant materials prior to their presentation in class and to review material covered in the previous classes. I expect every student to be able to participate in classroom discussions.

Homework: There will be two written assignments and two paper presentations over the course of the semester.

Exams: There are no exams in this course.

Grade Determination: Your grade will be based on the following components: Modeling assignment (25%), Empirical assignment (25%), 2 paper presentations (20% each), and classroom discussion (10%).

The following grading scale will be employed:
A = 92.5 and up
A- = 90.0-92.4
B+ = 87.5-89.9
B = 82.5-87.4
B- = 80.0-82.4
C+ = 77.5-79.9
C = 72.5-77.4
C- = 70.0-72.4
D+ = 67.5-69.9
D = 62.5-67.4
D- = 60.0-62.4 F = 59.9 and below

Grades will be calculated exactly as above. Note that there are no opportunities for "extra credit." Please do not ask for special favors or consideration of individual circumstances in the determination of your grade.

Attendance: Attendance affects your grade through the classroom discussion component of your final grade.

Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Middle Tennessee State University is committed to campus access in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any student interested in reasonable accommodations can consult the Disability & Access Center (DAC) website www.mtsu.edu/dac and/or contact the DAC for assistance at 615-898-2783 or dacemail@mtsu.edu. ADA accommodation requests (temporary or permanent) are determined only by the DAC. Students are responsible for contacting the DAC to obtain ADA accommodations and for providing the instructor with the Accommodation Letter from the DAC.

Academic Conduct: Middle Tennessee State University takes a strong stance against academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, and fabrication.

1. Plagiarism. The adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, statements, images, or works of another person as one's own without proper attribution. This includes self-plagiarism, which occurs when an author submits material or research from a previous academic exercise to satisfy the requirements of another exercise and uses it without proper citation of its reuse.

2. Cheating. Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or aids in any academic exercise or test/examination.

3. Fabrication. Unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.

Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly, through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In these instances, the faculty member has the authority to assign an appropriate grade for the exercise or examination, or to assign an F in the course, as is proportional to the nature and extent of academic misconduct.

NOTE: The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Semester Schedule:

Date	Topic
January 19	Introduction and Overview of Applied Micro Tools
January 26	Modeling
February 2	Modeling
February 9	Student Presentations, Modeling
February 16	Student Presentations, Modeling
February 23	Natural Experiments, Data, Intro to Panel Estimators
March 1	Fixed Effects, Differences in Differences
	Spring Break, March 8
March 15	Instrumental Variables
March 22	Regression Discontinuity Design
March 29	Regression Kink Design
April 5	Structural Estimation
April 12	Structural Estimation, Simulation Methods
April 19	Student Presentations, Empirical
April 26	Student Presentations, Empirical