

**Introduction to Health Services Research Methods (HS237C)  
Spring 2006 Syllabus**

**Instructor: Susan L. Ettner, Ph.D.**

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The course objective is to train students in statistical and econometric methods used in health services research, with a focus on practical application of advanced regression models. The course will be graded on the usual letter scale (A-F or pass/no pass). Grades will be based on class participation (5%), homework assignments (35%) and a final research paper (60%). The research paper will be due at 4 pm on the Friday of finals week.

The schedule for when each assignment is due can be found on the class web site. A separate document provides details on instructions regarding the final paper and how it will be graded. Students must purchase the following textbook (if not already purchased for HS237B):

1. Wooldridge, Jeffrey M. *Introductory Econometrics, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*. Thompson South-Western, 2006.

A detailed reading list for each session with electronic links to the readings is provided in a separate document and available from the class website. All articles are accessible on-line through the UCLA library.

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Lecture(s)</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
Introduction to class and Taylor series expansions	1	Tuesday, April 4
Bootstrapping	2	Thursday, April 6 (tentative)
Simulation methods	3	Tuesday, April 11
First-difference and fixed effects models	4	Thursday, April 13
Random effects models <b>Homework #1 due (covers lectures 1-3)</b>	5	Tuesday, April 18
Multi-level models	6	Thursday, April 20 (tentative)
Multi-level models (cont'd)	7	Tuesday, April 25
Generalized estimating equations	8	Thursday, April 27
Survival analysis <b>Homework #2 due (covers lectures 4-8)</b>	9	Tuesday, May 2
Survival analysis (cont'd)	10	Thursday, May 4
Survival analysis (cont'd) <b>Paper proposals due</b>	11	Tuesday, May 9
Discussion of paper proposals	12	Thursday, May 11
Discussion of paper proposals (cont'd) <b>Homework #3 due (covers lectures 9-11)</b>	13	Tuesday, May 16
Generalized Tobit models	14	Thursday, May 18

Sample selection models <b><i>Descriptive statistics due</i></b>	15	Tuesday, May 23
Treatment effects and bivariate probit models	16	Thursday, May 25
Two-stage least squares <b><i>Homework #4 due (covers lectures 14-16)</i></b>	17	Tuesday, May 30
Two-stage least squares (cont'd)	18	Thursday, June 1
Instrumental variables with nonlinear variables	19	Tuesday, June 6 (tentative)
Propensity score estimation <b><i>Homework #5 due (covers lectures 17-19)</i></b>	20	Thursday, June 8

***Two hard copies of final paper and log files due Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, by 4 p.m.***