

UMBC UGC Instructions for New Course Request Form (revised 4/2016)

Course number & title: Enter the number and title of the course at the top of the page. Contact the Registrar's Office to confirm that the desired course number is available.

Date submitted: The date that the form will be submitted to the UGC.

Effective date: The semester the new course is in effect, if approved.

Contact information: Provide the contact information of the Chair or UPD of the department or program housing the course. If the course is not housed in a department or program, then provide the same information for the head of the appropriate academic unit. (See UGC Procedures) If another faculty member should also be contacted for questions about the request and be notified about UGC actions on the request, include that person's contact information on the second line.

Course number: For cross-listed courses, provide all the numbers for the new course.

Transcript title: Limited to 30 characters, including spaces.

Recommended Course Preparation: *Please note that all 300 and 400 level courses should have either recommended course preparation(s) or prerequisite(s) and that 100 or 200 level courses may have them.*

Here fill in what previous course(s) a student should have taken to succeed in the course. These recommendations will NOT be enforced by the registration system. Please explain your choices in the "rationale" (discussed below).

Prerequisite: *Please note that all 300 and 400 level courses should have either recommended course preparation(s) or prerequisite(s)* Here fill in course(s) students need to have taken before they enroll in this course. These prerequisites will be enforced through the registration system. Please explain your choices in the "rationale" (discussed below).

NOTE: Please use the words "AND" and "OR", along with parentheses as appropriate, in the lists of prerequisites and recommended preparation so that the requirements specified will be interpreted unambiguously.

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.

of credits: To determine the appropriate number of credits to assign to a course please refer to the [UMBC Credit Hour Policy](#) which articulates the standards for assignment and application of credit hours to all courses and programs of study at UMBC regardless of degree level, teaching and learning formats, and mode of instruction.

Maximum total credits: This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.

Grading method(s): Please review the [grading methods document](#) (this link can be found on the UGC forms page) before selecting a grading option. Please do not select all three grading options by default.

Proposed catalog description: Provide the exact wording of the course description as it will appear in the next undergraduate catalog. Course proposals should be a) no longer than 75 words, b) stated in declarative sentences in language accessible to students, and c) avoid reference to specific details that may not always pertain (e.g., dates, events, etc.). Course descriptions should not repeat information about prerequisites (which are always listed alongside the course description)."

Rationale: Please explain the following:

- a) Why is there a need for this course at this time?
- b) How often is the course likely to be taught?
- c) How does this course fit into your department's curriculum?
- d) What primary student population will the course serve?
- e) Why is the course offered at the level (ie. 100, 200, 300, or 400 level) chosen?
- f) Explain the appropriateness of the recommended course preparation(s) and prerequisite(s).
- g) Explain the reasoning behind the P/F or regular grading method.
- h) Provide a justification for the repeatability of the course.

Cross-listed courses: Requests to create cross-listed courses must be accompanied by letters of support via email from all involved department chairs. Proposals for new courses or the addition of a cross-listing to an existing course must include as a part of the rationale the specific reason why cross-listing is appropriate. Email from all involved department chairs is also required when cross-listing is removed and when a cross-listed course is discontinued. Please note that Special Topics courses cannot be cross-listed.

Course Outline: Provide a syllabus with main topics and a weekly assignment schedule which includes complete citations for readings with page numbers as appropriate. Explain how students' knowledge and skills will be assessed.

Note: the UGC form is a Microsoft Word form. You should be able to enter most of the information by tabbing through the fields. The document is protected. In the rare case that you need to unprotect the document, use the password 'ugcform'. Beware that you will lose all the data entered in the form's fields if you unlock and lock the document.

UMBC UGC New Course Request: ECON 310 Data Analysis for Economics

Date Submitted: 5/1/2017

Proposed Effective Date: 8/1/2017

	Name	Email	Phone	Dept
Dept Chair or UPD	David Mitch	mitch@umbc.edu	X2160	ECON
Other Contact	Morgan Rose	mrose@umbc.edu	X8485	ECON

COURSE INFORMATION:

Course Number(s)	310
Formal Title	Data Analysis for Economics
Transcript Title (≤30c)	Data Analysis for Economics
Recommended Course Preparation	
Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.	ECON 101, ECON 102, (MATH 151 or MATH 155), all with C or better.
# of Credits Must adhere to the UMBC Credit Hour Policy	3
Repeatable for additional credit?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Max. Total Credits	3 <small>3This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.</small>
Grading Method(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (Approximately 75 words in length. Please use full sentences.):

The course surveys the statistical tools relevant to empirical economics: measures of central tendency and dispersion, hypothesis testing, correlation, and regression. The use of computer software for statistical analysis is illustrated. Obtaining data, and reading and carrying out basic empirical research are also covered.

Note: Not open to students who have passed or are concurrently taking STAT 351, STAT 350, STAT 355.

RATIONALE FOR NEW COURSE:

There are multiple reasons to add this course:

- (1) The course will provide another option for students to meet the introductory statistics requirements for the department's majors (B.A. Economics and BS Financial Economics). Currently this requirement can be met with STAT 350/351/355/451, CMPE 320.*
- (2) The Economics Departments we use as peers to benchmark our curriculum have a required "in house" introductory statistics course. The model where the basic statistics requirement is a service course of the Statistics Department (as we are currently doing) has fallen out of favor with Economics Departments in general. The new course is consistent with the Department updating the curriculum to stay current with peers, and with an increased emphasis on quantitative skills of our students.
- (3) Using Economics full-time faculty for our major requirements is preferred for intermediate level core requirements. This is related to (2).
- (4) A focus on data sources and software used in economic research, and on reading and carrying out empirical economics research, is best done by full-time Economics Department faculty. This is related to (2, 3). Existing courses used by our majors are particularly deficient in these areas.

*The ECON 310 will be the preferred course for our students. However, these introductory statistics courses will continue to be accepted for our majors, and as prerequisites for our courses. This maintains scheduling flexibility (for students and for the department), and accommodates students who are double majors (or are pursuing a minor), or who switch majors from a department/program but already completed one of these various introductory statistics courses. One section of ECON 310 will be taught each spring and fall semester, with the possibility of teaching a summer or winter section if student demand warrants.

ATTACH COURSE SYLLABUS (mandatory):

See separate document.