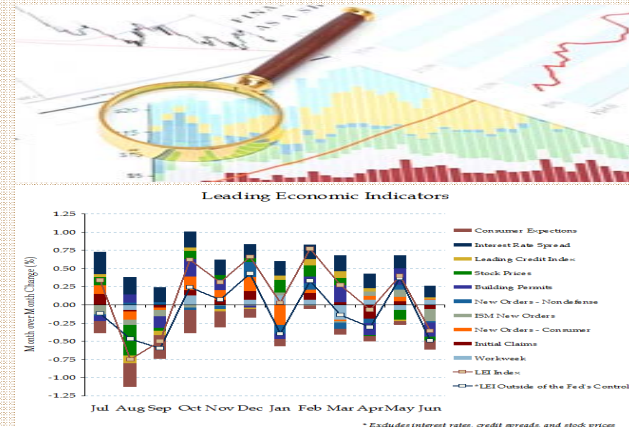


Econ 3390

Exploring Economic Data

This course provides competency in the use of economic data. Goals are to learn to obtain, process and use economic data. Topics include:

- Understanding various economic data: (micro versus macro data, cross-section versus time series versus longitudinal data, opinion versus factual measures, primary versus secondary data, quantitative versus qualitative responses, single variable versus indices, continuous versus discrete data, observational versus experimental studies, too small data sets versus too Big data sets).
- Recognizing challenges and cautions facing data analysts (data collection challenges, data reliability & confidentiality issues, 'human subject' caution, replicability issues, and inconsistencies among different data sources).
- Getting acquainted with several important economic data sources and learning how to use these data sources.
- Practicing how to search economic data and information from various sources.
- Becoming familiar with (Excel and) R-package to analyze data.
- Learning some simple data visualization, pattern recognition and presentation techniques using graphs, tables and simple statistical measures.
- Intuitively understanding how simple causal analyses can be made in business and economic policy making using various types of economic data.
- Learning how to prepare a simple data project in a coherent and succinct manner.



- As a prerequisite, you must have taken either Econ 2010 or Econ 2020
- This course will provide an introduction to using statistical software to unlock the richness in economic data
- This course provides a way to take a crucial step toward becoming a data analyst.
- The aim of this course is to learn how to obtain, organize, examine and analyze data from various online sources and also to learn how to use statistical software for such purpose. An important aspect is also to learn how to write and present a simple data project.

