

COURSE DETAIL

EMPIRICAL METHODS IN FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

Country

China

Host Institution

Fudan University

Program(s)

Fudan University

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Economics

UCEAP Course Number

123

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

EMPIRICAL METHODS IN FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

UCEAP Transcript Title

EMPIRC METHD FIN&EC

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This course provides a conceptual and practical introduction to modern empirical methods used in economics and finance. It begins by discussing how empirical research questions are developed, the role of descriptive analysis, and the distinction between correlation and causation. The course then introduces causality, experiments, and the challenges of identification using observational data. Building on this foundation, the course covers core empirical strategies widely used in applied research, including instrumental variables, difference-in-differences, matching and weighting methods, synthetic control, and regression discontinuity designs. The latter part of the course focuses on assessing empirical credibility through robustness checks, falsification tests, sensitivity analysis, and external validity, as well as deepening interpretation through treatment heterogeneity and mechanism analysis. Throughout the course, students engage with influential empirical papers to understand how leading researchers design and defend empirical studies in practice.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

MF30012

Host Institution Course Title

EMPIRICAL METHODS IN FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

Host Institution Course Details

<https://ogp.fudan.edu.cn/16092/list.htm>

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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