

UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI CASSINO  
FACOLTA' DI ECONOMIA

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SHORT COURSE March 09 - March 12 2009

"Structural Equation Models: an introduction"

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Monday 9, 12:00-14:30 Computer Lab, Room 1.12  
Tuesday 10, 12:00-14:30 Computer Lab, Room 1.12  
Wednesday 11, 10:00-12:00 Computer Lab, Room 1.12  
Thursday 12, 10:00-12:00 Computer Lab, Room 1.12  
Thursday 12, 15:00-16:30 Room 9.01

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Abstract:

Structural equation modeling, or SEM, is a very general statistical modeling technique. Factor analysis, path analysis and regression all represent special cases of SEM.

In SEM, interest usually focuses on latent constructs rather than on the manifest variables used to measure these constructs. Measurement is recognized as difficult and error-prone. By explicitly modeling measurement error, SEM users seek to derive unbiased estimates for the relations between latent constructs. To this end, SEM allows multiple measures to be associated with a single latent construct.

This short course aims at introducing SEM to scholars that have some statistical knowledge but not previous knowledge of SEM.

It will be organized as follows. A four lectures treatment of the basic SEM model. The assumptions and important modeling issues will be treated, as well as detailed description on how to proceed in practice. The reference textbook for the lectures is "Principles and Practice of Structural Equation Modeling" by Rex Kline. At the end, the students will be able to perform SEM analyses on their own data, as well as presenting the results etc.

On Thursday afternoon, the 5th lecture will be a lecture open to a larger audience, where the use of SEM to test measurement invariance hypotheses will be discussed.

<http://stat.unicas.it/>