University of Pennsylvania
Economics 221, Spring 2012
Forecasting in Economics, Business and Government

Instructor: Matthias Kredler
Office Location: McNeil Building #451
Office Hours: Monday 4.00-5.00pm

TA: Zhao Yang
Office Location: McNeil Building #545
Office Hours: Tuesday 3.00-5.00pm

## Course Web Page
We will use the blackboard software.

## Classes
Tuesday and Thursday 10.30-11.45am
Graduate Education Bldg. 008

## Course Description
This course provides a comprehensive introduction to econometric modeling and forecasting in the context of a modern and powerful econometric computing environment.

## Prerequisites:
Statistics and econometrics.

## Course Material:
Francis X. Diebold, Elements of Forecasting, 4th edition, South-Western College Publishing, 2007.

## Software:

R or EViews. R is public domain and Eviews is installed in the Undergra-duate Data Analysis Lab in the McNeil building.

## Course Requirements

Homeworks (50%): There will be about 6 homeworks in which students work with real-world data on the computer. They will be due in the beginning of the class.

Class presentations and participation (10%): Students will be asked to present homework exercises to the class. These presentations and general participation in class constitute 10% of the final grade.

Final Exam (40%): To be given on the date and location scheduled in the University calendar for final exams. If a student is excused from the final exam, a make-up final will be scheduled according to the university rules at the beginning of the Fall-2012 Semester.

## Course Outline

We will follow the book by Diebold: