

San José State University
College of Social Sciences/Department of Economics
ECON 151, Labor Economics, Section 01, Fall 2019

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Darwyn Deyo
Office Location:	DMH 142
Telephone:	(408) 924-5413
Email:	darwyn.deyo@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	R 1:00 – 2:30pm
Class Days/Time:	TR 3:00 – 4:15pm
Classroom:	DMH 166
Prerequisites:	ECON 1A or ECON 1B, ECON 3 or equivalent, and ECON 100W. Students are also expected to be familiar with algebra.

Course Description

Development of labor institutions and markets, public regulation of unions, economics of collective bargaining. Theories of wages, employment and labor income. Students will be expected to complete homework, exams, a paper proposal, peer edits, a paper presentation, and an original final research paper related to labor economics.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Have a deeper understanding of labor market concepts learned in ECON 1B.
2. Be able to apply economic analysis to puzzles in labor economics.
3. Work with and analyze datasets for statistical analysis.
4. Develop a research paper on a topic related to labor economics.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

[EH] Ronald G. Ehrenberg, *Modern Labor Economics* (13th edition). ISBN 9780133462784.
Subscription to *The Economist*
Articles and handouts posted on Canvas

Recommended Readings

[BO] Wayne C. Booth, *The Craft of Research* (4th edition). ISBN 978-0226239736.
[MC] Deirdre N. McCloskey, *Economical Writing* (2nd edition). ISBN 9781577660637.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Key Semester Dates

First Day of Class – August 22
Last Day to Drop Classes – September 3
Homework #1 – September 5
Homework #2 – September 19
Exam #1 – September 26
Paper Proposal Due – October 1
Homework #3 – October 24
Final Proposal Attempt Deadline – October 31
Homework #4 – November 12
First Draft & Peer Edits Due – November 14
Exam #2 – November 21
Last Day of Class – December 5
Final Paper Due – December 11

Participation

Participation will be assessed at random intervals through the semester. Participation is assessed via pop quizzes on the reading, writing workshop participation, class games, weekly Canvas discussion threads on *The Economist*, and other participation activities. Canvas discussion threads will be further explained in class.

Homework Assignments

There will be four homework assignments during the semester to be presented in class. You may work on the homework assignments together. Homework questions will be posted on Canvas one week before they are due. Late homework will not be accepted, *including late arrival to class*. Students who decline to present a homework question will receive zero credit for the assignment. You will also be sorted into groups to facilitate homework days, but your homework grade reflects your homework alone.

Exams

There will be two exams in this course. If a student must miss an exam, this should be discussed with me at least one week ahead of time. In the event of an emergency, students should email me immediately and provide documentation ASAP. Please note that if a student misses an exam and I have not accepted a student's excuse, a grade of "0" will be given. If the absence is excused, the weight of the missing exam will be distributed across the remaining course material.

Final Paper

As part of this course, each student will propose and submit a *research* paper on a subject related to labor economics. The final paper is due in Canvas on the day of the university scheduled final exam, **December 11**, and should run between 8 to 10 pages of text, double spaced, Times New Roman font, size 12, 1 inch margins in a Word Document (.doc or .docx). Tables and references do not contribute to the page count. Your final paper must be submitted to Canvas by **December 11** to receive credit. The final paper will be graded using a

distributed rubric. In addition to the text of your paper, you must include the analysis output file used to generate your results (Excel, R, Python, Stata, etc) with your submission.

Paper Proposal

In order to prepare for the final paper, you will submit a 1-2 page proposal in Canvas by **October 1** (refer to the template on the class webpage). I will then approve this proposal or require adjustments before you proceed. You do not have to wait until the due date (and I recommend you don't!) to submit this proposal. The proposal operates on a PASS/FAIL basis. You may find Booth and McCloskey particularly helpful when writing the proposal and final paper. I will accept proposal resubmissions until **October 31**, at which point you will lose half-credit for the proposal if you have not earned a PASS yet.

First Draft and Peer Edits

The first draft of your paper (minimum 5 pages) is due in class on **November 14**. You also need to upload a copy to Canvas by midnight *before* class. Bring **two physical copies** of the paper to class on **November 14**. Digital copies are *not* permitted. Make sure to staple your paper and bring a red pen (or another non-black, non-blue, non-pencil pen of your choice). We will then conduct in-class peer review edits using the final paper rubric with which you will be graded. It is your responsibility to make sure you bring your paper to class. Failure to provide a draft for someone else to grade will result in zero credit for the peer edit. You will then be graded on the quality of the peer edits you provide to your classmate's paper.

Paper Presentation

You will also give a short ten minute presentation on your paper, which must be emailed to me by midnight before the day of your presentation. Failure to do so will lead to a loss of points on the presentation. You may use a PowerPoint or a PDF file. The presentation will be graded using a distributed rubric.

Course Component	Student Work	Instructor Engagement
Regular 3 units (9 h/wk)	Readings, Homework, Exams, Final Presentation, Final Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class contact hours • Prepare in-class activities • Evaluate student work and provide specific and actionable feedback
Activity 1 unit (3 h/wk)	Workshops, Proposal, First Draft, Peer Edits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and lead proposal workshop including an introduction to data collection • Plan and lead writing workshops • Evaluate student work and provide specific and actionable feedback

Grading Information

Determination of Grades

This course must be passed with a C or better as an SJSU graduation requirement. These weights are fixed - improvement in other categories will not raise your grades elsewhere except as stated otherwise. Late work will not be accepted. The final grade in the course will be based on the following weights:

Category	CLOs Assessed	Weight
Homework	CLO 1, 2, 3	20%
Exams	CLO 1, 2	20%
Paper Proposal	CLO 3, 4	10%
First Draft	CLO 3, 4	10%
Peer Edits	CLO 4	10%
Paper Presentation	CLO 4	10%
Final Paper	CLO 3, 4	20%

Grading Scale

A+: 97-100 A: 94-96 A-: 90-93
B+: 87-89 B: 84-86 B-: 80-83
C+: 77-79 C: 74-76 C-: 70-73
D: 60-69
F: <60

Classroom Protocol

Office Hours

The best way to contact me is by email at darwynn.deyo@sjsu.edu. My office hours are Thursday, 1:00 – 2:30pm in my office, DMH 142.

Academic Honesty

I take academic honesty very seriously and will follow the policies as published by SJSU. These policies are online and available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>. It is the responsibility of the student to read and understand what constitutes a violation of the honor code. Claims of ignorance cannot be used to justify dishonest behaviors. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported through the appropriate channels. In this course, any student caught engaging in activities which violate the honor code as written by the University will receive a semester grade of “F” for this course.

Disability Notice

Please see me as soon as possible if you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

Other Class Policies

1. Students will show respect at all times for others. Class will begin on time and end on time. As such, students are expected to be on time.
2. So as to minimize any disruption to class, ensure that any electronic devices you bring with you to class are set to not produce any sounds during class. This includes setting cell phones to vibrate or silent and muting the speakers on laptops and tablets. Students using their cell phones or laptops for non-class related activities will be asked to leave the room.
3. Students must use their SJSU email to communicate with me regarding course material and messages related to this class. I will make an effort to reply to emails related to the course within 48 hours, excepting weekends, but I will not accept email attachments from non-SJSU emails.
4. I primarily use Canvas for announcements and for students to submit their written work. I encourage students to use Criterion before submitting their final paper to me in order to minimize the number of revisions. All final written work is automatically submitted to Turnitin. Additional materials can be found at <http://www.darwyndeyo.com/econ-151-labor-economics.html>
5. Grades on Canvas do not necessarily reflect your class grade! You may request a grade check from me by email or with at least one class notice.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>” Make sure to review these policies and resources.

ECON 151-01 / Labor Economics, Fall 2019 Course Schedule

My proposed schedule for the semester follows. If it proves too ambitious, I will try to simply say less about each topic rather than cut the topics for the final weeks. In addition to the textbook readings for each week, students should read the articles associated with each topic posted here (<http://www.darwyndeyo.com/econ-151-labor-economics.html>).

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
FRAMEWORK		
1	Aug 22	Introduction & Review (EH 1-2); Demand (EH 3)
2	Aug 26 – 29	Demand & Elasticity (EH 4); Supply (EH 5)
3	Sep 3 – 5	Supply (EH 6); Wage Determination (EH 11, Handouts); HW #1 (Sep 5)
4	Sep 10 - 12	Compensating Differentials (EH 8)
5	Sep 17 – 19	Wage Controls (Handouts); HW #2 (Sep 19)
6	Sep 24 – 26	Exam Review; Exam #1 (Sep 26)
SEARCH AND MOBILITY		
7	Oct 1 – 3	Writing Workshop & Proposal Due (Oct 1)
8	Oct 8 – 10	Human Capital & Signaling (EH 9, Handouts)
9	Oct 15 – 17	Unemployment & Search Theory (EH 14, Handouts)
10	Oct 22 – 24	Market Barriers (EH 13, Handouts); HW #3 (Oct 24)
11	Oct 29 – 31	Mobility & Immigration (EH 10; Handouts)
12	Nov 5 – 7	Immigration & Migration (Handouts); Writing Workshop (Nov 7)
13	Nov 12 – 14	HW #4 (Nov 12); First Draft Due & Peer Edits (Nov 14)
14	Nov 19 – 21	Exam Review; Exam #2 (Nov 21)
FINAL PAPER		
15	Nov 26	Final Paper Presentations (Nov 26); Thanksgiving (Nov 28)
16	Dec 3 – 5	Final Paper Presentations
Final Paper Due	Dec 11	Submitted on Canvas