

San José State University
Economics Department
ECON 100W, Writing Workshop: Economic Reports, Sections 1 and 2 Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Triya Seshadri
Office Location:	Online through Zoom meetings.
Email:	Email from Canvas Inbox
Office Hours:	Online Through email scheduling
Class Days/Time:	Section 1: MW 12:00pm-1:15pm Section 2: MW 1:30pm-2:45pm
Classroom:	Zoom Sessions Online
Prerequisites:	A3 or equivalent second semester composition course (with a grade of C- or better); completion of core GE, satisfaction of Writing Skills Test and upper division standing.

Course Description:

Writing skills appropriate to Economics Majors: writing short and long essays and a research paper on various economic topics.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Develop writing, reflecting, peer reviewing and editing skills.
2. Apply critical thinking and analysis to current economic issues.
3. Utilize the economic way of thinking in both quantitative and qualitative writing.
4. Learn how to propose, write and edit, and peer review a research paper.

Required Materials

[WS] Writing for Success, Free Online resource, linked through Canvas Course page.

[EW] Deirdre N. McCloskey, *Economical Writing* (2nd or 3rd edition).

Articles, handouts and videos posted on Canvas.

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 practical. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Important Dates for the course:

Category	Date
Syllabus Quiz	August 30 th 2020
Library Resources and Quizzes	September 13 th 2020
Grammar Refresher Quizzes	October 11 th 2020
Final Paper Proposal Due	September 21 st 2020
Annotated Bibliography Due Date	October 7 th 2020
Final Paper Draft Due Date	November 16 th 2020
Power Point Presentation Due	November 16 th 2020
Paper Presentations	Nov 18 th , 23 rd , 30 th and 2 nd
Peer Reviews of Final Papers Due Date	November 30 th 2020
Final Paper Due Date	See Canvas Course Page
Thought Essays Due Date	Sept 14 th , Sept 28 th , Oct 12 th
Peer Reviews Due Date	Sept 16 th , Sept 30 th , Oct 14 th

Course Components:

Completion Quizzes: (Total 10% of grade)

You will get a completion grade if you complete each of the following quizzes on Canvas. You can take them as many times as you want till you get a full score. The only requirement is that you complete it by the due date and get a full score on each of them.

Research Topics Survey on Canvas: (2%)

As the name suggests, this is a survey designed to help me assign research topics. You need to complete this by 11pm August 30th 2020.

Library Resources and Quizzes: (3%)

Canvas will have a series of exercises with quizzes at the end that help you understand plagiarism and learn how to paraphrase. You need to complete all of these exercises and quizzes by 11am September 13th 2020.

Grammar Quizzes: (5%)

I have posted links to some grammar exercises that I believe are important to you. You need to complete all of these exercises and quizzes by 11pm October 11th 2020. You need to post your responses a specific way on Canvas to get full points. Please be mindful of that and ask questions if you are not sure.

Completion Exercises: (Total 12% of Grade)

You will get full points if you complete the following exercises on time and with appropriate effort. These are designed to be easy to complete. They are only graded for on-time completion and good-faith effort. The lowest score of the Video Response and associated assignments will be dropped.

In-Class Video Responses: (2%)

We will begin class every Monday with a 20-minute writing exercise. You will watch a video and explain the economic concept in the Video in about 200-words. Do not worry about spelling or grammar. This is an exercise to help you jump start your writing process. You get full points if you complete this exercise with adequate effort.

Video Response Peer Review (Homework): (3%)

You need to complete a Peer-Review of a classmate's Video Response. This is due by 11:00am the following Wednesday. I will give you instructions on how to complete peer-reviews. This is also a completion grade. However, if you do not complete a peer review, you do not get points for your Video Response for that week.

Reflection: (2%)

Every Wednesday, we will begin class with a group reflection exercise. You will reflect on your Monday writing, and comment on the feedback you received. Then you will write your reflections in class in about 100 words. This is also a completion grade. You get full points if you complete this exercise with adequate effort.

Revision (Homework): (3%)

You need to revise your Video Response based on the feedback you received and your reflection. This is when you will correct content, grammar and spelling mistakes. You can complete this by 11:00pm on Sunday.

Library Workshop Attendance: (2%)

Our library liaison Ms. Christa Bailey will conduct an information session, on September 2nd during class time, to help you understand how to use library resources. You get full points if you attend and participate in the group activity during the session.

Thought Essays and Peer Reviews: (18% of Total Grade)

You will complete three Thought Essays (two in September and one in October). These are longer essays (~500 words) on Economic Topics. These are graded based on a rubric and I will have comments for each of you. In addition, each of you will complete a Peer Review of a classmate's Thought Essay. My expectation is that you will utilize comments from me and your classmate (peer) to improve your future writing. I will have an example Thought Essay and Peer Review on Canvas for you to peruse through and understand the style. The lowest scores of three Thought Essays and three Peer Reviews will be dropped.

Final Paper (20% of grade):

Each student will complete a research paper on an Economic Topic. You can choose from a list of Economic Topics. The paper can either be a theoretical exploration or an empirical analysis of the topic. The Final Paper is due on the day the Final Exam is scheduled for this course. All Final papers should be at least 3000 words, approximately 9-10 pages (not longer than 12 pages excluding tables/charts etc.) double-spaced, Times New Roman Font size 12 with 1-inch margins. The paper should be submitted on Canvas and on Turnitin by the due date and time. **If your Turnitin similarity score is 10% or higher you need to revise and resubmit your paper.** The grading rubric for the Final Paper will be posted on Canvas.

Parts of the Final Paper (20% of grade)

To help you complete your Final Paper in a timely manner, we will work on it in stages throughout the semester. Therefore, instead of trying to write everything in one week, we will pace ourselves with checkpoints along the way. In addition, you score grade points for every checkpoint you meet. Here are the different parts you will work on.

Part 1: Proposal (10% of grade)

You will be assigned a topic by September 2nd. Once you have the topic, you will complete preliminary literature search on the topic, and come up with a proposal for your research paper. Your proposal needs to follow some guidelines I will discuss in my lecture. Your proposal needs to be at least 300 words and at most 500 words. It is due on September 21st. I will give you feedback on your proposal by September 30th.

Part 2: Annotated Bibliography (3% of grade)

You need to complete and submit an annotated bibliography, and list of citations for your Final Paper. You need to summarize three peer-reviewed articles and provide at least 10 citations in the APA format. This assignment is due on October 7th, 2020. You can add to this literature review as you continue writing your Final Paper.

Part 3: Introduction (2% of grade)

You will submit a preliminary Introduction section to your paper by October 21st, 2020. This needs to be at least 300 words.

Part 4: Main Content (3% of grade)

You will submit a draft of the main content sections by October 28th, 2020. This needs to be at least 1000 words.

Part 5: Conclusion (2% of grade)

You will submit a preliminary Conclusion section to your paper by November 4th, 2020. This needs to be at least 300 words.

Please plan for these due dates early and submit assignments on time. We are all online all the time and there are significant demands on your time and my time outside of class as well. I have scheduled grading time when I am not disturbed by my family. When you submit assignments on time, I will be able to give you timely feedback to help improve your final research paper.

Final Paper Draft, and Presentation (15% of your grade)

Final Paper Draft and Presentation Slides: (3% and 2% respectively)

All students need to submit a Final Paper Draft by November 16th, 2020. This draft needs to as close to completion as possible. You will continue to improve on this draft. However, your peers and I will give you comments on this version. Everyone will complete a Peer-Review of his or her buddy's draft.

You need to submit Presentation slides by November 16th, 2020.

Presentation and Presentation Reviews: (5% each)

We will spend the last four to five class sessions on student presentations. Every student not presenting has to submit presentation reviews for each presentation. I will give you rubrics for these.

Final Paper and Peer Review (20% and 5% respectively)

Your Final Paper is due on the day of the scheduled Final Exam for your Section. The appropriate due date and time will show up on your Canvas page.

Each of you needs to complete a peer-review of your buddy's Final Paper Draft. This is due on November 30th. I will give you guidelines on how to complete this.

Absences:

Please try your best to attend lecture days. Mark the presentation days on your calendar so you do not miss them. If you are unable to make it to class please let me know in advance so I can find partners for group activities before class starts.

Zoom Sessions:

All Zoom lectures will be recorded and posted on the Canvas Course page. Only the lecture part of the class will be posted. Group discussions, and peer reflection conversations will not be posted on Canvas.

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. Late work will not be accepted. I do not offer individual extra credit, or extensions on due dates unless you have valid documented reasons. The final grade in the course will be based on the following weights:

Category	Percentage of Course Grade
Video Essay, Review, Reflection and Revision*	10%
Survey, Grammar and Library Quizzes*	10%
Attendance: Library Workshop Day*	2%
Final Paper Proposal	10%
Parts of the Research Paper	10%
Thought Essays (Lowest of 3 dropped)	12%
Peer Reviews of Thought Essays (Lowest of 3 dropped)	6%
Final Paper Draft*	3%
Peer Review of Final Paper Draft	5%
Presentation Slides Submission*	2%
Presentation and Reviews of Presentation	5% each
Final Paper	20%

*You get full credit for these assignments if you submit (with adequate effort) on time.

Grading Scale:

Grade	Percentage
A plus	97 to 100%
A	94 to 96%
A minus	90 to 93%
B plus	87 to 89 %
B	84 to 86%
B minus	80 to 83%
C plus	77 to 79%
C	74 to 76%
C minus	70 to 73%
D	60 to 69%
F	Less than 60%

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. I am not qualified to evaluate and determine special learning requirements. Therefore, all academic accommodation requests need to be officially processed by AEC.

Online Class Etiquette:

1. Students will show respect for others at all times.
2. Please stay muted until it is your turn to talk.
3. All course communication **has to be through Canvas**.
4. Please email me using your SJSU email through Canvas. All attachments need to be through Canvas.
5. I will usually reply within 24 hours except during weekends.
6. I will use Canvas messages and announcements frequently.

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 100W 01 and 02, Writing Workshop: Economic Reports, Fall 2020 Course Schedule

[Please Click on Syllabus or Calendar on Canvas to see due dates for all assignments.](#)

Any changes to this schedule will be communicated through Canvas.