

San José State University
Department of Economics
Course ID: 50548 ECON 100W, Section 4
Fall 2020

Instructor:	Ninh D. Nguyen, Ph.D.
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Office Hours:	Online/Email
Class Days/Time:	TBA
Classroom:	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 majors in economics: lucid expression in essays, reports and other types of Communication.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Develop editing, writing, and presentation 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 a research paper.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Deirdre N. McCloskey, *Economical Writing (2nd or 3rd edition)*.
Articles and handouts posted as distributed

Classroom Protocol

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.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. [Information on add/drops are available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html) . [Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/](http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/) . Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

Assignments and Grading Policy

This course is a writing intensive course. You are expected to demonstrate and convey economic concepts through writing.

There will be shorter writing assignments assigned on a weekly/bi-weekly basis encompassing half your grade (50%). The remaining 50% will be your final term paper.

University Policies

Academic integrity

Students should know that the University's [Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf). Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for [Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html).

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

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, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

ECON 100W Fall 2020 Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	08/16	Introduction of Model Use; Economic Premises.
2	08/23	Topic: Scarcity – Thought Piece on Toilet Paper.
3	08/30	Assignment 1: Why Did We Scrounge for Toilet Paper?
4	09/03	Topic: Consumer Sentiment – Thought Piece on “The Covid Crash” from February 2020 through March 2020
5	09/13	Assignment 2: Did we forget about “The Covid Crash”
6	09/20	Topic: Demand for Commercial Real Estate – Thought Piece on CRE vs Work-From-Home.
7	09/27	Assignment 3: What will happen to CRE in the next business cycle?
8	10/04	Topic: Business Cycle 1 – Thought Piece on Macro Economic Trends <i>(data intensive)</i>
9	10/11	Topic: Business Cycle 2 – Thought Piece on Macro Economic Trends <i>(data intensive)</i>
10	10/18	Assignment 4: When do we recover?
11	10/25	Topic: Volatility Markets 1 – Thought Piece on VIX <i>(calculation intensive)</i>
12	11/01	Topic: Volatility Markets 2 – Thought Piece on VIX Futures <i>(calculation intensive)</i>
13	11/08	Topic: Volatility Markets 3 – Thought Piece on VIX vs Equities Markets <i>(calculation intensive)</i>
14	11/15	Assignment 5: The Alpha and Beta in Portfolio Management
15	11/22	Topic: Financial Research Paper Guidelines 1
16	11/29	Topic: Financial Research Paper Guidelines 2
17	12/06	Topic: Financial Research Paper Guidelines 3
Thursday	12/10	Research Paper due: Thursday, December 10th, 5:15PM -7:30PM