

San José State University
Economics Department
ECON 100W, Writing Workshop: Economic Reports, Section 02 Spring 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Triya Seshadri
Office Location:	DMH 219
Email:	triyakshana.seshadri@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	W 12pm-1pm and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	MW 1:30pm-2:45pm
Classroom:	HGH 217
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 Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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 Materials

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

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

Articles and handouts 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
Last Day to Drop without W	February 4 th 2020
Final Paper Proposal Due	March 4 th 2020
Literature Review Due Date	March 25 th 2020
Final Paper Draft Due Date	April 22 nd 2020
Powerpoint Presentation Due	April 27 th 2020
Paper Presentations	Apr 29 th , May 4 th , 6 th and 11 th
Peer Reviews of Final Papers Due Date	Mat 4 th 2020
Final Paper Due Date	Monday May 18 th 2pm
Thought Essays Due Date	Every Monday class meets
Peer Reviews Due Date	Every Wednesday Class Meets

Course Components:

In-Class Journal and Writing/Editing Exercises: Bring a Composition Book.

We will begin class every Monday with a 15-minute writing exercise. I will give you a prompt based on the week's topics, and you will complete a 200-word (minimum) writing assignment. You need to complete this in a composition book using a pen. If you forget your composition book, you lose 25% of your grade for that day. I will mark your completion of this exercise at the end of each class.

We will end each class with a 10-15 minute group writing/editing exercise. This will apply the writing topics for the week, and help correct common mistakes writers make. I will mark your completion of this exercise at the end of each class.

Journal Revisions:

Every Wednesday, we will begin class revising your Monday's Journal Entry. Revisions include correcting spelling and grammatical mistakes, revising sentence structure, or adding more details. You need to include a paragraph (~100 words) describing what you revised, why you revised it and how you did it.

Thought Essays and Peer Reviews:

I will divide the class into two groups by the second week of the semester, and each student will have a buddy. Every other week one group will complete a 500 word (minimum) Thought Essay on an Economic Topic. You need to apply economic concepts to essay prompts and analyze the topic accordingly. The other group will complete a 200-word (minimum) peer review of the Thought Essay of their buddy. Thought Essays will be due on Mondays, and Peer-review reports on Wednesdays. Peer Review will be based on a Rubric handed out in class.

Final Paper:

Each student will complete a research paper on an Economic Topic. You can either choose from a list of Economic Topics or choose your own. 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 distributed in class.

Final Paper Proposal/Literature Review:

To help prepare for your Final paper, you need to submit a Paper Proposal (at least 500 words) by March 4th. Your proposal needs to follow a standard rubric that will be handed out in class. I will give you suggestions or recommendations by March 11th.

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. The literature review is due on March 25th 2020. You can add to this literature review as you continue writing your Final Paper.

Please plan for these due dates early. I do not accept any late work. If you do not submit these on time you will earn a zero for this component of the course.

Final Paper Draft/Paper Presentation:

All students need to submit a Final Paper Draft by April 22nd 2020. This draft needs to be 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 needs to complete a Peer-Review of his or her buddy's draft.

Presentation slides have to be submitted by 1:00pm on Monday, 27th April 2020. You will not be allowed to present your paper if you do not submit your slides by the above date and time. We will spend the last four to five class sessions on student presentations. Every student not presenting has to submit Peer-Edits for each presentation. I will have rubrics for you to use.

Bonus/Extra Credit:

I do not offer individual Bonus or Extra Credit opportunities. I do not offer make-up for any classroom activities. You can miss up to 3 classes with no grade penalty since three of your lowest scoring classroom activities (journals and revisions) will be dropped. You can score up to 0.25 percentage points for each Provocative Lecture you attend. You need to sign-in to receive credit. If you attend, but forget to sign-in you do not receive any credit. No exceptions!

Absences:

I will take attendance at the beginning of every class. You can miss up to three classes without a grade penalty because I will drop the lowest three Journal and Revision Entries. If you miss class because of medical (extended illness) or legal reasons (jury duty etc.), please submit the appropriate documentation, and we will find a way to help you catch-up to missed lessons. Please mark your calendars for the Presentation dates and do not schedule any elective medical procedures or job interviews during that time. You lose points for each presentation day you miss. These cannot be made up. If you have an unavoidable circumstance let me know immediately.

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
In-Class Journal and Editing Exercises	10%
Journal Revisions	5%
Attendance: Library and Workshop days	2%
Final Paper Proposal	10%
Literature Review	10%
Peer Review	3%
Thought Essay	15%
Final Paper Draft	10%
Peer Review of Final Paper	5%
Presentation and Final Paper Peer Edits	5% each
Final Paper	20%

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%

Classroom Protocol

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.

Other Class Policies

1. Students will show respect for others at all times.
2. Class will begin on time and end on time.
3. Cell phones need to be set on silent, and laptop speakers need to be muted.
4. Students using electronic devices for non-class purposes will be asked to leave the classroom.
5. Students completing homework for other courses during class-time will be asked to leave.
6. Please email me using your SJSU email through Canvas. All attachments need to be through Canvas.
7. I will usually reply within 48 hours except during weekends.
8. I will use Canvas 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-02, Writing Workshop: Economic Reports, Spring 2020 Course Schedule

This is the planned schedule for the course. Weekly topics correspond to the writing exercises we will complete that week. In addition to the listed readings, additional readings may be assigned and will be handed out in the classroom and posted on Canvas. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class and through Canvas.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments	Workshops, Deadlines
1	1/27, 1/29	Syllabus, Introduction, WS-1 Writing Basics, WS 2, EW 1-3 Topic: Role of Incentives	Writing Center House Call 1/29
2	2/3, 2/5	Language Basics WS 3, EW 4-6 Topic: Meaning of scarcity	Writing Center Workshop 2/5
3	2/10, 2/12	Working with words WS 4,5 EW 7-12 Topic: Trade and Tariffs	
4	2/17, 2/19	Writing Paragraphs WS 6, EW 13-14 Topic: Price Control Policies	Library Day 2/19: Meet at MLK 125
5	2/24, 2/26	Refining your writing WS 7, EW 15-18 Topic: Minimum Wage	
6	3/2, 3/4	The Writing Process, WS 8, EW 19-23 Topic: Costs of Production. Oil and Airline Industries	Paper Proposal Due 3/4

7	3/9, 3/11	Writing Essays WS 9, EW 24-28 Topic: Are we worse off than previous generations? Decadal GDP and Inflation Data for the US (1950s to 2018)	Writing Center Workshop 3/11
8	3/16, 3/18	Annotated Bibliography Topic: Inflation and Unemployment data	
9	3/23, 3/25	Research Writing and Critical Thinking WS 11 Topic: World Bank Income Groups Country Data and Growth	Literature Review Due 3/25
10	3/30, 4/1	NO CLASS SPRING BREAK	
11	4/6, 4/8	Writing a Research Paper WS 12 Topic: World Bank Income Groups Country Data and Growth	
12	4/13, 4/15	Writing a Research Paper WS 12 Topic: US AD data and Growth rates	
13	4/20, 4/22	Creating a Presentation Topic: 2009 Financial Crisis	Final Paper Draft Due 4/22
14	4/27	Rehearsing and Presenting your paper Topic: The Great Depression and the Great Recession	Presentation Slides Due 4/27
14	4/29	Student Presentations and Peer Reviews	
15	5/4, 5/6	Student Presentations and Peer Reviews	
16	5/11	Student Presentations and Peer Reviews	
17	5/18	Final Paper Due on Canvas and Turnitin by 2:00pm	