

**San José State University**  
**College of Social Sciences/Department of Economics**  
**ECON 151, Labor Economics, Section 01, Fall 2017**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Darwyn Deyo
<b>Office Location:</b>	DMH 142
<b>Telephone:</b>	(408) 924-5413
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:darwyn.deyo@sjsu.edu">darwyn.deyo@sjsu.edu</a>
<b>Office Hours:</b>	TR 3:30pm – 5:00pm
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	TR 1:30 – 2:45pm
<b>Classroom:</b>	DMH 160
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	ECON 1A or ECON 1B. Students are also expected to be familiar with algebra.

***Course Description***

Topics will include labor market models, wage determination, unemployment, signaling, human capital, barriers to entry in labor markets, and informal labor market institutions. Students will be expected to complete homework, two midterms, a paper proposal, and an original final research paper related to labor markets and/or labor market regulation.

***Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)***

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Have a deeper understanding of labor market concepts learned in Principles of Economics.
2. Use a range of new analytical tools.

***Required Readings***

[EH] Ronald G. Ehrenberg, *Modern Labor Economics* (12<sup>th</sup> edition). ISBN 9780133462784.

[MC] Deirdre N. McCloskey, *Economical Writing* (2nd edition). ISBN 9781577660637.

Articles and handouts posted on Canvas

***Recommended Readings***

[GR] Stephen A. Greenlaw, *Doing Economics* (6th edition). ISBN 9780618379835.

## Course Requirements and Assignments

### *Key Semester Dates*

First Day of Classes – August 24

Last Day to Drop Classes – September 6

First Midterm – October 3

Paper Proposal Due – November 2

Second Midterm – November 14

Last Day of Classes – December 7

Final Paper Due – December 19

### *Homework Assignments*

There will be four homework assignments during the semester which students will present in class at random. You may skip a question *once* in the semester when I call on you. If you skip more than once, you will receive no credit for that week's homework assignment. There is no shame in making errors on a homework assignment – it is often how we learn! – but you must come to class prepared. You may work on the homework assignments together. Homework questions will be posted on Canvas one week before they are presented in class.

### *Midterms*

There will be two midterms 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. Students should bring Blue Books for the exam.

### *Paper Proposal and Final Paper*

As part of this course, each student will propose and submit a *research* paper on a subject related to labor markets. The final paper is due on the day of the university scheduled final exam, **December 19** and should run between 8 to 10 pages, double spaced, Times New Roman font, size 12, 1 inch margins. You can write on any subject you choose, as long as it relates to labor market economics. In order to prepare for the final paper, you will submit a 1 page proposal to me by **November 2** stating the research question and hypothesis, data sources, methods, and 5 citations you plan to use. I will then approve this proposal or require adjustments before you proceed. You do not have to wait until November 2 (and I recommend you don't!) to submit this proposal to me. The proposal and final paper both operate on a PASS/FAIL basis. You should aim to submit the final paper to me before the December 19 deadline and I will return it to you with comments. Once you have addressed all my comments, you will receive a PASS grade. You cannot pass the class until you receive a PASS on the final paper, and until then you will have an INCOMPLETE for the class. You may find McCloskey and Greenlaw particularly helpful when writing the proposal and final paper. I will not accept first round drafts after the December 19 deadline and excuses about computer failure, etc. will not be accepted as you can submit your final paper to me at any time after your proposal is approved. If you wait until December 19 to submit your paper for first round reviews, you will have an INCOMPLETE grade for the class until your revisions are complete. However, if you submit your first draft to me before the Thanksgiving holiday (November 23), you will receive a 5% grade bump on your final course grade. After you receive final approval on your paper revisions, submit that final draft to Turnitin.

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 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

## **Grading Information**

### ***Determination of Grades***

This course must be passed with a C or better as an SJSU graduation requirement.

The final grade in the course will be based on the following weights:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Homework	15%
Paper Proposal	10%
First Midterm	15%
Second Midterm	25%
Final Paper	35%

These weights are fixed - improvement in other categories will not raise your grades elsewhere except as stated otherwise. Late work will not be accepted.

### ***Grading Scale***

A: 95-100 A-: 90-94

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](mailto:darwynn.deyo@sjsu.edu). My office hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30 – 5:00pm in my office, DMH 142, or by appointment on Wednesday.

### ***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](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. If you are using a laptop or tablet, I also require that you sit in the front two rows of the class.
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 reply to non-SJSU emails or accept email attachments from non-SJSU emails.
4. I primarily use Canvas for announcements, handouts, articles, 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. Students must submit all final written work to Turnitin.

### **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/>"

## ECON 151-01 / Labor Economics, Fall 2017 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 handouts associated with each topic posted on Canvas.

### Course Schedule

Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 24	Introduction and Review (EH 1-2)
2	Aug 29 & 31	Demand and Elasticity (EH 3-4; MC 1-3)
3	Sep 5 & 7	Labor Supply (EH 6-7; MC 4-6; GR 1-2)
4	Sep 12 & 14	Wage Determination (EH 11; MC 7-9; GR 3-4)
5	Sep 19 & 21	Compensating Differentials (EH 8; MC 10-12; GR 5-6)
6	Sep 26 & 28	Wage and Nonwage Regulation (Handouts; MC 13-14)
7	Oct 3 & 5	<b>First Midterm (October 3) and Test Review (October 5)</b>
8	Oct 10 & 12	Search Theory and Unemployment (EH 14; MC 15-17; GR 7-8)
9	Oct 17 & 19	Unemployment and Signaling (Handouts; MC 18-20; GR 9-10)
10	Oct 24 & 26	Human Capital (EH 9; Handouts; MC 21-23; GR 11-12)
11	Oct 31 & Nov 2	Labor Mobility (EH 10; MC 24-26)
12	Nov 7 & 9	Immigration and Migration (Handouts; MC 27-28)
13	Nov 14 & 16	<b>Second Midterm (November 14) and Test Review (November 16)</b>
14	Nov 21 & 23	Labor Market Barriers (Handouts; MC 29-31)
15	Nov 28 & 30	Labor Market Contracts (Handouts)
16	Dec 5 & 7	Illegal and Shadow Labor Markets