

San José State University

College of Social Sciences/Department of Economics ECON 205, Workshop in Economic Analysis, Section 01, Spring 2022

Course and Contact Information

Instructors:	Dr. Darwynn Deyo; Dr. Rui Liu; Dr. Paul Lombardi
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Office Hours:	By appointment
Class Days/Time:	R 5:45PM - 7:00PM
Classroom (Zoom):	https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/82430216710?pwd=OTJkNUdpMm5uYU0vNVdtSUK3Wm05UT09
Prerequisites:	ECON 201, ECON 202 or ECON 235, and ECON 203A, or instructor consent.

Course Description

Capstone writing course in the program. Students prepare a written report on some topic of economic analysis and present the results to the class.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Employ the major theories and techniques prevalent in economics for analysis of government policies.
2. Write clearly and effectively, adjusting the writing style appropriately to the context and nature of the subject.
3. Understand and utilize professional standards of the economics discipline, including publication style, formatting, reference citation, and figure permissions.
4. Develop and carry out a research paper, as well as locate, evaluate, organize, and incorporate information effectively.

Recommended Readings

Wayne C. Booth, *The Craft of Research* (4th edition). ISBN 978-0226239736.

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 – January 27

Last Day to Drop Classes – February 7

Proposal Due – February 24

Project Checklist Dates – February 24, April 7, May 19

First Paper and Poster Drafts Due – April 7

Peer Edits Due – April 14

Final Paper and Poster Due in Canvas – May 19

Workshop Participation

ECON 205 follows a once-a-week online class meeting structure. Students will meet with the instructor every week during the university scheduled class meeting time to discuss their progress on their research papers. Students should not schedule other appointments during this time. To help get a feel for high-level economic analysis, students will need to attend one of the department's three scheduled Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) seminar presentations during the semester, although students are encouraged to attend all three. The dates and times of the three presentations are listed in the schedule at the end of the syllabus. Please note the presentations are **not** during the scheduled class time. Beyond attending the presentation, students should read the working paper ahead of the seminar and will need to ask the presenter a minimum of one thoughtful question to receive credit for participation.

Final Paper

As part of this course, each student will submit a research paper on a subject related to policy analysis. The final paper is due in Canvas on the day of the university scheduled final exam, **May 19**, and must be 10-12 pages of text. The paper must be double spaced, follow Chicago Style end references, have Times New Roman font, size 12, and 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 in Canvas by **May 19** to receive credit. In addition to the text of your paper, you must include the analysis output or analysis log used to generate your results (e.g., Excel, R, Python, Stata, etc.) with your submission. The assignment will be graded using the rubric on Canvas for each component.

Students should be aware that the final paper in ECON 205 serves as one of the culminating experiences in our M.A. program, and builds on the skills developed in ECON 203A as well as other classes. Students may wish to develop a research portfolio by substantially revising their ECON 203a or other course paper, or pursuing a topic that is related to another course paper. As a capstone paper, your final paper for ECON 205 must meet a higher quality threshold than all other term papers in the Economics Masters programs. Your ECON 205 paper must be entirely original, or a *substantial revision* of your previously submitted writing and analysis. Cases of substantial revision must first be approved by at least one of the course instructors before proceeding; cases which are not approved may be automatically flagged as self-plagiarism by Turnitin. In approved cases of substantial revision, students may reuse certain aspects of their prior research, such as data, references, etc.

Bi-Weekly Progress Reports

Students will post a quick summary of their project progress to a Canvas discussion board. The posts will follow a biweekly pattern (i.e., once every two weeks) throughout the semester to ensure students maintain progress on projects.

Paper Proposal

In order to prepare for the final research paper, you will submit a 1–2-page proposal in Canvas by **February 24**

stating the research question and hypothesis, data sources, methods, and seven economic journal citations you plan to use (refer to the template on Canvas). Dr. Liu will then approve this proposal or require adjustments before you proceed. The proposal operates on a PASS/FAIL basis. You may find McCloskey and Booth particularly helpful when writing the proposal and final paper.

First Draft and Peer Edits

The first draft of your first draft (minimum 8 pages of text, double spaced) is due in Canvas on **April 7**. You will then conduct peer edits using the final paper rubric and submit your comments through Canvas. Failure to provide a draft for someone else to grade and failure to provide peer edits will result in zero credit. You will be graded separately on the quality of the peer edits you provide to your classmate's first draft. Peer edit comments are due in Canvas on **April 14**.

Project Checklist

The project status checklist is a resource to help students to see at a glance the required components of the final research paper. Students are required to complete the project checklist three times (**February 24, April 7, and May 19**), throughout the duration of the project, as a means to maintain their schedule and meet criteria that are set forth in the rubric. The checklist is available as a Word Doc under Files on Canvas.

Project Poster

Students will prepare a digital poster of their projects to share their research with their peers. Faculty members will provide students with poster templates. Students will submit the poster draft along with their first paper draft on **April 7**. The final version is due on **May 19**.

Grading Information

Determination of Grades

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

Category	Weight
Workshop Participation	10%
Project Checklist	5%
Bi-Weekly Progress Reports	15%
Proposal	10%
First Draft & Peer Edits	15%
Poster Draft	5%
Final Paper	30%
Poster	10%

These grade weights are fixed - improvement in other categories will not raise your grades elsewhere except as stated otherwise. We will not accept late work except for documented university-recognized emergencies.

Grading Scale

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 plus: 67 to 69	D: 64 to 66	D minus: 60 to 63
F: <60		

Classroom Protocol

Office Hours

Office hours are by appointment.

Academic Honesty

The Department of Economics takes academic honesty very seriously and follows the policies posted online at <https://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf>. It is the responsibility of all students to read and understand what constitutes a violation of academic honesty. Claims of ignorance cannot be used to justify dishonest behaviors. Any student caught engaging in activities which violate the University academic honesty policy will receive zero credit for the course instrument(s) which violates the academic honesty policy, and up to a semester grade of "F" for this course. Faculty are required to report cheating, plagiarism and all instances of academic misconduct (including self-plagiarism) to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development and to the Chair of the Department of Economics who tracks violations. All students must also complete or retake the SJSU Plagiarism Tutorial & Quiz at <https://libguides.sjsu.edu/plagiarism> by the second week of the semester.

Disability Notice

Please contact us as soon as possible if you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability. Presidential Directive 97-03 at https://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center at <https://www.sjsu.edu/aec/> to establish a record of their disability.

Other Class Policies

1. Students and the professor will show respect at all times for others, and will respect and refer to people using the names and personal pronouns that they share.
2. Students must use their SJSU email to communicate with instructors regarding course material and messages related to this class.
3. Students must submit all work through Canvas. All final written work is automatically submitted to Turnitin. We cannot send grades over email.
4. Pursuant to California law and University policy (S12-7) <https://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, this syllabus notifies students that all office hours over Zoom will be recorded. Recordings will only be used in compliance with SJSU policy on academic disputes or in compliance with state and federal law.
5. Students are not permitted to share any class recordings or class material with someone who is not enrolled in the class or without permission. The recordings and class material are protected by instructor copyright.

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](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/> Make sure to review these policies and resources.

ECON 205-01 / Workshop in Economic Analysis, Spring 2022 Course Schedule

The proposed schedule for the semester follows. If changes are needed, we will make announcements through Canvas and email. The PPE Seminar schedule and papers are also available on the department website here: <https://www.sjsu.edu/economics/events/ppe-seminar-series/index.php>

Course Schedule

Week	Class Date	Assignments and Deadlines
SECTION 1 – DR. RUI LIU		
1	Jan 27	Zoom Meeting / Choose Project / Check-in with Dr. Liu
2	Feb 3	Bi-Weekly Progress Report / Check-in with Dr. Liu
3	Feb 10	Check-in with Dr. Liu
4	Feb 17	Bi-Weekly Progress Report / Check-in with Dr. Liu
5	Feb 24	No Meeting / Proposal and First Project Checklist Due (Feb 24)
	Feb 25	1 st Spring 2022 PPE Seminar – Dr. John Duffy, 3:00-4:30pm
SECTION 2 – DR. PAUL LOMBARDI		
6	Mar 3	Check-in with Dr. Lombardi
7	Mar 10	Bi-Weekly Progress Report / Check-in with Dr. Lombardi
8	Mar 17	Check-in with Dr. Lombardi
9	Mar 24	Bi-Weekly Progress Report / Check-in with Dr. Lombardi
	March 25	2 nd Spring 2022 PPE Seminar – Dr. Mayra Pineda-Torres, 2:00-3:30pm
10	<i>Spring Break (March 28 – April 1)</i>	
11	Apr 7	No Meeting / First Draft, Second Project Checklist, and Poster Draft Due (Apr 7)
SECTION 3 – DR. DARWYYN DEYO		
12	Apr 14	Check-in with Dr. Deyo / Peer Edits Due (Apr 14)
	Apr 15	3 rd Spring 2022 PPE Seminar – Dr. Patralekha Ukil, 3:00-4:30pm
13	Apr 21	Bi-Weekly Progress Report / Check-in with Dr. Deyo
14	Apr 28	Check-in with Dr. Deyo
15	May 12	Final Bi-Weekly Progress Report / Check-in with Dr. Deyo
Final Paper Due	May 19	Final Paper, Third Project Checklist, and Project Poster Due in Canvas (May 19)