

San José State University
Department of Economics
ECON 205, Workshop in Economic Analysis, Section 01, Spring 2026

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Patralekha (Pat) Ukil
Office Location:	DMH 131 / Zoom
Email:	patralekha.ukil@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 3:30 – 5:30pm via Zoom ; or by appointment
Class Days/Time:	N/A – hybrid course
Classroom:	N/A
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 Format

This course will follow a hybrid format where there will be occasional in-person meetings/events held on campus. This course will utilize the [Canvas Learning Management System](http://sjsu.instructure.com) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. All students will require a reliable internet connection and an electronic device for access to Canvas LMS. You can borrow laptops and other equipment from the MLK library. Please visit the library or this website: <https://library.sjsu.edu/student-computing-services/student-computing-services>.

Course Web Page and Canvas Messaging

All relevant course materials such as the course syllabus, lecture materials, readings, notes, assignments and instructions, etc. can be found on the [Canvas Learning Management System](http://sjsu.instructure.com) course login website at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through Canvas to learn of any course updates.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

This is the graduate capstone writing course, and specifically this course emphasizes PLO3: Research Methods and PLO5: Communication.

PLO3. Research Methods: Students should be able to describe the contours of, and differences and similarities between, qualitative and quantitative economic research methodologies, including the case study, historical narrative, applied econometric, and policy analysis methods, and to produce an original economic study using an economics methodology.

PLO5. Communication: Students will be able to describe and explain conclusions, recommendations, and implications from theory and methods of micro and macro theory, and specialist areas of economics, using written, spoken, and other forms of communication.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Employ the major theories and techniques prevalent in economics for analysis of any government/economic 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 and present a research paper, as well as locate, evaluate, organize, and incorporate information effectively.

Required Texts

Textbook

There is no required textbook. However, some recommended textbooks are:

- (1) Deirdre N. McCloskey, *Economical Writing* (2nd edition). ISBN 9781577660637.
- (2) Varanya Chaubey, *The Little Book of Research Writing*, 2018. ISBN 9781974673162

Other Readings

All and any remaining reading and lecture materials will be 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.

ECON 205-01 research paper

Each student in this course will work on and submit a final research paper on a topic related to economic analysis. **The final paper in ECON 205 serves as one of the culminating experiences in the graduate program and builds on the skills developed in other graduate classes, such as ECON 203A or 203B.** The final paper must meet a higher quality threshold than all other term papers in the Economics Masters program.

The final paper must be at least 15 pages of text (excluding the title page, tables, figures, and references), with 1.5 lines spacing, **follow the APA style citations and references**, have Times New Roman font, size 12, and 1-inch margins in a Word Document (.doc or .docx).

The final paper must be submitted on Canvas by the deadline to receive credit.

In addition to the paper, students must include the analysis log, or the code/output used to generate any results shown in the paper (e.g., Excel, R, Python, Stata, etc.) with their Canvas paper submission.

Students may revise their ECON 203A or another course's term paper, but the revision must be substantial. Cases of substantial revision must first be approved by the instructor before proceeding; cases which are not approved may be automatically flagged as self-plagiarism by Turnitin.

Students are also strongly encouraged to attend the department's Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) seminar presentations or any departmental research presentations during the semester to get a better understanding of how academic research is carried out and presented.

The course grading/assessment will be based on the following:

1. Research proposal (due **Friday Feb 27**, via Canvas submission)
2. First draft of research paper (due **Friday April 3** via Canvas submission)
3. Peer review of draft (due **Friday April 10**, the draft will be assigned to you by the instructor)
4. Poster presentations - MA Capstone Research Showcase (Poster Session) (on **Friday, April 17**)
5. Final research paper (due on **Friday May 15**, via Canvas submission).

Guidelines and/or rubrics with respect to each deliverable will be provided on Canvas as the semester progresses.

Grading Information

Course grades will be as follows: (Please remember that the final score that shows on your Canvas grades section may not reflect your actual final course grade, which depends on the following information)

Research proposal:	15%
First draft:	25%
Peer review:	10%
Poster presentation:	15%
Final paper:	35%

Grade	Percentage
A plus	98 to 100%
A	94 to 97%
A minus	90 to 93%
B plus	86 to 89 %
B	83 to 85%
B minus	80 to 82%
C plus	76 to 79%
C	73 to 75%
C minus	70 to 72%
D plus	66 to 69%
D	63 to 65%
D minus	60 to 62%

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo>), which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

I will follow the [SJSU policy regarding academic integrity](#) and honesty, and will take it very seriously. Please read and understand what constitutes a violation in this respect and all instances of academic dishonesty will be reported by me.

Please come and talk to me as soon as you can if you need any course changes, adaptations, or any accommodation due to a disability. According to the [Presidential Directive 97-03](#) students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center \(AEC\)](#) at <https://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

More guidelines on grading information and class attendance can be found from the following university policies:

- [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>)
- [University Attendance and Participation Policy F15-12](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf>)
- [University Grading System Policy F18-5](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F18-5.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F18-5.pdf>)

You may also find the following information useful:

- [SJSU Cares](#)
- [The SJSU Food Pantry Program](#)
- [SJSU Counseling](#)
- [SJSU Learn Anywhere](#)

ECON 205-01 Spring 2026 Course Schedule

This is the **tentative schedule** for the course and is subject to change.

If any changes must be made to the syllabus, those changes will be communicated to all students on Canvas. Timely notice and consideration will be provided to all students if any changes need to be made.

Course Schedule

Week	Week of	Schedule
1	x	Introduction to the course and syllabus
2	1/26	Introductory Zoom meeting
3	2/2	
4	2/9	
5	2/16	
6	2/23	Research proposal due Friday Feb 27
7	3/2	
8	3/9	
9	3/16	
10	3/23	
11	3/30	SPRING RECESS; First draft of paper due Friday April 3
12	4/6	Peer review of draft due Friday April 10
13	4/13	MA Capstone Research Showcase on Friday April 17
14	4/20	
15	4/27	
16	5/4	
17	5/11	Final research paper due on Friday May 15

SJSU Land Acknowledgement:

San José State University and Surrounding Region Thámien Ancestral Muwekma Ohlone Territory.

The San José State University community recognizes that the present-day Muwekma Ohlone Tribe, with an enrolled Bureau of Indian Affairs documented membership of over 550, is comprised of all of the known surviving American Indian lineages aboriginal to the San Francisco Bay region who trace their ancestry through the Missions Santa Clara, San José, and Dolores, during the advent of the Hispano- European empire into Alta California; and who are the successors and living members of the sovereign, historic, previously Federally Recognized Verona Band of Alameda County.

Furthermore, the San José State University community recognizes that the university is established within the Thámien Ohlone-speaking tribal ethnohistoric territory, which based upon the unratified federal treaties of 1851-1852, includes the unceded ancestral lands of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area. Some of the enrolled Muwekma lineages are descended from direct ancestors from the Thámien Ohlone tribal territory whose ancestors had affiliation with Mission Santa Clara.

The San José State University community also recognizes the importance of this land to the indigenous Muwekma Ohlone people of this region, and consistent with our principles of community and diversity strives to be good stewards on behalf of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe whose land we occupy.