



## ECON 225 A01

Writing for Economists  
CRN 31213

Summer Session, May-June 2024

We acknowledge and respect the ɫəkʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

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Office Hours: Friday 2-3 p.m. on Zoom or by appointment  
Office hour link: <https://uvic.zoom.us/j/89171884325>  
Meeting ID: 891 7188 4325

### Class timetable

**A01 TWF MacLaurin D116 10:30-12:20**

**Important:** A department may drop registered students who cannot demonstrate that all course prerequisites have been met or who fail to attend a course within the **first 7** calendar days from the start of the course. A mandatory diagnostic test will be held in class on **Tuesday May 21**.

According to the University of Victoria Calendar <http://web.uvic.ca/calendar>

*A student may not attempt a course a third time without the prior approval of the Dean of the Faculty and the Chair of the Department in which the course is offered unless the calendar course entry states that the course may be repeated for additional credit. A student who has not received this approval may be deregistered from the course at any point and may be asked to withdraw from his or her declared or intended program. "In*

order to request permission to attempt this course for the third time, you must follow the instructions provided under the link **Repeating Courses** at

<http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/economics/undergraduate/home/course%20policies/index.php>

Failure to obtain permission will result in deregistration from the course.

### Course Content

In Econ 225 you will learn to think of writing as a constrained optimization problem. You will practice writing clear, concise sentences. You will also learn about citation styles and plagiarism. In-class writing exercises and presentations will strengthen your communication skills. The details of the presentations will be provided in class. There is no reading list, but every so often I will share with you the titles of essays and books that I think you may find of interest, for example, *The Crisis of Narration* by Byung-Chul Han.

### Textbook and course material

There is no textbook for the course. Course material is on Brightspace. Make yourself familiar with the online grammar/writing site at OWL Purdue. The following documents will be posted on Brightspace for your study: *Writing Well in Economics* and *Presenting Well in Economics*.

**You must get at least a D in ECON 225 to pass the course.**

### Grading

The diagnostic test, the mid-term argument essay, the presentation, and the final test are mandatory course components; the diagnostic has no grade, but it is a requirement for completing the course.

## Mandatory Course Components

Failure to complete all the mandatory course components will result in a grade of "N" regardless of the cumulative percentage on the course. N is a failing grade and factors into GPA as a value of 0."

1. Registered students who do not attend class within the first 7 calendar days from the start of the course may be dropped from the course. A mandatory diagnostic test will be given in class for all sections on TUESDAY May 21. Students must take this test to complete the course.
2. Registered students who decide not to take Econ 225 are responsible for dropping the course and are urged to do so promptly out of courtesy toward waitlisted students.
3. Waitlist offers cease after the last date for adding courses irrespective of published waitlists.
4. Instructors have no discretion to admit waitlisted students or raise the cap on the course.
5. Students on the waitlist should discuss with the instructor how to ensure they are not behind with coursework in the event they are admitted.

**Times in the course outline are PST (Victoria time). The university encourages everyone to wear a mask in indoor public places, particularly if people are close to each other.**

All documents and announcements are posted on Brightspace. Students should be fully functional with the learning system and check it often. There is absolutely no cheating or looking around during tests. Cheating or looking around results in a zero on the test. Only pens may be used in tests and essays. Tests or essays written in pencil or erasable ink will not be accepted

Writing	20%
APA and writing	20%
Argument Essay	30 %
Presentations	15%
Final Test	15 %

Grading Scale:

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F or N
90-100	85-89	80-84	77-79	73-76	70-72	65-69	60-64	50-59	0-49

Students should review the University's more detailed [summary of grading](#).

### **E-mail correspondence:**

Emails should be limited to critical matters, such as a prolonged illness, or inability to attend class or a test, and they must include the course name and number in the subject line. Questions on course material should be asked during office hours or in class. The standard format for writing a letter should be used in your email. This means the email should begin with a salutation (e.g., Dear...), include full sentences, and conclude with your **full name and V#**. Practice your writing—write your own emails. I don't respond to robot-made or AI-generated emails. Don't use text message lingo. If you are going to miss a class or test, notify me before or during the class or test. **There are no retroactive excuses in this course, medical or otherwise.**

### **Course Policies**

This course adheres to the [Undergraduate Course Policies](#) of the Department of Economics that deal with the following issues:

- Academic concessions
- Academic integrity (plagiarism and cheating)
- Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are **enrolled** ([University Policy](#)). An instructor may refuse a student admission to a lecture or laboratory because of lateness, misconduct, inattention or failure to meet the responsibilities of the course. Students who neglect their academic work, including assignments, may be refused permission to write the final examination in a course. Students who are absent because of illness, an accident or family affliction should report to their instructors upon their return to classes.

- Grading
- Inclusivity and diversity
- Late adds
- Late assignments
- Repeating courses
- Review of an assigned grade
- Sexualized violence prevention and response
- Students with a disability
- Term assignments and debarment from examinations
- Travel plans
- Waitlists

The following policies are explicitly included because of their importance.

### Examinations

Students who wish to finalize their travel plans should book flights that depart *after* the end of the final test. There will be no special accommodation if travel plans, family wedding plans, and so on, conflict with the final test. **Missed midterms: Make-up exams for midterm tests will not be given.** In the event that you miss one midterm due to illness or family affliction, the weight of the missed exam will be shifted to the final exam. **In the event that you miss a second exam due to illness or family affliction, please consult the Academic Concessions portion of the Registrar's website to determine whether you qualify for a late drop or a withdrawal under extenuating circumstances.**

### Academic Integrity

Academic integrity requires commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students are expected to observe the same standards of scholarly integrity as their academic and professional counterparts. A student who is found to have engaged in unethical academic behaviour, including the practices described in the [Policy on Academic Integrity](#) in the University Calendar, is subject to penalty by the University.

Review [What is Plagiarism](#) for the definition of plagiarism. Note: Submitted work may be checked using plagiarism detection software or, if necessary, an AI detection app.

### Student Code of Conduct

The Humanities, Science, and Social Sciences Faculties have adopted this [Student code of conduct](#). Please, review.

### University Policy on Human Rights, Equity and Fairness

The University is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive, supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

See [General University Policies](#)

### Accessibility & Health Resources

#### Centre for Accessible Learning

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, you are free to approach me; however, you must register with the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) for formal arrangements to be made. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

[Health Services](#) - University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.

[Support Connect](#) - a 24/7 mental health support service for students

- Toll-free (calls from North America): 1-844-773-1427
- International collect calls: 1-250-999-7621

[Counselling Services](#) - Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.

[Elders' Voices](#) - The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

### **Course Experience Survey (CES)**

Towards the end of term you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey (CES) regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback regarding the course as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to the [CES log-in](#). You will use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be completed on your laptop, tablet or mobile device. Please be thinking about this important activity.

### **Repeating Courses**

Be aware of the policy regarding the repeating of courses; see [University Calendar](#).

In order to request permission to attempt this course for the third time, you must follow the instructions provided under the [Repeating Courses](#) policy on the Economics website. Failure to obtain permission will result in deregistration from the course.

### **Course Schedule**

Topic	Chapter	Week	Due Dates and Exam Information
Introductory Lectures		1	May 13-17
Diagnostic test		2	May 21
Writing and grammar test		3	May 29
APA and writing test		4	June 5
Argument essay test		5	June 12
Review and writing exercises		6	June 14
Presentations		7	June 18, 19, 21, 25, & 26.
Final Test		8	Friday June 28

### **Learning Outcomes**

Students will be expected to learn how to write clearly and concisely. They will learn to see writing as a constrained optimization problem. They will practice writing with in-class writing exercises, and they will learn how to give a clear presentation by engaging the audience, without the aid of PowerPoint, charts, or other props.

### **Electronic devices**

Cell phones must be turned off, put on silent mode, and put away during class. Notes will be taken by hand on paper. Laptop or tablet use is not permitted in class. Chatting during class is not permitted unless it is part of an in-class assignment.

### **Sexualized Violence Prevention & Response**

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. Students are encouraged to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting [www.uvic.ca/svp](http://www.uvic.ca/svp). If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Contact [svpcoordinator@uvic.ca](mailto:svpcoordinator@uvic.ca).

This course outline may change depending on the needs of the course.