



ECON 225 A01
Writing for Economics
CRN 31147

Summer Session May 10-June 24 2022

In-person instructional method

Instructor: Stephen Hume

Email: sehume@uvic.ca

Classroom: DSB C 118

Office Hour: Every Friday on Zoom 11-12 noon or by appointment

Times in the course outline are PST (Victoria time)

Note: Please wear protective masks in the classroom as a courtesy to the instructor

Acknowledgement

We acknowledge with respect the original people on whose traditional territory the university stands. We are visitors here, the ancestral homeland of the L'kwungen, WSÁNEĆ, and Wyomilth people. We appreciate their stewardship of this beautiful place and feel privileged every day to experience the bounty of the land and sea.

Zoom Office Hours by appointment or on Friday 11 to 12 noon

Office hour link: <https://uvic.zoom.us/j/89171884325>

Meeting ID: 891 7188 4325

Teaching Assistant: Keegan Lawrence, keeganlawrence@uvic.ca

IMPORTANT: The department may cancel the registration of a student who fails to attend the course within the first two class meetings. The first two class meetings are on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 10 and 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. Attendance will be taken. Please bring your UVic photo ID.

Cell phones must be muted during class and phones put away. Phones are not allowed on your desk during class. If you take notes, use paper, not a tablet or keyboard. If you'd like me to accommodate any learning issues, please have the Centre for Accessible Learning send me a letter.

Course Protocol The course outline may change to accommodate changing circumstances. The Brightspace learning platform will be used for all tests and assignments. I do not accept emailed assignments or paper assignments. I encourage questions, but please no chatting in class while I am lecturing.

Writing Website

There is no textbook for the course. Our grammar and writing tests will be based on the OWL Purdue website [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html], especially the sections on General Writing and Research and Citation, APA Style (7th Edition.) Don't use other grammar books or writing websites. The OWL site has grammar, punctuation, and writing exercises with answer keys.

Minimum Grade Requirement for the Course You must get at least a passing grade (D, or 50).

Grading

There are four graded assignments in this course:

1. Test #1 on components of an argument essay (20%);
2. Draft research paper (20%);
3. Final research paper (30%); and
4. Final Test on grammar and writing (30%).

The final paper and final test must be completed and submitted. If they are not, the grade for the course will be N, or incomplete, regardless of the cumulative percentage on the course. N is a failing grade and factors into

the GPA as a value of 0. **All submitted work must be edited for clarity and grammatical accuracy. Work that is not edited, or that is edited carelessly, will receive an automatic failing grade. Your writing must be clear and concise. Papers are double spaced in Times New Roman 12 –point only.**

In this course a sentence is defined as a structure of logical relationships.

Economics 225 is not an English course. It’s a writing course for economists. Econ 225 is geared to a type of writing that combines clear, concise prose with theoretical analysis and the use of economics models. The course generally includes the study of grammar, mechanics, and parts of speech. Students who complete Econ 225 should be able communicate their ideas clearly and concisely.

Practice building clear, concise sentences. Think of writing as a constrained optimization problem. Use plain language. Build your final paper with concise sentences and accurate citations and references in APA style. The secret to APA style is in the details.

Econ 225 was developed in response to the need for writing skills in the undergraduate Economics program. It is not a grammar course, but you will be expected to learn grammar essentials. You will need to know how to take apart a sentence to see what makes it tick. **You will be expected to hand in work that is proofread and carefully edited.** Students who pass Econ 225 will be expected to handle the writing tasks in upper-level courses and handle the writing challenges they will encounter in the post-university world.

Course Schedule

Topic	Week	Due Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and Introduction, What you need to know. Attendance on MAY 10 and 11. Note: The department may cancel the registration of a student who fails to attend the course <u>within the first two class meetings</u> 	1 10-13 May	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing an argument essay; drafting and writing a research paper; how to find a scholarly source. Grammar essentials. Practice writing clear, concise sentences. Study grammar and writing in OWL Purdue. Study course material on the argument essay. Know the parts of the argument essay. Choose topic from list of topics posted on Brightspace and begin researching. PUT YOUR TOPIC IN THE DISCUSSION FORUM ON BRIGHTSPACE BY 11:59 PM FRIDAY MAY 20. Find a peer-reviewed academic source and start drafting your paper. 	2 16-20 May	Choose Paper Topics TOPIC DUE IN BRIGHTSPACE DISCUSSION FORUM BY 20 MAY 11:59
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test #1 is due on Brightspace by 11:59 PM FRIDAY MAY 27. You have a 24-hour window to take the test, from 12:01 A.M. to 11:59 P.M., but once you start the test, it times out after 60 minutes. The things you need to know include the following: The components of an argument essay; how to write a vivid anecdote and position; how to write a supporting example, counter-argument, and refutation; and how to write a call to action. The op-ed is a modern example of the argument essay. Know how to write an in-text citation and proper references in a hanging indent. 	3 23-27 May	Test #1 27 MAY on APA/references and components of the argument essay DUE ON BRIGHTSPACE BY 27 MAY 11:59

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft paper due 3 JUNE on Brightspace by 11:59 P.M • The draft paper will be 2 pages only and submitted on Brightspace as a Word document. It must be written in clear, grammatically-correct sentences. The first page will have your name and student number; the anecdote and position exactly as you plan to write it in your final paper; and a discussion of your topic. Page two will have one peer-reviewed scholarly source you plan to use, formatted in proper APA style—only one source, no more. TNR 12 pt. The pages will be numbered 1 and 2 in upper right-hand corner. Failure to follow directions will result in a failing grade. 	<p>4 30 May– 3 June</p>	<p>Draft Research Paper DUE ON BRIGHTSPACE BY 3 June 11:59</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on your final paper, email me with any questions. Make sure you are editing your paper thoroughly (e.g., checking for punctuation and grammar mistakes, fixing any APA errors, making sure the paper as a whole reads smoothly) and make sure all the components of the paper are in place. 	<p>5 6-10 June</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Research paper is due 17 JUNE on Brightspace by 11:59 PM. Late papers are not accepted and will receive zero. 	<p>6 13-17 June</p>	<p>Final Paper DUE ON BRIGHTSPACE BY 17 June 11:59</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course overview: How can you use this course in the future? • Final test due by 11:59 PM 24 JUNE. The final is a writing and grammar test based on the sentences format used in OWL Purdue, i.e., you will be asked to find and correct errors in a list of sentences. You will have 24 hours to take the test, but once you start the test, it times out after 60 minutes. 	<p>7 20-24 June</p>	<p>Final Test DUE ON BRIGHTSPACE BY 24 June 11:59</p>

Delivery

You are responsible for all the readings and assignments each week, and you are expected to complete readings ahead of class. Take notes in class if necessary. You may want to check out UVic Library tutorials on study methods and taking notes.

If you are unable to take a test or submit a paper, you aren't required to show a medical note, but you are required to let me know in advance of the test or the submission date. **THERE ARE NO RETROACTIVE MEDICAL EXCUSES OR ANY OTHER TYPE OF RETROACTIVE EXCUSES IN THIS COURSE.**

Recommended Books

Hume, S.E., & Ahmadi, B. (Eds.). (2017). *Writing for economics*. Victoria: Open Leaf Press. The textbook is not available for purchase this term. A new edition is expected in 2023. We recommend that students read often and widely in non-fiction and fiction. Reading is an essential part of the course. Reading a lot helps your writing. It's also good on its own. To paraphrase John Stuart Mill, to be a good economist you must be more than an economist.

Your assignments

All written work must be edited for clarity. Work that is not edited, or that is edited carelessly, will receive an automatic failing grade. The assignments are:

20% Test #1 on the components of the argument essay. Ten questions. Note: There may be factual questions about plagiarism on this or the final test. Students are not permitted to search online, consult notes, or discuss the questions with others during the Brightspace tests. These are not open-book tests.

20% Draft research paper. This will be comprised of two pages. On the first page will be your name and student number and the anecdote and position you plan to use in your paper, as well as a discussion of your topic. On the second page is only ONE peer-reviewed scholarly source in APA style you plan to use.

30% Final Research Paper. This course has a zero tolerance for cheating or plagiarism. All students in ECON 225 are required to sign or type their name at the end of their paper and state: **"I have not plagiarized any**

material and this paper was neither borrowed nor bought. I did not receive any help from an unauthorized tutor and all the work is my own. Failure to include this statement will result in a **10 point deduction** from the grade. There are other potential deductions. A) Ten points will be deducted if you don't include at least one peer-reviewed journal article. B) Any in-text citation that does not have a page number or, if from a website, a paragraph number, will result in a 5-point deduction from the paper grade. All papers must have a word count at the end; failure to include it results in a 2-point grade deduction. **Paper length: 950-1050 words.** Do not go above or below the word count. To avoid plagiarism, make sure all the borrowed material in your paper is attributed. Things that generally don't need attribution in an academic paper are common sense observations, certain historical events, and common figures of speech.

- Your final paper will be written as an argument essay. We use the 7th edition of the APA style guide, as outlined on the OWL Purdue writing website. Don't use an abstract or running heads in your paper—if you do, it indicates you were not engaged with the course. You'll choose your paper topic from a list of topics that will be posted on Brightspace.
- A sample final paper will be posted on Brightspace as well as a helpful document called 19 Essentials. Another posted document you may enjoy is called How to Write Well (in Economics).
- Your final paper **MUST** have at least one peer-reviewed journal article in its reference list.
- To find peer-reviewed journal articles, go to the UVic website, sign in with your UVic Netlink ID, and find the Library page. Then type three key words into the search box that's displayed on the page. If you need to, google the publication and see if it's a bona fide peer-reviewed journal. (Note: *The Economist* magazine is not a peer-reviewed journal.)
- You don't have to break new ground on your topic. You simply need to write a short research paper in APA style clearly and concisely. You must include at least two cited quotations from your primary source. Although APA doesn't require it, you must cite any summaries or paraphrases from your sources with a page number(s), or in the case of a website, with a paragraph number(s). Failure to apply these citations is considered inadequate attribution and will result in a grade reduction. Make sure your paper is correctly formatted.
- The purpose of the opening anecdote is to draw in the reader and engage them. The anecdote must be followed by a strong position statement, and this in turn must be followed by several supporting examples. You must also have a counter-argument and refutation. These sections signal to the reader that you have considered both sides of an issue. The essay ends with a call to action.
- You are responsible for your paper, not the instructor or the TA. We answer questions and provide direction; the rest is up to you. You will be expected to check your paper thoroughly to make sure you included at least one peer-reviewed source from an academic journal, that the source is peer-reviewed, that it is over 5 pp. (and not a letter to the editor, report, or review), that you cited all borrowed material, that all formatting is correct, that your title page and references are correct, and that your paper is clear and concise. Always write drafts and read them out loud to yourself.
- The term "ezproxy" does not belong in your references. Once you find your academic source, download it onto your desktop. When you do, the page numbers will be visible.
- When listing a website in the references, keep the url structure simple. When citing a website inside the text, use a short paraphrase that identifies the website. See OWL for further directions.
- You **MUST** include a peer-reviewed article from a scholarly journal in your references list. The strategy for finding such an article is simple. Think of it as detective work.
- Make sure your paper has a plagiarism statement at the end; a word count at the end; at least two direct quotes from your academic source; in-text citations that have corresponding page or paragraph numbers (whether they are quotes, summaries, or paraphrases); and at least one substantial peer-reviewed article of 5 pages or more from an academic journal. Make sure the anecdote that opens the paper is vivid **and based on your actual experience, not made up**; make sure you check your paper against the sample paper and the posted grading rubric.

30% Final Test. There will be 15 questions on grammar, punctuation, and writing based loosely on the kinds of examples that are in the OWL Purdue writing site. Note that site has user-friendly grammar exercises with answers. I encourage students to email me if they have questions about writing.

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](#).

Expectations for the course

- All written work must be proofread and edited. **Careless, unedited work will receive an automatic failing grade.**
- Zero tolerance for cheating and plagiarism.
- Questions on class material should usually be asked in class or office hour. It is not efficient to provide lengthy explanations of class material over email. Many of your questions can be answered by looking up material on OWL or reading the course outline. **Should you send email for whatever reason, put ECON 225 and your section number in the subject line.** Students are responsible for all material covered in lectures whether they miss a lecture or not.
- Your summaries in Econ 225 must not contain any exact language from the source except, if needed, keywords, technical terms, numbers, or proper nouns.
- I do not accept emailed or paper assignments.

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

The following policies are explicitly included because of their importance.

Examinations

Attendance at all scheduled examinations is mandatory. Consideration for missed examinations will be given only on the basis of documented illness, accident or family affliction, and for no other reasons. In the event of a missed final examination, students are advised to follow the procedures outlined in the [University Calendar](#).

Students are advised not to make work or travel plans until after the examination timetable has been finalized. Students who wish to finalize their travel plans at an earlier date should book flights that depart after the end of the examination period. There will be no special accommodation if travel plans conflict with the examination.

Waitlist Policies

- Instructors have no discretion to admit waitlisted students or raise the cap on the course.
- Students on the waitlist should discuss with the instructor how to ensure they are not behind with coursework in the event they are admitted.
- Registered students who decide not to take the course are responsible for dropping the course, and are urged to do so promptly out of courtesy toward waitlisted students.
- Waitlist offers cease after the last date for adding courses irrespective of published waitlists.

E-mail correspondence

Emails should be limited to critical matters, such as inability to attend class, an exam, or prolonged illness, and **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 must be used. This means it should begin with a salutation (e.g. Dear...), include full sentences, and conclude with a signature that includes your **full name and V#**. Text message lingo should never be used.

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.

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.

[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)

I value your feedback on this course. 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 to me regarding the course and my teaching, 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. I will remind you nearer the time, but please be thinking about this important activity, especially the following three questions, during the course. What strengths did your **instructor** demonstrate that helped you learn in this course? Please provide specific suggestions as to how the **instructor** could have helped you learn more effectively and suggestions as to how this **course** could be improved.

Note: 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. 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

Informal reading list

1. *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse*, Peter Matthiessen
2. *Between the World and Me*, Ta-Nehisi Coates
3. *Hiroshima*, John Hersey
4. *The Rape of Nanking*, Iris Chang
5. *They Came for the Children: Canada, Aboriginal Peoples, and Residential Schools*, The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada
6. *Peace, Power, Righteousness: An Indigenous Manifesto*, Taiaiake Alfred
7. *How to be an Antiracist*, Ibram X. Kendi
8. *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, George Orwell
9. *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*, Isabel Wilkerson
10. *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, as told to Alex Haley
11. *The Tipping Point*, Malcolm Gladwell
12. *Freakonomics*, Steven Levitt & Stephen Dubner
13. *The Fire Next Time*, James Baldwin
14. *A Journal of the Plague Year*, Daniel Defoe
15. *The Sixth Extinction*, Elizabeth Kolbert
16. *A Beautiful Mind*, Sylvia Nasar
17. *Prisoner's Dilemma: John von Neumann, Game Theory, and the Puzzle of the Bomb*, William Poundstone
18. *Survival in Auschwitz*, Primo Levi
19. *The Grapes of Wrath*, John Steinbeck
20. *On Writing*, Stephen King
21. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, Frederick Douglass
22. *A Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens
23. *Native Son*, Richard Wright
24. *The Talented Mr. Ripley*, Patricia Highsmith
25. *Cinema is Everything*, Richard Brody
26. *Indian Horse*, Richard Wagamese
27. *The Plague*, Albert Camus
28. *Jane Eyre*, Charlotte Brontë
29. *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen
30. *The Second Sex*, Simone de Beauvoir
31. *Down and Out in Paris and London*, George Orwell
32. *The Old Man and the Sea*, Ernest Hemingway
33. *The Bluest Eye*, Toni Morrison
34. *The Color Purple*, Alice Walker
35. *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, Gabriel García Márquez
36. *The Catcher in the Rye*, J.D. Salinger
37. *Catch-22*, Joseph Heller
38. *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, James Joyce
39. *Invisible Man*, Ralph Ellison
40. *The Godfather*, Mario Puzo
41. *The Trial*, Franz Kafka
42. *No Country for Old Men*, Cormac McCarthy
43. *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, Mary Wollstonecraft
44. *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley
45. *Awakenings*, Oliver Sacks
46. *The Economic Consequences of the Peace*, John Maynard Keynes
47. *The Wealth of Nations*, Adam Smith
48. *A Modest Proposal*, Jonathan Swift
49. *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald
50. *Waiting for Godot*, Samuel Beckett
51. "September 1, 1939," W.H. Auden
52. "Babi Yar," Yevgeny Yevtushenko

Last modified April 26, 2022