



ECO-405 -02
Spring 2022
Seminar in Economics
Tuesday on-line lecture-asynchronous 5:55-7:10
Thursday 5:55-7:10 pm
Dr. Marie Springer
mspringer@jjay.cuny.edu
Office hours by appointment

Syllabus

Course Description

This seminar is a culmination of the economics major. In this course students will synthesize the various topics and techniques acquired in previous economics courses into the production of a significant research project. The project will include substantial analysis, policy recommendations, and oral and written presentations. Students will engage in extensive peer review through in class discussion

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this class, students should have a basic understanding of the way a modern capitalist economy operates, with a particular focus placed on a study of the economy of the United States. To this end, the following areas and concepts will be explored:

- Mode of production: Students will be exposed to different modes of organization of social relations of production and should understand basic differences between systems such as capitalism, feudalism, central planning, communism, etc.
- Alienation: The nature of work in a capitalist economy will be explored. Students should understand some of the social and individual consequences stemming from a regime whereby the means of production are privately owned by a small subset of the population, giving them control over the production process, while the rest of the members of society have to sell their labor power to survive.

- Class: Students should understand the importance of the position people occupy within the production process, both for themselves and society in general.
- Surplus: Ways whereby the social product is divided will be explored, with an emphasis on the issue of exploitation in different modes of production. Student should understand the respective roles of surplus and necessary products for the reproduction and expansion of the production process, as well as the conflicts surrounding the division of the social product and the degree of exploitation.
- Circuits of Capital: Different sectors of a capitalist economy, such as financial markets, manufacturing, etc. will be defined and analyzed. Students should have a basic understanding of the functioning of these sectors as well as the ways in which they are linked to each other.
- Markets: The role of markets as social institutions will be explored, as well as basic supply and demand dynamics. Students should understand the role markets play in shaping and supporting a modern capitalist economy. They should also have an idea about some of the factors determining quantities and prices on a market, as well as know some of the inherent limitations of markets, such as market failures.
- Effective demand: Students should have an idea of what constitutes total demand and production in an economy, as well as the factors liable to influence aggregate supply and demand. Students should also gain a basic understanding of some of the factors behind business cycles and crisis episodes, such as the current recession.
- Monetary and Fiscal Policy: Students should have a basic knowledge of the different economic policy options available to the government, as well as how they are currently being employed. Issues such as inflation and the distribution of the tax burden will be explored, and a particular emphasis will be put on current practices.
- Human Behavior: Students should have a basic understanding of the ways people act and react in economic situations. In additions to the influence of class positions, strategic behavior (game theory), as well as the concept of rationality will also be explored.
- Globalization: Issues of international trade, migration, and capital flows will be explored. Students should have an idea of how global markets operate and how national economies are linked together, as well as where the US economy stands in relation to the economy of other countries.
- Sustainability: The economy will be considered in a global social and environmental context. Students should have an idea of the natural boundaries to growth and development, as well as the need means to elaborate an economic system that may be sustainable over the long haul.

Prerequisite: ENG 201, senior standing, and at least one 300-level course in economics

Emails:

All students are required to use their John Jay email, to check it daily and to make sure it is working properly. If there is some problem I will email you right away, but if you don't check your emails you could miss the message until it is too late. I respond to emails within 24 hours of receipt.

mspringer@jjay.cuny.edu

Classroom behavior:

- **Each week has a required on-line lecture.**
- **Thursday on-campus classes are required attendance.**
- Students are expected to be respectful to the instructor and to one another at all times.
- Classes will be held on collaborate in Blackboard through the tools link.
- Students are expected to attend live classes through collaborate and to participate through the entire class.
- Students will be asked questions throughout each class; this is part of the attendance grade.
- All course work must be submitted before the deadline, no submissions will be accepted late, nor by email.
- Topics will be discussed in class; students will be asked questions and expected to discuss economic theories, economist and issues with other students. This is part of the attendance points.
- **Students must participate in the Tuesday on-line class, or watch the recorded lecture before Wednesday of each week to receive attendance points. Students that can attend the Tuesday on-line class should plan on doing so each week. Those that cannot, must watch the recorded lecture.**
- **If there is bad weather, Thursday's class will be held on line through collaborate. Students must check their email before 2:00 pm on Thursdays to see if class is being held on-line.**

Introductory Quiz: The APA , integrity and course requirements

- APA and Integrity: Access's documents through course materials link or the library resources link
- Course requirements from this syllabus

The Tuesday class of each week will be instruction in a lecture format through Blackboard Collaborate. Students must attend the live lecture or watch the recorded lecture.

One or the other is required.

- **Tuesdays will be an on-line class live on collaborate ultra. Those that cannot attend can watch the recording.**
- **Students must watch the recording or attend on Tuesdays for attendance points.**
- **Blackboard Collaborate takes attendance.**
- **Each Tuesday lecture explains a section of the paper; missing is not an option.**

The Thursday class of each week will be held as a lab on campus; students are expected to come with their current section in progress to talk about it. Each student will be asked about their section. This forces student to work on their paper each week. Students are expected to discuss their ideas and to make suggests to one another. This is part of the attendance points.

Students will work on that section of the paper that will be submitted on the following Sunday.

Research Project

This consists of weekly submissions, building to the final paper submission.

- Each section must be submitted **before 11:59 pm on the designated Sunday**, through the link in the Research submission link.
- **No work will be accepted late or through email. Don't ask.**
- Students will receive feedback through Blackboard; students are expected to make the changes to the final submission
- The final submission includes all sections and the reference page.

Specifications

- 12 point font
- Times New Roman
- Double spaced
- One inch margins
- Follow template- title page and index not included in page count.

Preparation submissions:

- Topic and economic theory: 2/13/2022 (Two paragraphs)
- Annotated bibliography: 2/20/2022 (several pages)
- Outline: 2/27/2022 (one-two pages)

Paper sections

- Introduction: 3/6/2022 (one to two pages)
- Research question discussion: 3/13/2022 (one to two pages)
- Thesis: 3/20/2022 (one to two pages)
- Literature Review: 3/27/2022 (two to four pages)
- Methodology: 4/3/2022 (one to two pages)
- Analysis: 4/10/2022 (two to six pages including charts and graphs)
- Conclusion: 4/24/2022 (one to two pages)

- Full paper: 5/1/2022 (fifteen to twenty-five pages, includes formal reference page).
- Power Point 5/8/2022
- In class presentations 5/5/22-5/19/22

All sections must be the enrolled student’s own work.

Power Point presentation

- Each student must have a power point presentation that will be presented by the student in class.
- Must be 15-25 slides
 - Title page
 - Topic (no more than 40 words)
 - Introduction of concept
 - Economic theory
 - How the theory relates to the topic
 - Research question
 - Main Thesis (can be several slides, each no more than 40 words)
 - Literature Review
 - Data
 - Methodology
 - Data analysis (Charts and graphs and discussion, several slides)
 - Conclusion
- Must include graphs and charts
- No slide can be more than 40 words.
- Student should speak for 15-20 minutes.
- The power point presentation must be sent to me via email in pdf and submitted to Blackboard before the student’s assigned presentation date.

Schedule

Date	Class topic or submission due	Where
Class 1 2/3/2022 Th	Course overview and citation	On Campus
2/7/2022 Sunday	APA quiz due	Research link Quiz link
Class 2 2/8/2022 T	Topic and thesis discussion	Collaborate
Class 3 2/10/2022 Th	Discussion of Economic theories	On campus
2/13/2022 Sunday	Topic and economic theory/theorist due	Research link
Class 4 2/15/2022 T	Picking appropriate sources and bibliography	Collaborate
Class 5 2/17/2022 Th	Class discussion and suggestions on sources	On campus
2/20/2022 Sunday	Annotated bibliography due	Turnitin
Class 6 2/22/2022 T	Outlining	Collaborate

Class 7 2/24/2022 Thursday	Outlining and discussion of sources.	Collaborate
2/27/2022 Sunday	Outline due	Research link
Class 8 3/1/2022 T	Instructions on the Introduction	Collaborate
Class 9 3/3/2022 Th	Class discussion on introduction elements	On campus
3/6/2022 Sunday	Introduction due	Turnitin
Class 10 3/8/2022 T	About The research question	Collaborate
Class 11 3/10/2022 Th	Research question lab	On campus
3/13/2022	Research Question and discussion due	Turnitin
Class 12 3/15/2022 T	About the thesis and argument	Collaborate
Class 13 3/17/2022 Th	Thesis and argument lab	On campus
3/20/2022 Sunday	Thesis due	Turnitin
Class 14 3/22/2022 T	On the literature review	Collaborate
Class 15 3/24/2022 Thursday	Literature trouble shooting	Collaborate
3/27/22 Sunday	Literature review due	Turnitin
Class 16 3/29/2022 T	Data and methodology lecture	Collaborate
Class 17 3/31/2022 Th	On data and methodology collection	On-campus
4/3/2022	Data and methodology due	Turnitin
Class 18 4/5/2022 T	Analysis lecture	Collaborate
Class 19 4/7/2022 Th	Analysis lab	On-campus
4/10/22 Sunday	Analysis Due	Turnitin
Class 20 4/12/22	Conclusion lecture	Collaborate
Class 21 4/14/22	Conclusion lab	On-campus
4/15/22 to 4/22/22	Spring Break No Class	
4/24/22 Sunday	Conclusion Due	Turnitin
Class 22 4/26/2022 T	Putting it all together and reference page	Collaborate
Class 23 4/28/2022 Thursday	Trouble shooting	Collaborate
5/1/2022 Sunday	Final paper due	Turnitin
Class 24 5/3/2022 T	Power-point instructions	Collaborate
Class 25 5/5/2022 Th	Presentations	On-campus
Class 26 5/11/2022 T		
Class 27 5/12/2022 Th	Presentations	On-campus
Class 28 5/18/2022 T		
Class 29 5/19/2022 Th	Presentations	On-Campus
May 24 2022	End of semester	

All grading is by points; the points are cumulative. There is no A-B-C-D grades to assignments. There is no bell curve or percentages. Students achieve the points on an individual level, not in comparison to others.

Grading

Attendance.....145
APA and course requirements quiz.....20
About you.....5
Subtotal.....170

Preliminary submissions

Topic, Economic theory and principles.....10
Annotated bibliography.....5
Outline.....5
Subtotal.....20

Individual research sections

Introduction.....10
Research question discussion.....10
Thesis.....10
Literature review.....10
Methodology data collection discussion.....10
Analysis.....10
Conclusion.....10
Subtotal.....70

Power point presentation.....40

Full paper.....100

Total possible points 400 points

Final Grade

- 380-400 A**
- 366-379 A-**
- 353-365 B+**
- 340-353 B**
- 326-339 B-**
- 313-325 C+**
- 300-312 C**
- 286-299 C-**
- 273-285 D+**
- 260-272 D**
- 246-259 D-**
- 245- Failing**

A grade of incomplete is only given when a student meets the college's criteria for a grade of incomplete.

Students with special obligations--such as in-service students or students in need of special accommodations--should inform the instructor at the first class session. If family or work obligations (or any other extenuating circumstance) threaten to interfere with the student's attendance or his/her completion of the course, the student should notify the instructor as soon as possible (not at the end of the semester period).

Qualified students with disabilities will be provided reasonable academic accommodations if determined eligible by the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS). Prior to granting disability accommodations in this course, the instructor must receive written verification of a student's eligibility from the OAS which is located at L66 in the new building (212.237.8031). **It is the student's responsibility to initiate contact with the office and to follow the established procedures for having the accommodation notice sent to the instructor.**

Writing Center

If you need help with written English, you may consider dropping by the writing center, located in room 2450N. They provide free tutoring to students, helping them become more effective writers, from organizing and structuring a paper, to writing and proofreading it. Being able to write well is a useful skill in many situations, a skill definitely worth honing while you have the wherewithal to do it.

Academic Integrity

Take this very seriously. Know what plagiarism is and don't do it. Students are required to research and write 100% of their papers themselves.

Plagiarism

Students should acquaint themselves with the college's policy on plagiarism. The Content link on the left menu has the college plagiarism policy. The Library has free guides designed to help students with problems of documentation located in blackboard at the Library Resources link on the left menu.

Be advised that:

- Direct copying without citation is plagiarism.
- Paraphrasing without citation is plagiarism.

- Copying more than 25% of a submission even with citation is not the student's own work and is considered plagiarism.
- The entire submission must be below 25% Turnitin match rate.
- Anything within the 25% match rate must be properly cited and in the reference list.
- The references will be checked; be prepared to discuss them in class; you will be asked.
- Students can submit submissions early and several times to check for originality match.
- Students are required to discuss their submissions in class weekly, this is part of the attendance points.
- **Egregious cases of plagiarism will be reported to the college integrity office for action. This will result in a failing grade for the course.**
- Using an essay mill or anyone else to write a research paper, or any assignment or quiz, is not the student's own work; the student will be reported to the college integrity office. This will result in a failing grade for the course.
- **The instructor subscribes to several essay mills in order to monitor for usage.**