

經濟學專業英文寫作一二 Academic English Writing for Economics

Time: Wednesdays (三) 1:20 ~ 4:20 p.m. Social Science Campus (Room TBA)

Instructor: Joseph Tao-yi Wang and Edison Chong-Hsien Chiou

中文課程簡介

本課程旨在訓練研究生以英文撰寫經濟學期刊論文。課程內容包含基本英文寫作訓練，英文論文架構介紹，經典論文閱讀，以及實際撰寫論文並投稿。學生也有機會學習如何用英文口頭報告自己的研究。

第一學期是奠定基本的英文寫作基礎，第二學期則是實際撰寫自己的期刊論文。第一學期的課程中，每週均有安排單字與文法進度，上課時小考指定的內容。課堂上則介紹段落寫作技巧，以及與學術論文相關的五種英文作文文體，分別討論因果關係、過程、分類、比較，以及議論。學生須撰寫三篇文章，並依教師的建議在完稿前做適度的修改。

第二學期則包含八個單元，每單元涵蓋期刊論文的某個篇章段落。每單元歷時兩週，包含兩小時的英文寫作技巧講述，兩小時的經典閱讀討論，與兩小時的學生寫作作業討論。每週上課後，學生必須撰寫自己論文的相應段落，交由老師批改，老師並於隔週上課的後兩小時逐一就學生的論文段落與所有學生一起討論。每週均有寫作作業，使得學生在期末可以完成一篇論文並投稿至某個學術期刊。另外，學生也必須在課堂上就其論文作 20 分鐘的英語口頭報告。

學生學習評量方式與評分標準如下：

1. 寫作作業(50%)：繳交作業的期限為當週上完課之後的星期日午夜(上傳至 CEIBA 的時間為準)，逾期一律視為未交。
2. 課堂評量(50%)：第一學期為課堂小考與期末評量，第二學期為英文口頭報告與期刊投稿 (期限為 2011 年 6 月 24 日)。
3. 課堂出席與討論：上課無故不到每次扣總成績 10%。

Course Objectives:

This course trains students to write a publishable article in economics. The course includes teaching fundamentals of English writing, introducing the structure of a research paper, reading path-breaking papers in economics, and actually writing and submitting a research article to a journal. Students will also learn how to make an oral presentation of their research in English.

Course Description and Requirements:

The first semester focuses on English writing basics, and the second on research paper writing. In the first semester, vocabulary lists and grammar review material will be assigned and quizzed weekly in class. Class lectures focus on writing techniques, including paragraph writing and five different essay formats related to academic writing: cause/effect, process, classification, comparison/contrast, and argumentation. Students will be required to write three essays and make appropriate revisions before submitting the final draft.

The second semester will consist of eight two-week blocks, each focusing on one aspect of academic writing in economics. Each block consists of two hours of lecture on general writing techniques, two hours devoted to reading novel papers, and two hours on interactive discussion of students' own writing (homework assignments). These eight blocks include:

- [A] Outline / Thesis Statement (論文大綱／賣點)
- [B] Paragraph Writing / Summary (段落寫作／摘要整理)
- [C] Article Writing / Introduction (導論)
- [D] Data Collection Methods and Model (資料收集方法與理論模型)
- [E] Results (研究結果)
- [F] Discussion (結果討論)
- [G] Conclusion (結論)
- [H] Abstract (摘要)

Weekly writing assignments will be given to students. By the end of the term, these assignments can be combined into a research paper ready for submission. In addition, students are required to give a 20-minute oral presentation of their paper.

Pre-Requisites:

Preliminary results on a specific topic in economics are required to enroll. Basic English composition ability, such as satisfactory grades in “English Composition I (英文作文一)” is also required and will be tested in the first week (placement test).

Evaluation:

1. Weekly writing assignments (50%): to be submitted before midnight on the following Sunday (via CEIBA). No late assignments accepted.
2. Class Evaluation (50%): Oral presentation and journal submission (due on June 24, 2011) in the Spring.
3. Attendance and class participation: **10% is deducted for each unaccounted absence**

Textbooks:

For the Fall semester:

Oshima, Alice, and Hogue, Ann. 2006. *Writing Academic English, 4th edition*. NY: Pearson Education Inc. (東華)

Supplementary handouts.

For the Spring semester:

Swales, John M., and Christine B. Feak. 2004. *Academic Writing for Graduate Students, 2nd edition*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

(文鶴)

Weissberg, Robert, and Suzanne Buker. 1990. *Writing Up Research*. London: Prentice Hall.

Supplementary handouts.

References:

Arnaudet, Martin L., and Barrett, Mary Ellen. 1990. *Paragraph Development: a Guide for Students of English, 2nd edition*. NJ: Prentice Hall Regents.

Daiker, Donald A., Kerek, Andrew, and Morenberg, Max. 1990. *The Writer's Options: Combining to Composing, 4th edition*. NY: Harper Collins.

Donald, Robert B., et al. 1996. *Writing Clear Essays, 3rd edition*. NJ: Prentice Hall Regents.

Langan, John. 2005. *College Writing Skills, 6th edition*. Boston: McGraw-Hill.

Liao, Posen (廖柏森). 2008. *Grammar for the Writing of English Research Paper* (英文研究論文寫作：文法指引). Taipei: Jong-Wen Books (眾文圖書).

McCarthy, Michael, and O'Dell, Felicity. 2008. *Academic Vocabulary in Use*. NY: Cambridge University Press.

Smalley, Regina L., Mary K. Ruetten, and Joann Rishel Kozyrev. 2001. *Refining Composition Skills: Rhetoric and Grammar, 5th edition*. Boston: Heinle & Heinle. (文鶴)

Strunk, William Jr., and White, E. B. 2005. *The Elements of Style*. NY: Penguin Press.

Tibbetts, Charlene, and Tibbetts, Arn. 1997. *Strategies: a Rhetoric and Reader with Handbook, 5th edition*. NY: Longman.

Tyner, Thomas E. 1996. *College Writing Basics: a Progressive Approach, 4th edition*. Belmont: Wadsworth Publishing Company.

Academic English Writing for Economics 2: Research Paper Writing

Week	Date	Course Content	assignment
1	0223	Course overview (1 hr); [AWEC] <u>Article Structure / Outline / Thesis Statement / Free-writing</u> (2 hr)	HW 1: Paper Outline and Free-writing
2	0302	How to give an oral presentation / visualizing your results (2 hr); HW1 discussion (1 hr)	ORAL: Presentation Slides (Weekly presentations hereafter)
3	0309	[AWEC] <u>Paragraph Writing / Summarizing</u> / Paraphrasing / Information Flow (2 hr); HW1 discussion (1 hr)	HW 2: Summary
4	0316	[AWEC] <u>Article Writing / Writing the Introduction</u> (2 hr); Introduction writing in economics (1 hr)	HW 3: Introduction Section
5	0323	Sample introductions in economics (1 hr); HW3 discussion (2 hr)	Revise HW3
6	0330	[AWEC] <u>Describing Data Collection Methods and Model</u> (2 hr); Methods in economics (1 hr)	HW 4: Data Description and Model Section
7	0406	Theoretical Predictions in economics (1 hr); HW4 discussion (2 hr)	Revise HW4
8	0413	[AWEC] <u>Writing Results</u> (2 hr); Result Description in economics (1 hr)	HW 5: Results Section
9	0420	Midterm Week	
10	0427	Data commentary in economics (1 hr); HW5 discussion (2 hr)	Revise HW5
11	0504	[AWEC] <u>Writing Critique</u> (2 hr); Robustness Discussion in economics (1 hr)	HW 6: Discussion Section
12	0511	Other Discussions in economics (1 hr); HW6 discussion (2 hr)	Revise HW6
13	0518	[AWEC] <u>Writing Conclusion</u> (2 hr); Concluding remarks in economics (1 hr)	HW 7: Conclusion Section
14	0525	<u>Re-writing the Introduction</u> (1 hr); HW7 discussion (2 hr)	HW 8: Introduction Revision
15	0601	Sample introduction revisions in economics (1 hr); HW8 discussion (2 hr)	FINAL PROJECT: First draft due
16	0608	[AWEC] <u>Writing Abstract</u> ; Abstract writing in economics; the submission process in economics (1 hr each)	HW 9: Abstract
17	0615	Writing Discussion	FINAL PROJECT: Second draft due
18	0622	Final Presentation (3hr)	FINAL PROJECT: submission proof due

Required Reading (Journal Article Samples):

1. **Wang, Spezio and Camerer (2010)**, “Pinocchio’s Pupil: Using Eyetracking and Pupil Dilation to Understand Truth-telling and Deception in Games,” *American Economic Review*, forthcoming: This is a recently accepted article of one of the instructors. We will provide excerpts of both earlier drafts and the final version to investigate how later drafts improve on earlier mistakes. [Theory, Accounting, Experiments]

Optional papers:

2. **Kagel, Lien, Milgrom (2010)**, “[Ascending Prices and Package Bidding: A Theoretical and Experimental Analysis](#),” *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*, forthcoming. [IO, Theory, Experiments]
3. **Bossaerts, Plott and Zame (2007)**, “[Prices and Portfolio Choices in Financial Markets: Theory, Econometrics, Experiments](#),” *Econometrica*, 75 (4), 993–1038. [Theory, Finance, Experiments, Econometrics]
4. **Bajari and Hortacsu (2005)**, “Are Structural Estimates of Auction Models Reasonable? Evidence from Experimental Data,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 113(4), 703-741: This is a methodological paper regarding empirical IO, testing structural estimation methods. [IO, Econometrics, Experiments]
5. **Snowberg, Wolfers and Zitzewitz (2007)**, “[Partisan Impacts on the Economy: Evidence from Prediction Markets and Close Elections](#),” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122(2), 807-829. [Experiments, Prediction Markets, Political Economy]
6. **Kartik (2009)**, “Strategic Communication with Lying Costs,” *Review of Economic Studies*, forthcoming: This is a recently accepted paper and a typical (micro-)economic theory piece. [Theory]
7. **Moldovanu and Sela (2001)**, “The Optimal Allocation of Prizes in Contests,” *American Economic Review*, 91(3), 542-558: This is a theoretical paper regarding all-pay auctions (contests) for optimally allocated monetary prizes.
8. **Moldovanu, Sela and Shi (2007)**, “Contests for Status,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 115(2), 338-363: This is a theoretical paper regarding all-pay auctions (contests) for prestige status.
9. **Crawford and Iriberri (2007)**, “Fatal Attraction: Saliency, Naiveté, and Sophistication in Experimental “Hide-and-Seek” Games,” *American Economic Review*, 97(5), 1731-1750: This is an experimental and theory paper interpreting others’ experimental results.

Other Interesting Types of Papers:

10. **Palfrey and Levine (2007)**, “The Paradox of Voter Participation? A Laboratory Study,” *American Political Science Review*, 101,

143-158: This is a paper on voting experiments, published in one of the two top political science journals (APSR and AJPS).

11. **McAfee (1983)**, "[American Economic Growth and the Voyage of Columbus](#)," *American Economic Review*, 73(4), 735-740: This is literally a joke published in the most prestige journal of economics. Can you figure out why it got published, and how dare an assistant professor submit such a piece?
12. **Roth (2007)**, "Repugnance as a Constraint on Markets," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21(3), 37–58: This is a journal article with no math and no advanced econometrics, specifically because it is published in a top (but invited) journal that the AEA decreed for college student readership.
13. **Goeree, Holt and Palfrey (2009)**, "Quantal Response Equilibrium," *New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics*: This is a handbook chapter that provides a short introduction to QRE. A typical review article for beginners.