

TRECC



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TEACHING RESOURCES FOR ECONOMICS AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES

WHAT IS TRECC?



TRECC is an economics newsletter focused on teaching economics at the community college level. We seek to provide resources that will help instructors provide a dynamic and meaningful experience for their students. We also seek to unite instructors from across the country and open up lines of communication between us all.



Calling all innovative educators!

Do YOU have an amazing idea that keeps your students engaged with economic content? These can be big or small or in-between! Do share what works for you with our readers in the next issue. Please forward your experience to Sunita Kumari at kumari.sunita@spcollege.edu by August 1st, 2020.



Have you tried MERLOT?

The MERLOT system provides access to curated online learning and support materials and content creation tools, led by an international community of educators, learners and researchers. Read about economics resources at the MERLOT system and how you can be part of this endeavor on page 2. You



Time for Reflection?

Have you used the “Minute Paper” activity lately to capture what your students have (or have not) learned in your course? Check out this [5 minute video lesson](#) to recap the purpose of the “Minute Paper”, and how you can create, review or update a “Minute Paper” activity that works for you.

- THE DIGITAL NEWSLETTER -



Have you discovered MERLOT? Not the wine, but the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching. According to *Campus Technology*, MERLOT should be considered the Mothership of OER. MERLOT was the first program available for finding and sharing free materials for teaching, as it was created by the California State University system in 1997 as a means of sharing materials between the 23 CSU campuses. Since then, MERLOT has expanded its horizons and includes over 91,000 materials and has MERLOT Members from around the world (over 160,000). Although there are benefits to joining MERLOT (it's free to join), the resources are available at no cost.

A GOOGLE FOR EDUCATORS

| Discipline |
|---|
| Agricultural and Natural Resources (57) |
| Bus Adm and Bus Mktg (4) |
| Econometrics (75) |
| Economic Development (67) |
| Economic Systems (32) |
| Financial (58) |
| Health, Ed and Welfare (23) |
| History of Ec. Thought (34) |
| Industrial Organization (15) |
| International (61) |
| Labor and Demographics (43) |
| Law and Economics (10) |
| Macro (122) |
| Mathematical and Quant. (64) |
| Micro (169) |
| Public (33) |
| Urban, Rural and Regional (69) |

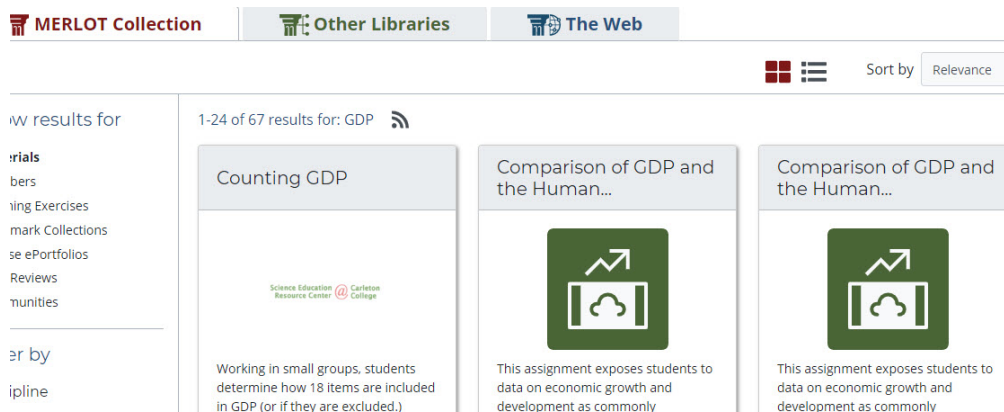
What can MERLOT do for you?

With MERLOT, you can find a variety of Economics resources, from simple animations and classroom activities to complete textbooks and courses. You can Browse Materials in the Economics collection by sub-discipline (See Table). You can also Search Materials on a specific topic (Break-Even Analysis, Comparative Advantage, Aggregate Demand, etc.). Many of the resources have been peer-reviewed by MERLOT Peer Reviewers who are experts in their disciplines, so you can be confident about using them with your students. MERLOT has been called a “Google for

Educators,” as you find resources that are academic resources specifically. Like Google, MERLOT does not host the materials, but provides a link to where they are located.

One of the recent additions to MERLOT is the MERLOT SMART Search. Using the Search box at the top of the page, one can search the MERLOT collection for a topic of interest, for instance, GDP. MERLOT first searches the materials in the MERLOT Collection that have been contributed by authors and users (see the first tab).

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MERLOT also searches Other Libraries and finds additional materials from sources such as OpenStax, OER Consortium, etc. (see the second tab). Finally, through a proprietary algorithm, MERLOT searches other resources on The Web that are academically oriented. All of these resources are free for you to use in your classes, whether you're looking for an assignment, or you want to see how someone else teaches a course. Just got to www.merlot.org and begin your search.



Ready for a new challenge?
 Only want the BEST resources for our economic students?
 Why not join the team and be a MERLOT Peer Reviewer?

Not only can you use these resources, but you can also participate in MERLOT by cataloging your own resources that you have created or used in your classes. You do have to be a MERLOT Member to submit your own resources, but it is free to join. In addition to submitting resources, you can become a MERLOT Peer Reviewer and participate in the MERLOT Peer Review Process.

After a brief orientation, you work with the Economics Editorial Board and begin reviewing materials in which you have an expertise. MERLOT Peer Reviewers receive a certificate upon completion of the orientation and receive a letter of appreciation at the end of the year. In addition, your name is listed as a peer reviewer on the MERLOT site. If interested in being a MERLOT Peer Reviewer, please contact cswift@calstate.edu.

THINGS TO DO

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Click to learn more about each conferences:

[2020 MEA \(Midwest Economics Association\)](#)

March 27-29, 2020 Evanston, Illinois

[2020 Annual AEA Conference on Teaching & Research in Economic Education \(CTREE\)](#)

May 27-29, 2020 Westin Michigan Ave., Chicago

[2020 SIEPR Economic Summit](#) – Mar 13, 2020

[2020 Summer Economic Institute for Teachers](#) – July 13-17, 2020

Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR)

Sanford, CA

[2020 AAEA Annual Meeting](#)

Agriculture & Applied Economics Association

July 26-28, 2020 Kansas City, MO

[2020 OLC Accelerate](#)

Online Learning Consortium (OLC)

Nov 17-20, 2020 Lake Buena Vista, FL

[2020 SEA 90th Annual Meeting](#)

Southern Economics Association

Nov 21-23, 2020 New Orleans, LA

Helpful Resources

Click to learn more about each resources:

[Best Practices for Economists by AEA](#)

Building a more diverse, inclusive and productive profession. Check out the section on “Working with Students” for new engagement ideas.

[Starting Point : Teaching & Learning Economics](#)

Looking at pedagogies external to, but applicable to the economics discipline.

[Economics at Community Colleges](#)

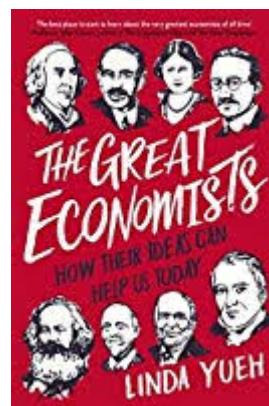
This site has webinars and workshops catered specifically to the two-year community colleges.

[2020 Webinars](#)

The Council for Economic Education offers webinars on personal finance and economics.



Economic Books



What would the Great Economists Do? How twelve brilliant minds would solve today's biggest problems (2018).
By Linda Yueh

To know more, [view a talk](#) given by the author to see if you agree, disagree or stand on the fence.

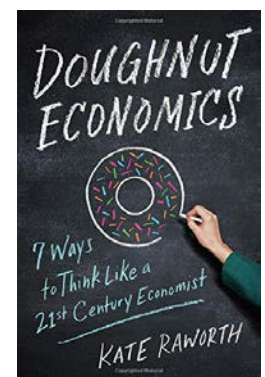
Economic Blogs

[Econlog](#)

By the Library of Economics and Liberty, there are unique combination of resources for students, teachers, and researchers of economic thoughts.

[Marginal Revolution](#)

By professors at George Mason University, Tyler Cowen and Alex Tabarrok features some of the interesting economic debates with daily roundup of interesting links.



Doughnut Economics (2017). By Kate Raworth

[View this documentary](#) by the author to get a quick view of changes in economic systems in the present time on planet Earth.

Economic Podcasts

[Montana Economic Minute](#)

Produced by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research's School of Business Administration at the University of Montana, there are in-depth analysis of financial and economic data as it applies to the State and the entire country.

Do YOU have a book, video, blog or podcast that keeps you engaged in Economics with our readers in the next issue? Please forward your recommendations to Sunita Kumari at kumari.sunita@spcollege.edu by August 1st, 2020.