



THIS ISSUE

*Important Dates**Faculty Spotlight**EC Alumni Spotlight**Economics Colloquium Aug. 31st**Tips for a Strong Semester**Campus & CSN Events*

IMPORTANT DATES

- CLASSES BEGIN WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 1ST, A MONDAY SCHEDULE WILL BE FOLLOWED.
- OPEN ADD PERIOD ENDS SEPTEMBER 8TH 8:00 PM
- EC OVERRIDE/LATE ADD FORM (ADDS AFTER SEPTEMBER 8TH)
- TUITION REFUND PERIOD ENDS SEPTEMBER 27TH 8:00 PM

ADVISING
APPOINTMENTS

If you have questions about enrollment, please schedule an Advising Appointment student.msu.edu

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: STEVE MATUSZ

Video Intro to EC 491: <https://bit.ly/3CgGI0F>

EC 491 is the number assigned to "Topics in Economics," a title that allows faculty to design courses built around their own research or areas of special interest." My research focus is on the complex web of connections between national labor markets and global product markets.

For most of its history, the theory of international trade treated countries and industries as the basic units of analysis. The concept of the firm might have been used as a metaphor but played no formal role in models based on perfectly competitive markets.

Similarly, labor markets were assumed to be perfectly competitive and without frictions, leaving no room to examine the effects of trade on unemployment, or how the introduction of trade might differentially impact otherwise identical workers.

The heart of this course dives into more recent research that allows for a rich treatment of the linkages connecting globalization, firms, and workers.

My first objective in teaching about this subject is to provide a deeper and more nuanced view of international trade compared with the typical textbook treatment.

My second objective is to help you develop your technical skills as developing young economists. I plan to achieve this objective by introducing you to some of the most influential theoretical and empirical research papers in the area and working through the details. Some of these papers are very technical and difficult to read, but I will work with you to develop your skills.

My final objective is to develop a community of scholars. Ideas are not born in a vacuum, and the only way to really understand something is to ask questions, try to explain things to others, and generally carry on a conversation. There is no shame in saying I don't know, I need help. Working with others allows us to better understand ideas and generate significantly better ideas than any of us could generate on our own. To achieve this objective, I expect active class participation and a willingness to work with others on several small projects.

EC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: KEN KRUGER

I am a Senior Associate at Granite Creek Capital Partners. Granite Creek makes investments in private lower middle market companies and provides support and expertise to help them grow. My role in this process is to screen for new deal opportunities, support transaction execution, and provide support to the companies in our portfolio (each company's needs vary).

How does your economics education help you succeed in your job?

- It has helped me build the intellectual foundation that I use to understand new companies and transaction opportunities. The laws of economics apply to all participants in all markets.

What is the most rewarding or enjoyable part of your job?

- We do many different types of deals with companies in a variety of industries, so no two opportunities are alike, and this variety always keeps things interesting. It's also just fascinating learning about and getting to work with interesting new companies on a daily basis. I feel like I'm constantly learning, and am fortunate to get to work with and learn from some really smart people.

What is a challenging part of your job and how do you handle it?

- It's not uncommon to put in a lot of time and energy into a deal only to have it die (which can happen for any number of reasons). When this happens, I try to remind myself that you learn from each transaction, regardless of how it turns out.

What recommendations do you have for current EC students on the job or internship search?

- Apply for any internship or job you're interested in. The worst thing that can happen is you get some interview practice (which is really important). Landing a job or internship, especially in a competitive field, is a numbers game – you need to get out there and apply and interview as much as you can in order to give yourself the best opportunity to land the type of job you want.

What would you encourage all EC students to do before finishing their program?

- Do as many internships as you can! It's the best way to explore your professional interests during college, and the best way to land a good job. Even if you end up feeling like it's not the type of job you ultimately want, it helps you narrow down what you want to do and builds your resume.

Final recommendations:

- Build relationships
- Learn and grow from every experience even the negative ones

ECONOMICS COLLOQUIUM AUGUST 31ST

10:00-11:00 AM B122 WELLS

- For new students and new-to-campus students
- If you plan to attend please RSVP by August 27th by 5:00 PM

TIPS FOR A STRONG SEMESTER

- Go to class!
- Manage your time well
- Use office hours
- Make campus smaller (get involved)
- Monitor requirements and sequencing
- Meet with an advisor once a year (or at least in your junior year to ensure timely graduation)
- Enroll in courses as early as possible/Plan your schedule in advance
- Take advantage of career services

CAREER SERVICES NETWORK EVENTS:

[HTTPS://CAREERNETWORK.MSU.EDU/EVENTS/](https://careernetwork.msu.edu/events/)

- Career Advising Help Room
August 11th 10:00-Noon
August 18th 3:00-5:00 PM
- Navigating Hybrid Recruiting
August 12th 11:30 AM-12:15 PM
- Navigating Virtual Career fairs
August 16th 4:00 PM
- Preparing for In-Person, Video and Artificial Intelligence Interviews
August 17th 2:00-3:00 PM
- Local Jobs and Internship Fair (virtual)
August 19th 11:00 AM -2:00 PM
- MSU Math, Actuarial, Data Science, Computer Science & IT Fair (virtual)
September 23rd 3:00-6:00 PM

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING CENTER

- Workshop schedule coming soon!

OCAT EVENTS

- Events coming soon!