

**San José State University**  
**Department of Economics**  
**ECON 1B, Principles of Economics: Microeconomics, Section 4, Fall 2019**

**Course and Contact Information**

Instructor:	Fahmida Fakhruddin
Office Location:	DMH 219
Telephone:	Email is preferred
Email:	<a href="mailto:fahmida.fakhruddin@sjsu.edu">fahmida.fakhruddin@sjsu.edu</a> (Remember to write "Econ 1B-4 or something similar, together with the topic of the email)
Office Hours:	Tuesday and Thursdays 9:00 am -10:15 am or by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Tuesday & Thursday/ 12:00 pm -1:15 pm
Classroom:	DMH 161
Prerequisites:	May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1A

**MYSJSU Messaging and Canvas**

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, grades, messages regarding the class, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#) You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) to learn of any updates. See [University Policy F13-2](#) for more details.

**Course Description**

This course stimulates interest in students about allocation of resources and distribution of income, as affected by the workings of the price system and government policies. May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1A.

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students have concrete foundation to pursue intermediate study in microeconomic theory related to three broad areas: Incentives, Opportunity Cost, and Supply and Demand. Specific learning objectives include:

- Incentives Matter (law of demand; law of supply; rational decision makers weight marginal costs versus marginal benefits; the power of self-interest)
- Opportunity Costs (sunk costs; production possibilities; the free-lunch fallacy; tradeoffs in consumption and production; gains from interpersonal & international trade; comparative advantage)
- Supply and Demand (understanding the S&D model as a representation of individual choices in exchange based on individual preferences, knowledge and circumstances; ability to examine current events using S&D tools; movement versus shift; welfare analysis)

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

Miller, ECONOMICS TODAY, The Micro View, 19<sup>th</sup> edition, Pearson  
ISBN-13: 978-0134479255. ISBN-10: 0134479254

### Other Readings

Supplemental readings will also be provided throughout the course. Reading of economic press such as The Wall Street Journal, and a reliable newspaper such as the San Jose Mercury News, or the San Francisco Chronicle are also recommended to provide background in current “real life” microeconomic issues.

### Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Students need to familiarize yourself with **Canvas** as all communications will be done through this portal.

### Library Liaison

Christa Bailey, [christa.bailey@sjsu.edu](mailto:christa.bailey@sjsu.edu)

## Course Requirements and Assignments

This is a four-unit class. Students should expect to spend about 180 hours (normally twelve hours per week or three hours per unit per week) throughout the semester, including reading, preparing for class, attending class, participating in course activities, and so on. *More details can be found at [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](#).*

The course consists of two midterms, one final exam, weekly quizzes and a term paper. The midterms and final exam cover material presented both in class and in the textbook. The midterms will be comprised of short answer analysis of the economic theory and true/false questions. The final exam will be comprehensive. All exams will be closed book, closed notes. There will be practice problem sets and newspaper articles involving the application of the theory discussed in class. Problem sets and quizzes reinforce the key course concepts. Further details on the term paper will be provided later in the semester.

Attendance and active participation in class are expected and required. Learning material is directly correlated with attending class. Also, the more you attend, the better you will perform on tests. The exam questions will be based on material discussed in class and similar to practice problems. I will take attendance in every class. You will receive **three points** for every class you attend on time.

Your active participation is as critical for your learning as mere attendance is. Each of you will be randomly asked to answer a question or to solve a problem on the board based on materials covered in the previous week. You will be graded based on your effort not for answering/solving a question correctly.

## Grading Information

Converting number grades to letter grades:

95-100 A+	90-94 A	85-89 A-	80-84 B+	75-79 B	70-74 B-	
65-69 C+	60-64 C	55-59 C-	50-54 D+	45-49 D	40-44 D-	0-39 F

If you feel you are lost or experience any difficulty in this course, please do not hesitate to come to me for help. Please remember that I am just an email away. I am also available during office hours and by appointment and Zoom meeting. I am always happy to clarify difficult concepts, resolve any lingering confusion, or otherwise assist you in making this course fun and rewarding.

## Determination of Grades

10/12 Quizzes (20 pts each)	20%
Class Attendance and Participation	15%
Mid-term 1	20%
Mid-term 2	20%
Final Exam	20%
Term Paper	5%

10/12 Quizzes will be taken over the course of the semester; I will drop your two lowest quiz scores. This means you may miss or skip two quizzes if you choose. You must have 8/10 quiz scores; any additional missing quizzes will be counted as zeroes.

I do not recommend missing quizzes, as they will cover important material that will be on midterm and final exams. However, things come up in life, so I offer the dropped score option for unanticipated disruptions to your schedule. Having said this, because you have the opportunity to drop two quizzes,

In case you miss the deadline of an assignment or exam, please contact me as soon as possible and we will work out something. To receive an extension, you are responsible for notifying me of your situation prior to a due date and receiving an email from me with an agreed upon extension.

\*If a personal emergency comes up causing you to miss a midterm for a *verified and valid* personal emergency or medical reason *documented to me in advance of or immediately after the exam*, the final exam will then take on the weight of the final plus the missed midterm. If a similar situation takes place around the final exam for a *verified and valid* reason *documented to me in advance of the final*, contact me and we will reschedule your final exam.

## Classroom Protocol

1. Please come to class prepared and on time.
2. Please respect the goals of the instructor and your classmates.
3. Turn your cell phone off during class sessions.
4. Do not engage in side conversations during class sessions.
5. Do not listen to recorded music during class sessions.
6. Cheating will not be tolerated. Looking at someone else's exam, talking to anyone, copying another student's work or using an external source of information for which you were not explicitly given permission during an exam will result in disciplinary action. This disciplinary action might include anything from receiving zero points on the exam to an F in the class.

## University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](#).

# ECON1B / Principles of Economics: Microeconomics, Section 4, Fall 2019

*The schedule is subject to change with fair notice in class and on Canvas*

## Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 22	Introduction, Chapter 1-6,
2	Aug 27	Introduction continued, Chapter 1-6, <b>Problem set 1</b>
2	Aug 29	Demand and Supply, Chapter 3, <b>Quiz 1</b>
3	Sep 03	Demand and Supply continued, Chapter 3, <b>Problem set 2</b>
3	Sep 05	Elasticity of Demand, Chapter 19, <b>Quiz 2,</b>
4	Sep 10	Elasticity of Demand continued, Chapter 19, <b>Problem set 3</b>
4	Sep 12	Application Involving Supply and Demand, Chapter 4, <b>Quiz 3</b>
5	Sep 17	Review for Midterm 1, <b>Discussion on the Term Paper</b>
5	Sep 19	<b>Midterm 1- Thursday 09/19/2019</b>
6	Sep 24	The Power of Trade and Comparative Advantage, Chapter 2, <b>Problem set 4</b>
6	Sep 26	Household Consumption Behavior and DD Theory, Chapter 20, <b>Quiz 4</b>
7	Oct 01	Costs of Production and Factors of Production, Chapter 21, 22, <b>Problem set 5</b>
7	Oct 03	Costs of Production and Factors of Production Cond, Chapter 21, 22, <b>Quiz 5</b>
8	Oct 08	Costs of Production and Factors of Production Continued, Chapter 21, 22,
8	Oct 10	Costs of Production and Factors of Production Continued, Chapter 21, 22, <b>Quiz 6</b>
9	Oct 15	Market Power and Market Structure, Chapter 23-26, <b>Problem set 6</b>
9	Oct 17	Market Power and Market Structure Continued, Chapter 23-26, <b>Quiz 7</b>
10	Oct 22	Review for Midterm 2, <b>Submit Rough Draft of the Term Paper</b>
10	Oct 24	<b>Midterm 2, Tuesday 10/24/2019</b>
11	Oct 29	Market Power and Market Structure Continued, Chapter 23-26, <b>Problem set 7</b>
11	Oct 31	Market Power and Market Structure Continued, Chapter 23-26, <b>Quiz 8</b>
12	Nov 05	Market Power and Market Structure Continued, Chapter 23-26, <b>Problem set 8</b>
12	Nov 07	Effort to Achieve Market Power, Chapter 26-29, <b>Quiz 9</b>
13	Nov 12	Labor Markets, Chapter 28-29, <b>Problem set 9</b>
13	Nov 14	Labor Markets Continued, Chapter 28-29, <b>Quiz 10</b>

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
14	Nov 19	Role of Government: Regulation, Welfare, Chapter 5, 6, 2, 31, <b>Problem set 10</b>
14	Nov 21	Externalities, Chapter 31, <b>Quiz 11</b>
15	Nov 26	Public Goods and the Tragedy of Commons, <b>Problem set 11</b>
16	Dec 03	Economics, Ethics, and Public Policy, <b>Quiz 12</b>
16	Dec 05	Review for Final, <b>Submit Final Draft of the Term Paper</b>
18	Dec 17	<b>Final Exam, Tuesday 12/17/2019 9:45 am-12pm</b>