

San José State University
College of Social Sciences/ Economics Department
Econ 1b Intro to Microeconomics Section 01 and 61, Spring 2019

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Professor Lydia Ortega
Office Location:	DMH 131
Telephone:	408-924-5405 - Email Works Better than Phone
Email:	LYDIA.ORTEGA@SJSU.EDU
Office Hours:	Wednesday 3:30 PM TO 5:30 PM and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	MW 10:30 to 11:45 Section 01 MW 01:30 to 02:45 Section 61
Classroom:	DMH 348
Prerequisites:	(Delete this row if not applicable)
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	D1

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This is a four-unit, hybrid course that makes heavy use of an online lab component and ebook. The class meets regularly in person on Wednesdays at scheduled times. Mondays are a Flip Format where students work in teams on assignments. Teams meet with instructor at pre-assigned times on Mondays via Zoom. Zoom is available to all SJSU students. You will need access to a computer with web-camera for weekly Zoom meetings.

MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) at <http://my.sjsu.edu> (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates.

Course Description

Allocation of resources and distribution of income as affected by the workings of the price system and by government policies.

Course Goals

Economics is a social science that uses a formal and mathematical approach to study human behavior. This class will serve as an introduction to Microeconomic theory by analyzing CHOICE. Individuals make choices under conditions of limited time, competition for resources, and different institutional rules (markets, family, government, firms). We emphasize how resources are allocated within markets and contrast this with non-market resource allocations (e.g. tradition, government). The course is also designed to work with you to reach

your goals to acquire marketable human capital skills – specifically improved Communication, Calculation and Critical Thinking skills.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

As a GE course we emphasize oral and written communication skills through written assignments on markets and through team presentations. Upon successful completion of this GE course, students will be able to:

1. *Explain the pro and cons of market allocation of resources from an income equality and efficiency perspective through a research paper*
2. *Graph and explain the role of prices that are generated by individual choice through course lecture and exams.*

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO1: Microeconomics: Students should be able to define, describe and illustrate microeconomic concepts, using verbal, written, graphical and mathematical expression, in three microeconomic “hallmark” areas: Incentives (the law of demand, law of supply, rational decision making on the margin), Opportunity Costs (sunk costs, production possibilities, gains from interpersonal & international trade, comparative advantage) and Supply and Demand (movement versus shift, welfare analysis, understanding the S&D model as a representation of individual choices in exchange,) and also be able to examine, assess and criticize policies, projects and other current events, using core microeconomic theory, through the Intermediate level.

Assessment: Analysis of student written and verbal answers to multiple choice and essay problems.

CLO2: Students will be able to describe and explain conclusions, recommendations, and implications from theory and methods of micro theory and applied economics, using written, spoken and other forms of communication.

Assessment: Economics communication will be evidenced by successful term papers, weekly discussions small group discussions with faculty.

Required Texts/Readings (Required)

Textbook

Microeconomics Fifth Edition by [Paul Krugman](#) and [Robin Wells](#)

This is available free to the class as an Ebook along with the software platform called ACHIEVE.

If you prefer to rent a hardcopy you can find it at Amazon. ISBN-13: 978-1319098780

Access codes will be distributed in class on Wednesday, Feb. 6th along with instructions.

Other Readings

Short articles and videos for discussion will be available on Canvas for you to access when assigned.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

To engage in the weekly Flip class Zoom meetings you need access to a computer with a webcam and the Zoom software provided by the University.

Course Requirements and Assignments

See detailed weekly Schedule below. “Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Final Examination or Evaluation

The final evaluation for the class is a research paper due **no later than** Wednesday, May 15 at 2:00 pm. If you need to turn in the paper earlier you can ask the office administrative staff to put it in my mailbox. “Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.”

Grading Information (Required)

Grading rubrics for Zoom meeting presentations, the Research Paper, and Canvas Log are available in Canvas Course files.

Determination of Grades

Grades are determined by the following percentage scale:

<u>Below</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Below</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Below</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Grade</u>
100.0	97.0	A+	96.0	93.0	A	92.0	90.0	A-
89.0	87.0	B+	86.0	83.0	B	82.0	80.0	B-
79.0	77.0	C+	76.0	73.0	C	72.0	70.0	C-
69.0	67.0	D+	66.0	63.0	D	62.0	60.0	D-

- Extra Credit - Up to 24 points of extra credit is available – see syllabus for complete instructions.
- Your average score on 2 “graph and explain” exams equals 25 percent of the course grade.
- One Research Paper on Models and Outcomes (with prep work) equals 25 percent of the course grade.
- Your average score on Weekly ACHIEVE assignments equals 25 percent of the course grade.
- Your average score on Weekly Zoom Meetings & Canvas Log equals 25 percent of the course grade.
- The final evaluation for the course is the Research Paper due no later than 2:00 pm class on Wednesday, May 15th – the day of the scheduled final..
- Late Work is not accepted. Missed work can subtract points from your overall score. You are allowed one missed Weekly assignment, Zoom meeting, and Canvas log. If you miss an in-class exam the next exam will be double weighted.

Classroom Protocol

You are strongly encouraged to ask questions at all times. In class, you may be asked to look up the answer or to a question but otherwise all electronic communication, earbuds, cell phones, laptops etc. should be turned off and stored. Arrive on time.

University Policies (Required)

Per University Policy S16-9 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), 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](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/> PLEASE review these university policies and resources.

Econ 1B / Introductory Microeconomics, Spring 2019, Course Schedule

Although I anticipate following the schedule as provided below, the planned course schedule may need to be changed with fair notice. *It is your responsibility to be aware of where we are in the readings, class lectures, and announcements.*

We will stick to a regular pattern of activities and due dates. Note, I've identified specific dates when you should start working on Chapter Assignments by describing the Chapter as OPEN. But that is technically not correct. You can do work on any chapter according to your schedule. If you need to get ahead of the work because of an expected heavy schedule, go ahead. The only problem is you will not be able to see your results/scores on Quizzes until after the due date.

Wednesdays – ACHIEVE Chapter Assignments, for the following week are OPEN.

Sundays – ACHIEVE Assignments (Launchpad, Bridge, PreClass Tutorial Reading, other) due Midnight

Mondays – Zoom Meeting is held at your group's scheduled time
 ACHIEVE Assignment (Homework) is due by Midnight
 Your Canvas Log is due by Midnight

Tuesday – ACHIEVE Assignment (Timed Quiz) is due by Midnight.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	01/28 MEET	Incentives, Goal Alignment – studying for points versus owning human capital, $MB=MC$, Opportunity Cost, 3 new study techniques. Discuss Assignments. Read: documents posted to Canvas: Syllabus, Human Capital, Study Techniques, Extra Credit Instructions.
1	01/30 MEET	Lecture on Economic Modeling, Subjective Values, Overview of the economic problem Scarcity, Resource Allocation, Prices versus Direction. Read: documents posted to Canvas: Instructions and Rubric for Research Paper
2	02/04 MEET	Criteria for Resource Allocation – Efficiency versus Equity. Are Prices Fair? Assignment 1: watch two videos on Canvas and write in Canvas Log. These videos are background to support the next few weeks of pure graphical analysis.
2	02/06 MEET	Form Groups for Zoom Meetings, Review ACHIEVE software assignments and points. Begin Supply and Demand Mastery Bootcamp. ACHIEVE: Chapters 1 and 2 open. Start Launchpad, Bridge, Reading. Remember Sunday Midnight deadline for Launchpad, Bridge, etc and Reading.
3	02/11 FLIP	Be on Zoom at your assigned time. Have questions and be able to discuss your work from Assignment 1 on Canvas or you can relate Chapters 1 and 2 to course lecture from first 3 days. ACHIEVE: Graded Homework for Chapters 1 & 2 and Canvas Log due by midnight. Remember Tuesday Midnight deadline for Chapters 1 and 2 Quiz.
3	02/13 MEET	Our focus for the next 3 class periods is on prepping for Exam 1 Mastering Supply and Demand. ACHIEVE: Chapter 3 open.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
4	02/18 FLIP	SAME PATTERN OF ACTIVITIES. But along with Tuesday midnight quiz there is an extra credit opportunity. Provocative Lecture, 5:15 to 6:45 pm at Student Union Theater. <i>Follow Instructions carefully.</i> Extra Credit due at the beginning of class on 02/27. No Late Papers Accepted.
4	02/20 MEET	Why is Demand upward sloping? Why is Supply upward sloping? Develop comfort graphing and explaining. ACHIEVE: Chapter 4 open.
5	02/25 FLIP	Be on Zoom at your assigned time. Follow the regular pattern
5	02/27 MEET	Understanding Consumer and Producer Surplus, through stories, graphically, and numerically. ACHIEVE: Chapter 5 open.
6	03/04 FLIP	Be on Zoom at your assigned time. Follow the regular pattern
6	03/06 MEET	LAST REVIEW BEFORE TEST 1 ON CHAPTERS 3, 4, 5 In class practice and drills. No New ACHIEVE assignments.
7	03/11 FLIP	Be on Zoom at your assigned time. Discussion is on questions for test. Canvas Log due by Midnight. No Other ACHIEVE assignments.
7	03/13 MEET	TEST 1 ACHIEVE: Chapter 6 open.
8	03/18 FLIP	NO ZOOM MEETING TODAY. Monday is a busy night. Along with the Ch. 6 graded homework and Canvas log due at midnight, there is an extra credit opportunity. Provocative Lecture, 5:15 to 6:45 pm at Student Union Theater. <i>Follow Instructions carefully.</i> I will be at the event and at the Barstool meeting following the event. That would be a good time to discuss in person. Extra Credit due at the beginning of class on 03/27. No Late Papers Accepted.
8	03/20 MEET	Lecture Chapter 6 and Discuss Research Paper Assignment. ACHIEVE: Chapter 7 open.
9	03/25 FLIP	Be on Zoom at your assigned time. Discussion is on Chapter 6 or on Chapter 7.
9	03/27 MEET	Finish Lecture on 6, start Lecture on 7. ACHIEVE: No new chapters open. Work on preparation for Research paper. Assignment is due at the Beginning of Class on April 10. No late papers accepted. CANVAS: Video Assignment/reading assignment due for 04/08 discussion and Canvas log. This is designed to get you thinking about your papers.
10	04/01	Spring Break – Study problems for Chapters 6 & 7 for next major test on 05/01 NOTE: I will Open Chapter 12 early in case you want to get started. It is a challenging chapter and you will have a test on it soon.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
10	04/03	Spring Break – Write your Preliminary Research paper. Due 04/10
11	04/08 FLIP	Be on Zoom at your assigned time. Discuss Canvas Video/Reading Assignment as it relates to research paper. CANVAS Log due by Monday Midnight. There are no other ACHIEVE assignments for Monday or Tuesday.
11	04/10 MEET	Preliminary Research paper due at the START of class. No late papers accepted. Lecture 7. ACHIEVE: OPEN Chapter 12
12	04/15 FLIP	Be on Zoom at your assigned time. Discussion is on Chapter 7 or on Chapter 12. Remember the pattern – Monday midnight Ch. 12 graded homework and Canvas log. By Tuesday midnight Ch. 12 graded quiz.
12	04/17 MEET	Discuss Chapter 12 Competition ACHIEVE: OPEN Chapter 13
13	04/22 FLIP	Be on Zoom at your assigned time. Discussion is on Chapter 13. Along with the Tuesday midnight Ch. 13 quiz and Canvas Log there is an extra credit opportunity on Tuesday. Provocative Lecture, 5:15 to 6:45 pm at Student Union Theater. <i>Follow Instructions carefully.</i> Extra Credit due at the beginning of class on 05/01. No Late Papers Accepted.
13	04/24 MEET	Review Chapters 6, 7, 12 problems for the Test. No New ACHIEVE open.
14	04/29 FLIP	Be on Zoom at your assigned time to discuss test preparation. CANVAS Log is due by midnight. There is no Tuesday night quiz.
14	05/01 MEET	In Class Test on Chapters 6, 7, 12. ACHIEVE: Open Chapter 9 Extra Credit from Provocative Lecture due at the beginning of class.
15	05/06 FLIP	Be on Zoom at your assigned time. Discuss Chapter 9 and test performance. Remember the pattern: Monday midnight deadline for graded homework and Canvas log. Tuesday midnight deadline for Chapter 9 quiz.
15	05/08 MEET	Lecture on Individual Decision Making. Discuss the WRITING SKILLS that will be evaluated in your Research paper. Assigned Readings/Videos on Canvas are related to the research project. ACHIEVE: No new Chapter open
16	05/13 FLIP	Discussion strictly on Research Paper. All work for Chapter 9 is moved to Monday -- Graded homework, Canvas Log, and Graded Quiz – due by midnight MONDAY. Tuesday the 14 th is dead day. No classes.
Final Eval	05/15	Research Paper is due no later than 2:00 PM in my office – DMH 131. Or deliver to Econ Dept. Office to place in my mailbox.