

**Syllabus**  
**Econ 1B-62, Principles of Economics: Microeconomics**  
San Jose State University  
Synchronous online class time: Wednesday 9:00AM - 11:30AM  
Fall 2020

Instructor: Dr. Marjan Orang  
Email: marjan.orang@sjsu.edu  
Office Hours: by appointment

**Course Description:**

**Welcome to Econ 1B, Principles of Microeconomics!** This course provides an introduction to microeconomics. Microeconomics is the branch of economics that deals with the decision making of individuals and firms. The main goal of this course is to provide students with the tools and basic understanding of microeconomic principles necessary to analyze economic phenomenon and economic policy decisions in real world situations. Topics will include, but are not limit to, the concept of scarcity, opportunity cost, gains from trade, supply and demand, elasticities, tax policies, externalities, costs, profits and various models of competition (e.g. Monopolies).

**Required Material:**

*Book: Microeconomics, 7th Edition ©2019*

1. *Glenn Hubbard, Columbia University, Anthony Patrick O'Brien, Lehigh University*

[MyLab Economics with Pearson eText -- Instant Access -- for Microeconomics, 7th Edition \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

**\$99.99** | ISBN-13: 978-0-13-473963-2

Course ID: orang13204

For more help, please visit the Pearson's link on How can students enroll?  
[https://help.pearsoncmg.com/myp/myp\\_instr/Content/enrollment/enroll\\_students\\_myp.htm?csid=how\\_students\\_enroll\\_myp](https://help.pearsoncmg.com/myp/myp_instr/Content/enrollment/enroll_students_myp.htm?csid=how_students_enroll_myp) (Links to an external site.)

*Another great reading:*

*The Applied Theory of Price by Deirdre McCloskey, available online for free at:*

<https://www.deirdremccloskey.com/docs/price.pdf> (Links to an external site.)

## Grading:

Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Oral Examinations	10%
Homework	20%
Mid-term 1	20%
Mid-term 2	20%
Final Exam	30%

Grading adheres to the University's +/- grading scale. The minimum value for each grade is: A+ (97), A (93), A- (90), B+ (87), B (83), B- (80), C+ (77), C (73), C- (70), D+ (67), D (63), D- (60), and F (for < 60).

## Class and Assignments:

I will hold online lectures in Zoom every Wed, 9:00-10:00am, using the below link.

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/99842754024?pwd=bXd5c0pPcWc5MGZ6dkt5NXE1REZTQT09>

Password: Micro

Meeting ID: 998 4275 4024

We'll be using this link for all the lecture meetings throughout the semester, so please save the link in your browser dashboard.

The lectures will be followed by weekly group check-in conversations in an assigned 10 minutes slots. I'll send you an email with your group members and a link to the Zoom meeting room for your check-in meeting and its time. In these check-in conversations, I will evaluate your progress and provide assistance where needed.

Students will submit assignments on Canvas. All rules and regulations contained in SJSU policies and procedures will be followed.

Assignment	Due Dates
Weekly Homework Assignments	9a.m. on selected Tues
Weekly Check-in Conversation/Oral Exams	10 minutes, once each week

Homework assignments and the student companion website will help you understand the course materials and prepare you for the exams. The lowest Homework scores will be dropped. All homework assignments are handled through MyLab. Please note that MyLab will not accept late assignments (even if they are just one second late!). There are no makeup assignments. Remember, however, that your lowest scores are dropped. Please start the assignment well in advance of the deadline, so you will be able to submit them on time (even if a server goes down or another unforeseen difficulty occurs).

Finally, if you have any questions or problems with the MyLab system, you should contact their Tech supports.

### **Exam Policy:**

There will be no make-ups for the exams. If you must be absent from a midterm exam and you arrange ahead of time, then you may be excused from the exam, in which case, its grading weight will be split at the instructor's discretion among the remaining exams. This must be arranged in advance; otherwise the exam will be recorded as a zero. For the final exam, make-ups will not be allowed except in accordance with the University rules.

### **Important Dates:**

Aug 19th	Wed	First day of class
Sep 30th	Wed	Mid-term 1
Nov 4th	Wed	Mid-term 2
Nov 11th	Wed	No Class – Campus Closed – Veterans Day
Dec 15th	Tues	Final

## Tentative Topic Outline

*Book: Microeconomics, 7th Edition ©2019*

1. *Glenn Hubbard, Columbia University*

*Anthony Patrick O'Brien, Lehigh University*

## Tentative Schedule

### PART I: INTRODUCTION

- Aug 19, 2020 1. Economics: Foundations and Models  
Aug 26, 2020 2. Trade-offs, Comparative Advantage, and the Market System  
Sep 2, 2020 3. Where Prices Come From: The Interaction of Demand and Supply  
Sep 9, 2020 3. Where Prices Come From: The Interaction of Demand and Supply  
Sep 16, 2020 4. Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes  
Sep 23, 2020 4. Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes  
Sep 30, 2020 **Mid-term 1**

### PART II: MARKETS IN ACTION: POLICY AND APPLICATIONS

- Oct 7, 2020 5. Externalities, Environmental Policy, and Public Goods  
Oct 14, 2020 6. Elasticity: The Responsiveness of Demand and Supply

### PART III: FIRMS IN THE DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIES

- Oct 21, 2020 8. Firms, the Stock Market, and Corporate Governance

### PART IV: MICROECONOMIC FOUNDATIONS: CONSUMERS AND FIRMS

- Oct 28, 2020 11. Technology, Production, and Costs  
Nov 4, 2020 **Mid-term 2**

### PART V: MARKET STRUCTURE AND FIRM STRATEGY

- No Class Veterans Day;  
Nov 11, 2020  
12. Firms in Perfectly Competitive Markets (Self Study)  
Nov 18, 2020 13. Monopolistic Competition: The Competitive Model in a More Realistic Setting  
Nov 25, 2020 14. Oligopoly: Firms in Less Competitive Markets  
Dec 2, 2020 Review  
Dec 15, 2020 **Final**