

San José State University
ECON 1B, Principles of Economics: Microeconomics
Combined Section Syllabus: Sections 81, 82 & 99
Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Nicole Norton
Email:	nicole.norton@sjsu.edu
Virtual Office Hours:	Tu 1:30pm – 3pm by appointment only Via email, phone, and/or Zoom video conferencing
Class Days/Time:	01- <u>Completely online</u> via Canvas with NO designated day/time meeting pattern.
Classroom:	Online Instruction—All instruction takes place online, with no physical in-person or on campus meetings or activities required.
Canvas Course Page	sjsu.instructure.com
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	GE Area D1: Social Science, Human Behavior

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course adopts a completely online, asynchronous delivery format with no designated day/time meeting pattern. Reliable internet connectivity and a computer or laptop with webcam and microphone are required for the course. This course requires the use of electronic proctoring through [ProctorU](#) for midterm exams and the final exam.

Course Description

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

Further Description: Microeconomics studies the choice of individuals, firms, the government, and other organizations. The course will provide an introduction to the concepts and tools used by economists to analyze decisions made by individuals and firms who face limited resources.

Course Prerequisites

There are no course prerequisites. Econ 1B may be taken concurrently or prior to Econ 1A.

Course Web Page, E-mail and Other Communication

The syllabus, Macmillan Learning SaplingPlus access, videos, resources, quizzes, exams, etc. may be found on the Canvas course page; this will be your “one stop shop” for the course. Students are responsible for regularly checking Canvas, as well as their e-mail address currently on file with MySJSU, and spam box. Also, in Canvas, you can set your notification preferences to daily; note that default setting is weekly notification. Please check Canvas “Announcements” for any updates as well as reminders.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

This course satisfies Economics BA/BS PL01: Microeconomics. By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Define microeconomic terms.
- Explain how microeconomic concepts and tools are used to understand economic behavior.
- Apply microeconomic concepts and tools to analyze and evaluate markets, firms, and policies.
- Relate microeconomic principles to individual decision-making, current events, and a range of policy questions.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Economics 1B is a general education course that meets the requirements for area D1, Human Behavior in the social science area. Students learn to apply microeconomic theory, to evaluate social information, draw upon different points of view, and formulate policy implications. Finally, students are able to place social events in an appropriate context. The GE writing requirement (1500 word minimum) will be satisfied by writing assignments. Details of the writing requirement and assignments will be posted on Canvas.

Required Course Materials

SaplingPlus for Cowen's Modern Principles: Microeconomics, 4th edition (6 month online subscription access)
Tyler Cowen; Alex Tabarrok
Macmillan Learning
©2018 | Fourth Edition | ISBN: 9781319195458; Format: SaplingPlus

SaplingPlus is **REQUIRED** for the course. It includes the following:

- eBook
- LearningCurve, a personalized study plan and adaptive assessment tool
- Online Activities, Homework and Quizzes
- Multimedia and interactive tutorials for practice and mastery of concepts
- Seamless integration with Canvas

Students can choose to purchase a print text as well; special package ISBNs with the print text bundled with a SaplingPlus access card are available online. **Used books DO NOT include SaplingPlus access.** SaplingPlus Registration Instructions (and purchase options) can be found on Canvas.

Other Readings and Multimedia

Online articles
Online videos
Online assessments

There is no additional cost for online materials, activities or assessments. All other course materials will be created and provided free of charge on the Canvas course site.

Technology requirements / equipment / material

Required: Reliable internet connectivity, Computer/Laptop/Tablet with webcam and microphone, Canvas LMS access, SaplingPlus, and ProctorU.

Canvas

Canvas is the “hub” for the course and will house all communication, content, activities, assignments, assessments, exams, grades, and SaplingPlus. Check out all of the [Canvas student resources](#).

SaplingPlus

SaplingPlus contains course specific content and is integrated with Canvas for single sign-on access. Students are, at a minimum, required to have access to SaplingPlus which includes an eBook. Students can choose to purchase a print text as well.

ProctorU

This course requires the use of electronic proctoring for midterm exams and the final exam through ProctorU. For online exam proctoring, it is necessary that your computer has a webcam with a microphone and a reliable, high-speed internet connection. Please visit the [SJSU ProctorU portal](#) for further information, to create an account, and schedule exam proctoring. ProctorU information can also be found on the course Canvas site. Online proctoring through ProctorU is free for San Jose State University students enrolled in fully online courses.

Course Requirements and Assignments

SaplingPlus Learning Assignments: Includes LearningCurve, adaptive learning assessments, and “Homework”.

Online Participation: Students are expected to participate in weekly online discussions and/or individual or group problem sets and activities. ([University Policy F15-12](#))

Quizzes: Students will have weekly summative quizzes.

Writing assignments: Students will be assigned writing assignments as per the GE writing requirement. Further information will be posted on Canvas.

Exams: Students will take two, closed-book exams for this course. Each exam is 75 minutes and will be proctored online through ProctorU. Further information regarding the exams and ProctorU will be posted on Canvas.

Final Exam: One cumulative final exam. The final exam is 150 minutes and will be proctored online through ProctorU. Further information regarding the final exam and ProctorU will be posted on Canvas.

As per [University Policy S17-41](#), "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."

Note: no make-ups for any late or missed assignments, e.g. LearningCurve, quizzes, writing assignments, or exams without a verifiable, documented emergency.

Assignments and Grading Information

Your numerical grade will be based on the following categories and weights:

SaplingPlus Learning Assignments	20%
Online Participation	10%
Quizzes	10%
Writing Assignments	10%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Final Exam	20%

Determination of Grades

Your letter grade will be determined using the below numerical scale. Grades are not rounded up.

Points	Grade	Points	Grade	Points	Grade
97-100	A+	93-96.99	A	90-92.99	A-
87-89.99	B+	83-86.99	B	80-82.99	B-
77-79.99	C+	73-76.99	C	70-72.99	C-
67-69.99	D+	63-66.99	D	60-62.99	D-
Less than 60 points is an F.					

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), “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.”

Online Class Decorum

Students are expected to maintain proper decorum in the online Canvas site and forums - no offensive language or other improper conduct. Please review the “Netiquette” document on Canvas for further information regarding online class decorum and expectations.

Academic Integrity

Students must abide by the San José State University [Academic Integrity Policy](#). There is zero tolerance for cheating, plagiarism, or any other violation of academic integrity.

Accommodations for Learning Disabilities

Students with learning disabilities are encouraged to request accommodations for the course. Please contact the [Accessible Education Center](#) to schedule an appointment with an AEC coordinator to determine eligibility and register.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses is available at the Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ [Syllabus Information](#) web page.

Course Schedule

The schedule below is a guideline and may be subject to change with notice.

Week	Dates	Econ 1B Topic	Reading and Assignments
1	08/17 - 08/23 08/19: First day of instruction	Introduction and Syllabus; Microeconomics Big Ideas	Purchase Macmillan Learning SaplingPlus for Modern Principles of Economics: Microeconomics, Cowen and Tabarrok 4 th edition (CT), Ch. 1
2	08/24 - 08/30	Power of Trade and Comparative Advantage	CT, Ch. 2
3	08/31-09/06 08/31: last day to drop without a “W” grade	Supply and Demand – Introduction	CT, Ch. 3
4	09/07 - 09/13 09/07: Labor Day	Supply and Demand Applications	CT, Ch. 4
5	09/14 - 09/20	Elasticity	CT, Ch. 5
6	09/21 - 09/27 09/24 -09/25: Exam	Exam 1 (covers weeks 2-5) Exam proctored online through ProctorU	Review for Exam 1
7	09/28-10/04	Price Ceilings and Price Floors	CT, Ch. 8
8	10/05-10/11	Externalities	CT, Ch. 10
9	10/12-10/18	Costs and Profit Maximization	CT, Ch. 11
10	10/19-10/25	Monopoly	CT, Ch. 13
11	10/26-11/01	Oligopoly and Monopolistic Competition	CT, Ch. 15 & 17 (all of Chp 15; Chp 17: 319-323)
12	11/02-11/08 11/05 - 11/06: Exam	Exam 2 (covers weeks 7-11) Exam proctored online through ProctorU	Review for Exam 2
13	11/09-11/15 11/11: Veteran’s Day	Price Discrimination	CT, Ch. 14
14	11/16-11/22	Public Goods	CT, Ch. 19
15	11/23-11/29 11/26-27: Holiday break	Economic Analysis Paper	
16	11/30-12/06	Political Economy and Public Choice	CT, Ch. 20
17	12/07-12/13 12/07: last day of instruction 12/10-12/11: Econ 1B Final Exam	FINAL EXAM (cumulative) Exam proctored online through ProctorU	No late, make-up, or extra credit work allowed after last day of instruction. Review for final exam. Check ProctorU technical requirements. **12/19: Final grade viewable on MySJSU**