

# Syllabus—Econ 1B-03

## Principles of Economics: Microeconomics

San Jose State University

Spring 2020

Lectures time and location: Thur 6:30-9:15pm, Dudley Moorhead Hall 165

Instructor: Dr. Marjan Orang

Email: marjan.orang@sjsu.edu

Office Hours: by appointment @ DMH 214

### Course Description:

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).

### Class Policies:

Enthusiastic participation in each class session is essential to obtain and demonstrate the benefits from the course. The class meetings will rely on discussion, writing, group work, and other active learning approaches that require participation by students. Inappropriate or apathetic behavior will not be tolerated. All rules and regulations contained in SJSU policies and procedures will be followed.

### Required Material:

*Book: Microeconomics, 7th Edition ©2019*

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

[MyLab Economics with Pearson eText -- Instant Access -- for Microeconomics, 7th Edition](#)

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

Course ID: orang62019

For more help, please visit the Pearson's link on How can students enroll?

[https://help.pearsoncmg.com/myhelp/myhelp\\_instr/Content/enrollment/enroll\\_students\\_myhelp.htm?cshid=how\\_students\\_enroll\\_myhelp](https://help.pearsoncmg.com/myhelp/myhelp_instr/Content/enrollment/enroll_students_myhelp.htm?cshid=how_students_enroll_myhelp)

### Grading:

Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Class participation	10%
Quizzes	10%
Homework	15%
Mid-term 1	20%
Mid-term 2	20%
Final Exam	25%

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).

**Homework:**

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. I will always post the assignments at least 5 days before they are due. Therefore, if you start the assignment well in advance of the deadline, 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. Exam scores will be provided in class. Exam scores will not be provided individually by email.

**Attendance:**

Chronic tardiness or leaving class early is regarded as an absence. To petition to have an absence excused due to a required University function or certified medical problem, please submit documentation to me following the absence.

**Important Dates:**

Jan 23rd	Thurs	First day of class
Feb 27th	Thurs	Mid-term 1
Apr 9th	Thurs	Mid-term 2
May 14th	Thurs	Final (6:30-9:00pm)

## **Tentative Topic Outline**

*Book: Microeconomics, 7th Edition ©2019*

*R. Glenn Hubbard, Columbia University*

*Anthony Patrick O'Brien, Lehigh University*

### **PART I: INTRODUCTION**

1. Economics: Foundations and Models
2. Trade-offs, Comparative Advantage, and the Market System
3. Where Prices Come From: The Interaction of Demand and Supply
4. Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes

### **Mid-term 1**

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

5. Externalities, Environmental Policy, and Public Goods
6. Elasticity: The Responsiveness of Demand and Supply

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

8. Firms, the Stock Market, and Corporate Governance

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

11. Technology, Production, and Costs

### **Mid-term 2**

### **PART V: MARKET STRUCTURE AND FIRM STRATEGY**

12. Firms in Perfectly Competitive Markets
13. Monopolistic Competition: The Competitive Model in a More Realistic Setting
14. Oligopoly: Firms in Less Competitive Markets

### **Final**