San José State University
Social Sciences/Economics
Econ 1B, Principles of Economics: Microeconomics, 63, Fall, 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Sanchita Mukherjee
Office Location:	DMH 214
Telephone:	
Email:	sanchita.mukherjee@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 10:30am-11:30am (PST) via Zoom and/or by appointment
Class Days/Time:	TuTh 9:00AM - 10:15AM
Classroom:	Online (I will hold live lectures on Zoom TuTh 9:00AM - 10:15AM)
Zoom Live Lecture Link:	https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/83740293811
Zoom Live Lecture Meeting ID:	837 4029 3811
Prerequisites:	None. May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1A

Course Description

Principles of Microeconomics is an introductory undergraduate course that teaches the fundamentals of microeconomics. This course introduces microeconomic concepts and analysis, supply and demand analysis, theories of the firm and individual behavior, competition and monopoly, and welfare economics.

Course of Study: What You May Expect to Learn

- Basic economic concepts including opportunity costs, scarcity, positive and normative economics
- How to analyze production possibilities of firms and countries, the sources of their comparative advantages, and gains from trade
- How to use the supply and demand model to understand how markets work.
- How elasticity is calculated and its relevance to understanding markets.
- How to analyze consumer behavior with respect to decisions about consumption, savings and employment.
- How to analyze decisions firms make about pricing, output, employment and investment.
- How to analyze the behavior of firms in alternative market structures including perfect competition, monopoly, monopolistic competition and oligopoly.
- How to apply basic game theory to strategic interaction between companies and individuals
- How to use the concepts of equity, efficiency, and market failure to analyze and evaluate government policies such as price floors and ceilings, tax policy, environmental policy, etc.
- How to apply economic concepts and ideas to situations not specifically covered in class.

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This synchronous web-based course is supported on Canvas at: https://sjsu.instructure.com
Official announcements, lecture slides, lecture videos, quizzes, exams and other class materials will be posted in Canvas, so please check regularly for messages pertaining to the course.

You would need a computer (laptop/desktop) and access to internet. The exams will require Lockdown Browser. Lockdown browser does not work on tablets. So, you would need a laptop or a desktop computer. All of our assignments and exams would have to be submitted online via Canvas.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

Microeconomics, 6th edition by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells
Publisher: Worth Publishers (Macmillan Learning)
ISBN-13: 9781319320218

The textbook is available at the SJSU Spartan Bookstore. It is available at any of the online outlets (Amazon, for example). Used copies are fine. You may use an older version of the textbook.

If you choose to use a different version of the text, it is your responsibility to account for any differences in assigned readings, quizzes and exams.

Other Readings

Articles available online and/or Canvas.

Software Requirements

In addition to a web browser and an Internet connection for accessing Canvas, students are required to have access to Excel or another spreadsheet program (e.g., Google Spreadsheet). My lectures will cover the use of Excel. If you are having difficulty with software, please make an appointment to visit me during my office hours.

Course Requirements and Assignments

1) Weekly Quizzes (40% of your grade, 4% each):

Quizzes will be multiple choice and they will be announced and posted on Canvas. The quiz is meant to assess your understanding of the lecture material. Quizzes are not timed, and you have 2 attempts on each quiz. The higher score will count towards your grade. Late quizzes will receive no credit.

2) Exams (40% of your grade)

There will be two Midterm exams (20% of your grade, 10% each) and one comprehensive closed-book Final exam (20% of your grade). Both Midterm and Final will be online on Canvas with lockdown browser and they will be multiple choice problems. You will NOT need a webcam.

The exams will require lockdown browser. It is very easy to download, install and use Lockdown Browser to take your online test. You can download lockdown browser at:

For Windows:

https://download.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?ID=967937270

For MAC:

https://download.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?ostype=2&id=967937270

I will also post a Non-Graded Practice Quiz "Respondus Lockdown Browser Practice Quiz" under Modules on Canvas. Please download and install lockdown browser from the links above and then take the practice quiz to familiarize yourself with the browser. Please remember that first, you would have to launch "Lockdown Browser", sign in using your SJSU student ID and password and then open the quiz/exam.

3) Excel Assignments (20%):

There are three Excel assignments will help you learn about Spreadsheets. Spreadsheet skills allow you to organize, calculate, graph, and analyze data.
- The first excel assignment covers drawing demand and supply curves,
- The second creates cost curves, and
- The third covers testing hypotheses using linear regression (using demand and supply curves)

Final Examination or Evaluation

There will be a comprehensive final exam for the course.

There will be no make-ups for any quizzes and exams. Cheating on quizzes or exams will result in an automatic F for the entire course.

I do not offer extra credit work to an individual student.

Grading Information

Assignments	% of your grade	Due Dates
Weekly Quizzes (lowest score dropped)	40% total (4% each)	Due every Friday
Excel Assignments	20%	Announced on Canvas
Midterm 1	10%	Wed, 3/3 (from 10:30am – 11:45am (online on Canvas with lockdown browser)
Midterm 2	10%	Wed, 4/7 (from 10:30am – 11:45am (online on Canvas with lockdown browser)
Final Exam (comprehensive)	20%	Tuesday, 5/25 from 9:45am – 12:00noon (online on Canvas with lockdown browser)

97-100 A+	93.0-96.9 A	90.0-92.9 A-
87.0-89.9 B+	83.0-86.9 B	80.0-82.9 B-
77.0-79.9 C+	73.0-76.9 C	70.0-72.9 C-
67.0-69.9 D+	63.0-66.9 D	60.0-62.9 D
Below 60 F		

Final grades will be curved. However, the curve will never hurt your grade. I do not round up grades, e.g., an 86.9 is a B, not a B+.

Classroom Protocol

While this is an online class, students are encouraged to interrupt and ask questions.
If you experience any difficulty in this course, please do not hesitate to come to me for help. I am available during office hours and by appointment. However, I greatly appreciate questions asked during class – I guarantee that if you have a question, many of your classmates have the same question in mind as well.

University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course.
- "Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class.

Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material."

- o It is suggested that the green sheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class-by-class basis.
- o In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.

- • "Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.
In 2013, the Disability Resource Center changed its name to be known as the Accessible Education Center, to incorporate a philosophy of accessible education for students with disabilities. The new name change reflects the broad scope of attention and support to SJSU students with disabilities and the University's continued advocacy and commitment to increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus.

Econ 1B / Principles of Economics: Micro, Spring 2021, Course Schedule

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/19	Introduction, Syllabus
2	8/24	Chapter 1: First Principles
2	8/26	Chapter 2: Economic Models: Trade-offs and Trade **Quiz 1 due (Fri, 8/27)**
3	8/31	Chapter 2: Economic Models: Trade-offs and Trade
3	9/2	Chapter 2 Appendix: Graphs in Economics **Quiz 2 due (Fri, 9/3)**
4	9/7	Chapter 3: Supply and Demand
4	9/9	Chapter 3: Supply and Demand **Quiz 3 due (Fri, 9/10)**
5	9/14	Chapter 4: Consumer and Producer Surplus **Excel Assignment 1 due (9/14)**
5	9/16	Chapter 4: Consumer and Producer Surplus **Quiz 4 due (Fri, 9/17)**
6	9/21	**Midterm 1 Review**
6	9/23	**Midterm 1 (online on Canvas with lockdown browser, timed, 1hr and 15 mins long, will be available to you for the entire day)**
7	9/28	Chapter 5: Price Controls and Quotas: Meddling with Markets
7	9/30	Chapter 5: Price Controls and Quotas: Meddling with Markets **Quiz 5 due (Fri, 11/1)**
8	10/5	Chapter 6: Elasticity
8	10/7	Chapter 6: Elasticity **Quiz 6 due (Fri, 10/8)**
9	10/12	Chapter 10: The Rational Consumer
9	10/14	Chapter 10: The Rational Consumer **Quiz 7 due (Fri, 10/15)**
10	10/19	**Midterm 2 Review**
10	10/21	**Midterm 2 (online on Canvas with lockdown browser, timed, 1hr and 15 mins long, will be available to you for the entire day)**
11	10/26	Chapter 11: Behind the Supply Curve: Inputs and Costs
11	10/28	Chapter 11: Behind the Supply Curve: Inputs and Costs **Quiz 8 due (Fri, 10/29)**
12	11/2	Chapter 12: Perfect Competition and the Supply Curve **Excel Assignment 2 due (11/2)**
12	11/4	Chapter 12: Perfect Competition and the Supply Curve **Quiz 9 due (Fri, 11/5)**
13	11/9	Chapter 13: Monopoly

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
13	11/11	Chapter 13: Monopoly **Quiz 10 due (Fri, 11/12)**
14	11/16	Chapter 14: Simple Regression, Oligopoly
14	11/18	Chapter 14: Oligopoly **Quiz 11 due (Fri, 11/19)**
15	11/23	Chapter 15: Monopolistic Competition and Product Differentiation **Excel Assignment 3 due (11/23)**
15	11/25	**Holiday, Thanksgiving break, No Class**
16	11/30	Chapter 15: Monopolistic Competition and Product Differentiation
16	12/2	Final Review
Final Exam	**Friday, December 10**	**Online on Canvas, (online on Canvas with lockdown browser, timed, 2hrs and 15 mins long, will be available to you for the entire day)**