

**Syllabus**  
**Econ 1B-65, Principles of Economics: Microeconomics**  
San Jose State University  
Online - Asynchronous  
Fall 2021

Instructor: Dr. Marjan Orang  
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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:**

Microeconomics 7th Edition  
Author(s): Hubbard, R. Glenn | O'Brien, Anthony  
Textbook ISBN-13: 9780134737508

**\$99.99**

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

**Course ID: orang65509**

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?cshid=how\\_students\\_enroll\\_myp](https://help.pearsoncmg.com/myp/myp_instr/Content/enrollment/enroll_students_myp.htm?cshid=how_students_enroll_myp) (Links to an external site.)

**Another great textbook to explore:**

*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:

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

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).

## **Lectures and Assignments:**

The lecture recordings will be posted on the weekly modules in Canvas.

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

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	Thurs	First day of class
Sep 30th	Thurs	Mid-term 1
Nov 4th	Thurs	Mid-term 2
Dec 15th	Wed	Final

## Tentative Topic Outline

*Book: Microeconomics, 7th Edition ©2019, Glenn Hubbard, Anthony Patrick O'Brien*

### Tentative Schedule

#### PART I: INTRODUCTION

- Aug 19, 2021 1. Economics: Foundations and Models  
Aug 26, 2021 2. Trade-offs, Comparative Advantage, and the Market System  
Sep 2, 2021 3. Where Prices Come From: The Interaction of Demand and Supply  
Sep 9, 2021 3. Where Prices Come From: The Interaction of Demand and Supply  
Sep 16, 2021 4. Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes  
Sep 23, 2021 4. Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting, and Taxes  
Sep 30, 2021 **Mid-term 1**

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

- Oct 7, 2021 5. Externalities, Environmental Policy, and Public Goods  
Oct 14, 2021 6. Elasticity: The Responsiveness of Demand and Supply

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

- Oct 21, 2021 8. Firms, the Stock Market, and Corporate Governance

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

- Oct 28, 2021 11. Technology, Production, and Costs  
Nov 4, 2021 **Mid-term 2**

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

- Nov 11, 2021 12. Firms in Perfectly Competitive Markets (Self Study)  
Nov 18, 2021 13. Monopolistic Competition: The Competitive Model in a More Realistic Setting  
Nov 25, 2021 14. Oligopoly: Firms in Less Competitive Markets  
Dec 2, 2021 Review  
Dec 15, 2021 **Final Exam**