

San José State University
School/Department
(27173) Principles of Economics Section 02 Spring 2021

Course and Contact Information

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Instructor: | Deborah Clarke |
| Office Location: | N/A |
| Telephone: | N/A |
| Email: | deborah.clarke@sjsu.edu |
| Office Hours: | T/Th 3:00-3:45 and by appointment |
| Class Days/Time: | T/Th 9:00-10:15 |
| Classroom: | N/A |
| GE/SJSU Studies Category: | D1 (Human Behavior) |

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/Deborah.Clarke> or on the Canvas Learning Management System course login website. You are responsible for regularly checking with this messaging system through My SJSU at <http://my.sjsu.edu> to learn of any updates. If I make any changes to the schedule or outline, I will also announce them at the beginning of class.

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. Note: May be taken concurrently or prior to Econ 1A.

GE Course Learning Outcomes (GCLO)

As an Area D1 (Human Behavior) course, students will be encouraged to use the economic way of thinking to evaluate social information, to critically analyze economic and political news, and to make a clearer sense of the world around them.

The Economics Department emphasizes an understanding and application of the following principles/concepts as student learning objectives:

1. Incentives Matter: role of self-interest, marginal costs & marginal benefits,
2. Opportunity Cost: trade-offs, production possibilities, comparative advantage, gains from trade.
3. Supply and Demand: the supply and demand model and its application in analysis of public policy, current events or welfare.
4. Consumer Surplus, Producer Surplus and how to maximize this.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Utilize the concept of scarcity to explain economic trade-offs, opportunity costs, and rational behavior.
2. Calculate and interpret measures of elasticity.
3. Describe/explain how markets function and what happens in the presence of market failures.
4. Analyze production and costs of a firm.
5. Demonstrate how firms attempt to optimize their objectives in response to price signals under a variety of market structures in the short and long-run

Required Texts/Readings (Required)

Textbook

Gregory Mankiw, *Principles of Microeconomics*, Eighth Edition, South-Western Cengage Learning, 2018. ISBN-10: 1-305-58512-7

This course requires an online subscription to MindTap

Other Readings

- *Economics in One Lesson*, Henry Hazlitt. I will be using selected chapters of this book during the course. You can purchase your own copy, check out a copy from the library, or download one here: <https://steshaw.org/economics-in-one-lesson/>
- *Economical Writing*, Deirdre McCloskey. Although we will not be using this book directly in class, this book will help you as you write your papers and I will use it to grade your papers.
- I occasionally distribute readings on current events during the semester.

Other materials: When hand-drawing graphs, we will often use multiple steps that you need to keep separate in your mind. It is a good idea to bring a regular pencil, several different colored pencils, and a trusty straight edge to class. A calculator will also come in handy.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

We will be using MindTap (listed in the textbook section) as our primary book and for our on-line homework. You are expected to be able to access this material.

Library Liaison

Economics Librarian, Christa Bailey christa.bailey@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

This course is a combination of accumulation of factual economic knowledge and appropriate analysis of economic data. The assignments will demonstrate the student's comprehension of both aspects. Students will be required to complete factual, multiple choice exams as well as

short essays. Students will be evaluated as to their individual proficiency and their ability to participate within a group setting.

“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. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.” (The [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf), *Course Syllabi* (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>))

Final Examination or Evaluation

Upon completion of this course students will present a group PowerPoint presentation based on the principles learned in this course.

Grading Information

“Passage of the Writing Skills Test (WST) or ENGL/LLD 100A with a C or better (C- not accepted), and completion of Core General Education are prerequisite to all SJSU Studies courses. Completion of, or co-registration in, 100W is strongly recommended. A minimum aggregate GPA of 2.0 in GE Areas R, S, & V shall be required of all students.”

Assignments and Grading Policy

Grading:

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

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Homework (Cengage) | 10% |
| Exam 1 | 15% |
| Exam 2 | 15% |
| Final Exam/ Exam 3 | 15% |
| Individual Written Paper | 15% |
| Group Presentation | 10% |
| Short Papers | 10% |
| Quizzes and In-Class Assignments | 10% |

The class policy for late or missing assignments and exams is as follows:

- **Cengage Homework – no late completion.** Any homework submitted after the due date and time receives a score of 0 for that assignment.
- **No midterm make ups for any reason** I will drop the lowest score of the three exams.
- The final exam can be made up **only** upon a verifiable emergency circumstance or other conflict per University policy. The make up date will be arranged as needed but no later than the Make Up exam day. See me as soon as you know you have a problem.
 - Short writing assignments will be assigned over the course of the semester. Typically, these are either paragraph responses or summaries to additional articles.
 - I will distribute more detailed information about the individual essay and the group PowerPoint

presentation later in the semester.

- I will post assignments on Canvas and introduce them in class.

I do *not* use a grading curve. Your final numerical grade will be the weighted average of your scores in the above categories, and your corresponding letter grade will be assigned as follows:

| Percent | Grade | Percent | Grade | Percent | Grade |
|------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| 98-100%... | A+ | 93-97%... | A | 90-92%... | A- |
| 88-89%... | B+ | 83-87%... | B | 80-82%... | B- |
| 78-79%... | C+ | 73-77%... | C | 70-72%... | C- |
| 68-69%... | D+ | 63-67%... | D | 60-62%... | D- |
| 0-59%... | F | | | | |

Classroom Protocol

1. Lectures will start on time.
2. When you sign in to classes, please use mute unless you have a question
3. You don't have to show your face for lectures, but must show them for the exams.
4. Be respectful of any chat used during class.

Attendance Policy

University Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading according to Academic Policy F-69-24.

- [University Attendance and Participation Policy F15-12](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf)
(<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf>)

However, missing class can reduce your grades through preparation for the homework, quizzes, in-class participation activities, and exams. If you miss class, please refer to my website or find out from a fellow student what you missed, get relevant assignments, and do the work to catch up.

University Policies

Academic integrity

[The University's Academic Integrity Policy is available at:](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf)

http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require 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 website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html).

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 in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 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 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is currently online. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. [The Writing Center Website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/.](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/)

Dropping and Adding

Monday, February 8, is the last day to drop without an entry on student's permanent record. Monday, February 15 is the last day to add courses and register late. Thursday, April 22, is the last day to withdraw. *The Department Chair **WILL NOT** sign late add unless the University Administration (Bursar's Office, Financial Aid, Admissions) admits in writing that failure to add on time was the University's fault*

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes. [Information on add/drop deadlines is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/.](http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/) [Information about late drops is available at: http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/ .](http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/)

Course Number / Title, Semester, Course Schedule

Course Schedule: Individual Assignments will appear on Canvas

All Hazlitt chapters should be read before the start of class

| Day | Date | Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines |
|------------|--------------|---|
| Thurs | 28-Jan | Introduction I, Pencil Read Hazlitt Ch1 |
| Tues | 2-Feb | Mankiw: Ch. 1 Hazlitt Ch 1 Read Hazlitt Ch 2 |
| Thurs | 4-Feb | Mankiw: Ch 2 |
| Tues | 9-Feb | Mankiw: Ch 3 Hazlitt Ch 2 |
| Thurs | 11-Feb | Mankiw: Ch 4 |
| Tues | 16-Feb | Mankiw: Ch 4 Read Hazlitt Ch 15 |
| Thurs | 18-Feb | Mankiw: Ch 5 |
| Tues | 23-Feb | Mankiw: Ch 5 |
| Thurs | 25-Feb | EXAM 1 |
| Tues | 2-Mar | Mankiw: Ch 6 |
| Thurs | 4-Mar | Mankiw: Ch 6 Hazlitt Ch 18, Ch 19 |
| Tues | 9-Mar | Mankiw: Ch 7 Hazlitt Ch 16, Ch 17 |
| Thurs | 11-Mar | Mankiw: Ch 9 Hazlitt Ch 11, Ch 12 |
| Tues | 16-Mar | review Hazlitt Ch 11, Ch 12 |
| Thurs | 18-Mar | EXAM 2 |
| Tues | 23-Mar | Mankiw: Ch 13 |
| Thurs | 25-Mar | Mankiw: Ch 13 |
| Tues | 30-Mar | SPRING BREAK |
| Thurs | 1-Apr | SPRING BREAK Research Paper Due April 5 |
| Tues | 6-Apr | Mankiw: Ch 14 |
| Thurs | 8-Apr | Mankiw: Ch 15 |
| Tues | 13-Apr | Mankiw: Ch 16 |
| Thurs | 15-Apr | Mankiw: Ch 17 |
| Tues | 20-Apr | review |
| Thurs | 22-Apr | EXAM 3 |
| Tues | 27-Apr | Mankiw: Ch 10 |
| Thurs | 29-Apr | Mankiw: Ch 11 |
| Tues | 4-May | GROUP PRESENTATIONS |
| Thurs | 6-May | GROUP PRESENTATIONS |
| Tues | 11-May | GROUP PRESENTATIONS |
| Thurs | 13-May | GROUP PRESENTATIONS |
| | FINAL | Thursday, May 20 7:15-9:30 |

