

San José State University
Department of Economics
ECON 1B, Principles of Economics: Microeconomics, Section 61, Summer
2022

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Fahmida Fakhruddin
Email:	fahmida.fakhruddin@sjsu.edu (Remember to write “Econ 1B-61 or something similar, together with the topic of the email)
Virtual Office Hours:	Zoom Drop-ins Thursdays 12 pm - 1 pm or by appointment
Prerequisites:	May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1A

Course Description

This course stimulates interest in students about allocation of resources and distribution of income, as affected by the workings of the price system and government policies. May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1A.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students have concrete foundation to pursue intermediate study in 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)

Course Format

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 [Respondus](#) for midterm and final exam.

MYSJSU Messaging and Canvas

Course materials such as syllabus, homework, videos, resources, handouts, grades, messages regarding the class can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). This will be your **“one stop shop”** for this class. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) to learn of any updates. Please set your **Canvas notification preferences to daily** (note that the default setting is

weekly notification). Please check Canvas “Announcements” for any updates as well as reminders for assignments. See [University Policy F13-2](#) for more details.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Dirk Mateer & Lee Coppock, **PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS**, 3rd edition, Norton

Paperback ISBN: 978-0-393-42247-4 / Loose leaf ISBN: 978-0-393-43770-6

Technology requirements / equipment / material

REQUIRED: Reliable internet connectivity, Computer/Laptop/Tablet with **webcam and microphone**, Canvas LMS access, and Respondus. [SJSU’s technology loan program](#) provides resources for computer equipment and software. **Note: Students are responsible for ensuring that they have access to reliable Wi-Fi during exams.**

Canvas

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

Respondus

This course requires the use of electronic proctoring for midterm exams and the final exam through Respondus. 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 Respondus portal](#) for further information.

Class Philosophy

Some of you start classes feeling isolated and lost but not in our class! This class is a community and each of you is part of the community. We all have the same objective: to learn. This class is designed to have you learn in community with your peers. When you're a member of a community, you can rely upon others for help and support when you need it, but you must also be willing to step up and contribute regularly, as well! Let’s work together to make this session awesome for everyone!

Course Requirements

As this class is a three- unit class, successful students should expect to spend about 135 hours throughout the session, including reading, preparing for class, participating in course activities, and so on. *More details can be found from [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](#).*

You need to use canvas to complete all the course activities. There will be weekly discussion, homework assignments involving the application of the theory. To do well in the midterm and final, it is important that you complete the homework for each module.

It is expected that you will participate in discussions board, work on homework questions and, and take midterm, and final exam.

If you feel you are lost or experience any difficulty in this course, please do not hesitate to come to me for help. Please remember that I am just an email away. I am always happy to clarify difficult concepts, resolve any lingering confusion, or otherwise assist you in making this course fun and productive.

Course Assignments and Grading

Your grade will depend on the following assignments:

Weekly Discussion	20%
Homework	25%
Mid-term	25%
Final Exam	30%

Converting number grades to letter grades:

97-100	A plus	93-96	A	90-92	A minus
87-89	B plus	83-86	B	80-82	B minus
77-79	C plus	73-76	C	70-72	C minus
67-69	D plus	63-66	D	60-62	D minus
<60	F				

I totally understand the stress of getting good grades. To avoid this stress, please try to do your work on time. If you need help on an assignment, don't wait. Contact me or one of your peers as soon as you can. No worries, we all will work together for your success in this class.

Weekly Discussion

Your active participation in each week's Discussion Board is expected and required. We can learn from each other by contributing on the discussion forum. Here are the rules for discussion postings:

Original Post: For each unit there will be a discussion topic that you post an original response to. Original posts are due by Wednesday of the week they are assigned. If you don't get these in by Wednesday, you can still submit your original post as soon as you can, but you'll lose one of the ten points available. So be on time please.

Replies: To receive full credit, you need to reply to at least two of your peer's original posts. You can reply to as many peers as you like. Please do not just say that "I agree, or I disagree". You need to probe-explain why you agree/ disagree. This will help you better understand the content. Don't forget that your replies are due by Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Homework

There will be five homework during the session to reinforce the materials.

Midterm and Final

The course consists of one midterm and one final exam. Midterm and final exam will be consisted of multiple-choice questions and similar to the homework questions. The final exam will be comprehensive. All exams will be closed book and closed note.

Proctoring Software and Exams

Exams will be proctored in this course through Respondus Monitor and LockDown Browser. Please note it is the instructor's discretion to determine the method of proctoring. If cheating is suspected the proctored videos may be used for further inspection and may become part of the student's disciplinary record. Note that the proctoring software does not determine whether academic misconduct occurred but does determine whether something irregular occurred that may require further investigation. Students are encouraged to contact the instructor if unexpected interruptions (from a parent or roommate, for example) occur during an exam.

Online Exams Testing Environment: Setup

- No earbuds, headphones, or headsets visible.
- The environment is free of other people besides the student taking the test.
- If students need scratch paper for the test, they should present the front and back of a blank scratch paper to the camera before the test.
- No other browser or windows besides Canvas opened.
- A workplace that is clear of clutter (i.e., reference materials, notes, textbooks, cellphone, tablets, smart watches, monitors, keyboards, gaming consoles, etc.)
- Well-lit environment. Can see the students' eyes and their whole face. Avoid having backlight from a window or other light source opposite the camera.
- Personal calculators - indicate if permitted.

Testing Environment: Scan

Before students can access the test questions, they are expected to conduct a scan around their testing environment to verify that there are no materials that would give the student an unfair advantage during the test. The scan will include:

- the desk/workspace
- a complete view of the computer including USB ports and power cord connections
- a 360-degree view of the complete room

Students must:

- Remain in the testing environment throughout the duration of the test.
- Keep full face, hands, workspace including desk, keyboard, monitor, and scratch paper, in full view of the webcam.

Technical difficulties

Internet connection issues:

Canvas autosaves responses a few times per minute as long as there is an internet connection. If your internet connection is lost, Canvas will warn you but allow you to continue working on your exam. A brief loss of internet connection is unlikely to cause you to lose your work. However, a longer loss of connectivity or weak/unstable connection may jeopardize your exam.

Other technical difficulties:

Immediately email the instructor a current copy of the state of your exam and explain the problem you are facing. Your instructor may not be able to respond immediately or provide technical support. However, the copy of your exam and email will provide a record of the situation. Contact the SJSU technical support for Canvas:

Technical Support for Canvas

Email: ecampus@sjsu.edu

Phone: (408) 924-2337

<https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/support/>

If possible, complete your exam in the remaining allotted time, offline if necessary. Email your exam to your instructor within the allotted time or soon after.

Communication Policy

What You Can Expect From Me

I will be an active participant in this course and will be with you on the journey through the entire session. You can expect that I will:

- Communicate with you at least 3 times per week, via Announcements, Canvas Inbox messages, grading feedback, and/or discussion
- Respond to all student questions within 24 hours
- Provide grades within 1 week of the due date
- Post a few times within each discussion, and also provide overall comments on discussions, via announcements

Attendance Policy

Attendance and active participation are expected and required. Attending an online course is achieved by participating in the course, contributing to discussions, asking questions, proposing answers, submitting assignments, and collaborating with your peers. Learning material is directly correlated with attending class. Also, the more you attend, the better you will perform on tests.

You are expected to attend all sessions of class. Excessive absences (not logging into the class in canvas for more than 3 days) may lead to disqualification (being dropped) by me. Remember, I am here to help you.

Late Policy

Plan on submitting work on time.

Every assignment has a due date, and a deadline for submissions. Participants are expected to submit assignments on or before the assigned due date, which, in turn, allows me time to review your work and provide meaningful feedback. Due dates have been designed in the course to ensure time is provided to allow you to produce your best work.

Because time management is challenging, deadlines might not be met. But you're in luck. Late submissions will be accepted with a penalty. Late assignments will be accepted up to 3 days with a 5% penalty per day except the last week's (week 3) assignments.

Don't want the penalty?

If you recognize a due date might be a problem, advocate for your success by following these steps:

1. Identify the problem
2. Contact me to propose a solution
3. Let's negotiate

Netiquette (Conduct Online)

To ensure each member of our course feels included and welcomed, all of us will abide by a few key rules of etiquette. First and foremost, we will treat each other with dignity and respect, while acknowledging that each of us is unique and has different views and opinions about topics. Diversity strengthens our learning community. To ensure everyone feels comfortable engaging in our discussions, please consider this guidance:

- Written communications can be easily misinterpreted so this added care is especially important.
- Each time you make a post or reply in a discussion, read it twice before you submit it to ensure the words you have chosen are considerate but also convey your message.
- If you feel a member of our community has violated our etiquette, please contact me directly. I will tend to your concern in a confidential matter.

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. Students who are suspected of academic integrity violations will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office and depending on the severity of the conduct, will receive a zero on the assignment or a grade of F in the course. Grade Forgiveness does not apply to courses for which the original grade was the result of a finding of academic dishonesty.

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.

Policy on Consent for Sharing Instructor and Course Materials

Students are prohibited from recording, distributing, or posting instructor and course materials (including assessment questions, solutions, feedback, discussion posts, PowerPoint presentations, guides, class lectures, office hours, advising sessions, etc.), without prior written approval ([University Policy S12-7](#)). Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, etc.) are copyrighted by the instructor. Students who record, distribute, or display (post/upload) these instructor and course materials in any way — whether or not a fee is charged — will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office.

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](#).

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The schedule is subject to change with fair notice in class and on Canvas

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Jun 01-05	Introduction, Chapter 1, Demand and Supply, Chapter 3, Homework 1, Week One Discussion
2	Jun 06-12	Elasticity of Demand, Chapter 4, Price Ceilings and Floors, Chapter 6, Homework 2, Week Two Discussion
3	Jun 13-19	Costs of Production and Factors of Production, Chapter 8, Homework 3, Week Three Discussion, Midterm, Friday 06/17/2021
4	Jun 20-26	Cost and Profit Maximization under Perfect Competition, Chapter 9 and Monopoly, Chapter 10, Homework 4, Week Four Discussion
5	Jun 27- July 1	Monopolistic Competition and Advertising, Chapter 12 and, Externalities & Public Goods, Chapter 7, Homework 5, Week Five Discussion, Final Exam, Friday 07/01/2022