

**San José State University  
College of Social Sciences**

**Economics Department  
Econ 1B-61, Principles of Microeconomics**

**Section 47811, Fall 2017**

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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tu/Th 12:00PM - 1:15PM and by appointment
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Tu/Th 10:30AM - 11:45AM
<b>Classroom:</b>	DMH 358
<b>Course Fees:</b>	\$

**Course Description**

Microeconomics is the study of the behavior of economic actors such as households, firms and governments, whose collective decisions determine how resources are allocated in a free market economy. The goal of the course is to teach you to "think like an economist," which will help you to understand the world around you. The course presents the economic theory such as opportunity cost, supply, demand, markets, externalities, however the course will emphasize the application of these concepts to real world situations through in-class discussions of current events, videos, newspapers articles and interactive learning exercises.

## **Course Learning Objectives (CLOs) & Program Learning Objectives (PLOs)**

### **Economics Program Learning Objectives (PLOs)**

- *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.)

Assessment: analysis of student answers to multiple choice and essay problems

### **Course Learning Objectives (CLOs)**

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

INCENTIVES MATTER, people respond to incentives

OPPORTUNITY COSTS impact how we make decisions

Assessment: analysis of student answers to multiple choice and essay problems.

## **Required Texts/Readings**

### **Textbook**

N. Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics, 8<sup>th</sup> Ed. ISBN-13: 978-1-285-16590-5 or 7<sup>th</sup> Ed.

This course is a four-unit course made up of the lectures and an online component. Required online enrollment at Aplia.

### **Other Readings**

Newspaper articles handed out in class (or their URLs)

### **Paper**

***Please note the following instructions and format for writing the paper: points will be taken off if the following format and other requirements as mentioned below are not met. NO LATE PAPER WILL BE ACCEPTED.***

### **S.A.G.E.**

- Part I: Introduction:

Name of author, title of article, where and date the article was published.

You will name and give Mankiw's definition of the economic concept covered by the article. It is that economic concept you will analyze in your paper. For any economic concepts, you will quote Mankiw's definition and give the page number.

- Part II: Summarize, Analyze, Generalize (S A G)

*Summary:* collect the important information of the article using your own words.

*Analysis:* explain thoroughly the economic concept to the reader, and then show how accurately the concept explains the real life situation covered in the article. Demonstrate how coherent and consistent the article is with the econ theory, make a parallel between the theory and the article.

*Generalization:* Find another article where the very same economic concept is covered.

-Part III: Conclusion (E Extend)

*Conclusion:* What the article was about and how the article could be extended. Your opinion.

- graph(s)

- Indicate word count: (1850 words +/- 10%) on your essay.

4 articles to choose from:

<http://capx.co/the-dark-side-of-price-controls-in-venezuela/>

<http://www.learnliberty.org/videos/the-broken-window-fallacy/>

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/business/drought-not-the-only-factor-driving-up-agricultural-prices-a-851068.html>

<http://www.ocregister.com/2017/02/13/disneyland-disney-california-adventure-increase-one-day-ticket-and-annual-pass-prices/>

## Library Liaison

Christa Bailey is the Digital Initiatives Liaison Librarian of the King Library.

She has been appointed as the liaison librarian for the economics department and is eager to meet and work with students.

<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/c.php?g=230229>

## Classroom Protocol

Your presence in class is important and active participation in class discussions is expected.

*Participation will get you extra credit. I would rather prefer that you ask a question than remain confused.*

You may use a computer in class, but use it only to take notes; access course materials from the course webpage; or locate information online relevant to the class discussion. Do not use your computer or your smart phone to surf the web, check emails...

## 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](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [current academic calendar](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/Academic_Calendars/) web page at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/Academic\\_Calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/Academic_Calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/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](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

## Assignments and Grading Policy

- **Exams:** There will be 1 midterm and one final which is comprehensive.
- **Quizzes:** There will be 5 quizzes, multiple-choice questions. They will take place at the beginning of class period and can cover prior material. So review regularly. I will drop the worst grade: in other words, only 4 will count.
- **Aplia:** weekly online assignments. **Due every Monday at 11:00 pm.**

## Registration

1. Connect to <http://login.cengagebrain.com/course/JLLB-G4QX-CHMJ>
2. Follow the prompts to register for your Aplia course.

## Payment

After registering for your course, you will need to pay for access using one of the options below:

**Online:** You can pay online using a credit or debit card, or PayPal.

**Free Trial:** You can access Aplia up to two weeks during your free trial. After the free trial ends you will be required to pay for access.

Please note: At the end of the free trial period, your course access will be suspended until your payment has been made. All your scores and course activity will be saved and will be available to you after you pay for access.

If you already registered an access code or bought Aplia online, the course key to register for this course is: **JLLB-G4QX-CHMJ**

## System Check

To check whether your computer meets the requirements for using Aplia, go to <http://www.aplia.com/support/config.jsp>

- **Provocative Lecture Series:** You will get extra credit by attending the Provocative Lecture Series.

**Monday, September 11, 2017, 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.** New Student Union Theater  
Jayme Lemke, Ph.D.

"Women's Economic Rights: Context from US History, and Why It Still Matters"

**Monday, October 9, 2017, 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.** New Student Union Theater  
Steven Horwitz, Ph.D.

"Inequality, Mobility, and Being Poor in America"

**Monday, November 8, 2017, 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.** New Student Union Theater  
Scott McNealy

Letter grade will be assigned as follows:

100% - 97%	A+
96.99% - 93%	A
92.99% - 90%	A-
89.99% - 87%	B+
86.99% - 83%	B
82.99% - 80%	B-
79.99% - 77%	C+
76.99% - 73%	C
72.99% - 70%	C-
69.99% - 67%	D+
66.99% - 63%	D
62.99% - 60%	D-
<b>Below 60%</b>	<b>F</b>

<b>Basis for final grade</b>	Midterm	25%
	Final	20%
	Aplia	25%
	Quizzes	20%
	Papers	10%

## University Policies

### Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

## Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the [Academic Success Center](http://www.at.sjsu.edu/asc/) (<http://www.at.sjsu.edu/asc/>) located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

## SJSU Peer Connections

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) and the Peer Mentor Program have merged to become Peer Connections. Peer Connections is the new campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring. Our staff is here to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. Students are encouraged to take advantage of our services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more

effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

### **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Suite 126 in Clark Hall. 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 staff can be found at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/>.

## Section 47811 - Econ 1B/ Principles of Microeconomics Course Schedule Fall 2017

*Schedule is subject to change with fair notice.*

**Table 1 Course Schedule**

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug. 24	Introduction to Economics, Syllabus
2	Aug. 29 Aug. 31	Chapter 1: Ten Principles of Economics
3	Sept. 5 Sept. 7	Chapter 2: Thinking Like An Economist
4	<b>Sept. 12</b> Sept. 14	<b>Quiz 1;</b> Chapter 3: Interdependence and the Gains from Trade
5	Sept. 19 Sept. 21	Chapter 4: The Market Forces of Supply and Demand
6	<b>Sept. 26</b> Sept. 28	<b>Quiz 2,</b> Chapter 5: Elasticity and its Application
7	Oct. 3 Oct. 5	Chapter 6: Supply, Demand and Government Policies
8	<b>Oct. 10</b> Oct. 12	<b>Midterm</b> Chapter 8: The Cost of Taxation
9	Oct. 17 Oct. 19	Chapter 13: The Costs of Production
10	Oct. 24 Oct. 26	Chapter 14: Firms in Competitive Markets
11	<b>Oct. 31</b> Nov. 2	<b>Quiz 3; Chapter 15:</b> Monopoly
12	Nov. 7 Nov. 9	Chapter 17: Oligopoly
13	<b>Nov. 14</b> <b>Nov. 16</b>	<b>Quiz 4; Chapter 16:</b> Monopolistic Competition <b>Paper: 1<sup>st</sup> version</b>
14	Nov. 21 Nov. 23	Chapter 10: Externalities Thanksgiving break ☺

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
15	Nov. 28 Nov. 30	Chapter 10: Externalities Chapter 11: Public Goods and Common Resources
16	<b>Dec. 5</b> <b>Dec. 7</b>	<b>Quiz 5</b> ; Chapter 11: Public Goods and Common Resources Review session + <b>paper: final version</b>
17 <b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Dec. 18</b>	<b>Monday, December 18</b> 09:45am-12:00pm <a href="http://info.sjsu.edu/static/policies/final-exam-schedule-fall.html">http://info.sjsu.edu/static/policies/final-exam-schedule-fall.html</a>

### Exams and Quizzes

*Please bring a 882-E Scantron, number 2 pencil and calculator for the quizzes, midterm and final*

Tuesday, Sept. 12:	quiz 1
Tuesday, Sept. 26:	quiz 2
Tuesday, Oct. 10:	midterm
Tuesday, Oct. 31:	quiz 3
Tuesday, Nov. 14:	quiz 4
Thursday, Nov. 16:	paper: 1 <sup>st</sup> version
Tuesday, Dec. 5:	quiz 5
Thursday, Dec. 7	paper: final version
Monday, Dec.18:	final