

San José State University
Econ 1B-63 – Principles of Microeconomics
Fall, 2017

Instructor:	Don Crooks
Office Location:	DMH 219
Email:	don.crooks@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	TTH 3:45 to 4:15
Class Days/Time:	TTH 4:30 to 5:45
Classroom:	DMH 160
Prerequisites:	Math remediation completed or a post baccalaureate.
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	Area D1: Social Science, Human Behavior
Course Fees:	Students are required to register for Aplia. See below for details. Make sure the textbook you buy includes access to Aplia. Otherwise Aplia will require an additional fee.

Course Description

Official Catalogue 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.

Course and Student Learning Objectives: 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).

Assessment: Students' achievement of these objectives will be assessed based upon their performance on Aplia assignments, quizzes, exams, papers, and classroom activities as discussed below.

My Comments: This is an interesting time to be studying economics. From time to time we will take time to discuss current events from an economic perspective. You are encouraged to keep up with general, business, and financial news, and bring your questions, opinions, and ideas to class.

Required Texts/Other Course Requirements

Textbook: Mankiw, *Principles of Microeconomics* 8th Ed. ICBN-13: 978-1-305-97149-3. Access to an online copy of the text and to the associated Aplia course is available for \$89.47 at <http://www.cengagebrain.com/course/2430210>. Students who want a hardcopy of the text may explore options available through the above web site, the bookstore, or elsewhere. If you buy a new text elsewhere, make sure it includes Aplia access.

Aplia Requirement: Enrollment in Aplia is required. Details about enrolling in the Aplia course are attached. Students should enroll in Aplia as soon as possible since Aplia assignments will be due starting on 8/31/2017. The course key you will need when enrolling in Aplia is **KY9L-MFLF-R6BY**.

Canvas: You will need to register for Canvas, which is free for all SJSU students. Instructions for enrolling in Canvas are available through the mySJSU web site. Important announcements and course documents will be posted on Canvas. We will also be using the turn-it-in feature for some assignments.

Other equipment / material requirements: Internet access is required to complete Aplia homework and turn in other assignments. An inexpensive calculator will be useful for class activities, quizzes, and exams. Devices with internet connectivity will not be allowed during quizzes and exams. **You will also need standard Scantrons for the mid-terms and final exam.**

Classroom Protocol

Students are expected to be on time, be attentive, and be involved. Attendance will be taken. Phones are to be turned off or set to silent alarm. If you need to enter or leave during class, please do so as unobtrusively as possible. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Repeated violations of these policies may result in a reduced grade or other appropriate actions.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Reading: My lectures assume you have read the assigned chapter in the text before it is covered in class. **Stay current in your reading.** It will help you understand the lectures and you will find that it is difficult to catch up if you get behind.

Aplia: You are responsible for completing the Aplia assignments by the deadlines listed on the attached schedule and the Aplia home page. Generally, Aplia assignments are due before the class following the first day it is covered in class.

Testing: There will be periodic quizzes, two midterms, and a cumulative final exam as shown on the attached schedule. **You will need Scantrons for the two midterms and the final exam.**

Classroom Activities: There will be periodic classroom activities which may not be announced in advance. Although they may be group activities, each student will be responsible for turning in hand written reports by the end of class.

Papers: There will be two papers due during the semester. Details will be contained in a handout and posted on Canvas. Due dates are listed on the course schedule below.

Grading: All activities will be graded on a curve as follows; 100-97 A+, 97-93 A, 93-90 A-, 90-87 B+, 87-83 B, 83-80 B, 80-77 C+, 77-73 C, 73-70 C-, 70-67 D+, 67-63 D, 63-60 D-, and less than 60 F. **Missed activities receive a grade of 50.** Your final grade will be weighted as follows:

<u>Activity:</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Quizzes, Activities, and Papers	25%
Aplia Assignments	25%
Midterms	25%
Final Exam	25%

Extra Credit: There will be a limited number of extra credit opportunities during the semester. The Economics Department sponsors three Provocative Lectures each semester. You may attend up to three lectures (indicated by signing an attendance sheet available at the event) and receive 1/2 extra credit point for each lecture attended. If you attend the lecture, you may also write a 300 to 500-word summary of the lecture for an additional 1/2 extra credit point. The schedule of lectures has not yet been determined, but will be announced in class when available.

You may earn a maximum of 3 extra points in this manner. **Each extra credit point will be worth a point added on to your final grade.** There may be other extra credit activities announced during the semester, but in no event may a student receive more than 3 extra credit points during the semester.

Attendance and Missed Assignments

Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading per Academic Policy F-69-24. However, regular attendance is **strongly recommended.**

Missed exams cannot be made up unless you have a valid, documented reason (e.g., serious medical condition). You must notify me by email as soon as you are aware of a condition that will cause you to miss an exam. Any make-up exams will not be identical to the missed exam.

Missed Aplia assignments, quizzes, and class activities cannot be made up except under extraordinary conditions. However, Aplia will drop your two lowest scores when calculating your final grade. I will also drop your two lowest quizzes or activities when figuring out your final grade.

Paper assignments are a course requirement and will not be excused. They may be turned in late but I will deduct 5 points for each week it is late.

University Policies

Workload Expectations

Over the fifteen-week semester, students are expected to dedicate 135 hours to a three-unit course, and 180 hours to a four-unit course, inclusive of attending lectures, reading course materials, etc. Or in other words, students are expected **12 hours a week to a four-unit course, inclusive of all course activities.**

The precise language that defines the requirements for a unit of credit can be found here: <http://www.calstate.edu/acadAff/codedmemos/AA-2011-14.pdf> .

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/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/) web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. 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/>.

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 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 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.

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 can be found at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/> .

Peer Connections

The Peer Connections is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. Peer Connections is the new campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring. Students are encouraged to take advantage of these services which are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. Visit the Peer Connections website at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

How to access your Aplia course

Principles of Microeconomics, Fall, 2017

Instructor: Don Crooks

Start Date: 08/24/2017

What is Aplia?

In the last 15 years, more than two billion answers have been submitted through Aplia, the premier online assignment solution. Millions of students use Aplia to better prepare for class and for their exams. Join them today!

Registration

1. Connect to <http://login.cengagebrain.com/course/KY9L-MFLF-R6BY>
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.

Bookstore: You may be able to purchase access to Aplia at your bookstore. Check with the bookstore to find out what they offer for your course.

Temporary Access: If you are unable to pay at the start of the semester your course enrollment includes a free trial period of up to two weeks.

After the temporary access period ends you will be required to pay for access.

Please note: At the end of the temporary access 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 entered an access code or bought Aplia in your bookstore or online, simply login through the provided link to register for the course.

System Check

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

Course Schedule - Fall, 2017
Econ 1B - Principles of Microeconomics
(Changes may be announced in class and posted on Canvas)

Week	Reading Assignments - Topics	Other Assignments & Activities
1 - 8/24	First Day of Class	Introduction to Microeconomics
2 - 8/29	Ch. 1 – Ten Principles of Economics	Register for Aplia
2 - 8/31	Ch. 2 - Thinking Like an Economist	Aplia Due - How to do Aplia Assignments Aplia Due - Math and Graphing Assessment
3 - 9/5	Ch. 2 – Cont.	Ch. 2 Aplia – Due 9/5 Ch. 2 Class Activities
3 - 9/7	Ch. 3 - Comparative Advantage	
4 - 9/12	Ch. 3 – Cont.	Ch. 3 Aplia Due; Ch. 3 Class Activities; Quiz #1 on Ch. 1-3
4 - 9/14	Ch. 4 - Supply and Demand	
5 - 9/19	Ch. 4 – Cont.	Ch. 4 Class Activities Ch. 4 (Cont.); Aplia Due; Quiz #2 on Ch. 4
5 - 9/21	1st Midterm (Bring Scantron)	Covers Ch. 2-4
6 - 9/26	Ch. 6 - S&D and Government Policy Ch. 5 – Elasticity (only pp. 89-94, skip Sec. 5-1c)	
6 - 9/28	Ch. 6 – Cont.	Ch. 6 Aplia Due Ch. 5-6 Class Activities; Quiz #3 on Ch. 5-6
7 - 10/3	Ch. 7 - Economic Efficiency	1st Paper Due (500 words)
7 - 10/5	Ch. 7 – Cont.	Ch. 7 Aplia Due Ch. 7 Class Activities
8 - 10/10	Ch. 8 - The Costs of Taxation	
8 - 10/12	Ch. 8 – Cont.	Ch. 8 Aplia Due; Class Activities; Quiz #4 on Ch. 7-8

Week	Reading Assignments - Topics	Other Assignments & Activities
9 - 10/17	Ch. 9 - International Trade	
9 - 10/19	Ch. 9 – Cont.	Ch. 9 Aplia Due; Ch. 9 Class Activities
10 - 10/24	Ch. 10 - Externalities	
10 - 10/26	Ch. 10 – Cont.	Ch. 10 Aplia Due; Ch. 10 Class Activities; Quiz #5 on Ch. 9-10
11 - 10/31	Midterm #2 (Bring Scantron)	Covers Ch. 5-10
11 - 11/2	Ch. 13 - The Costs of Production	
12 - 11/7	Ch. 13 – Cont.	Ch. 13 Aplia Due; Ch. 13 Class Activities
12 - 11/9	Ch. 14 - Profit Maximization	
13 - 11/14	Ch. 14 – Cont.	Ch. 14 Aplia Due; Ch. 14 Class Activities; Quiz #6 on Ch. 13-14
13 - 11/16	Ch. 15 - Monopoly	2nd Paper Due (1000 words)
14 - 11/21	Ch. 15 - Monopoly	Ch. 15 Aplia Due Ch. 15 Class Activities
14 - 11/23	Thanksgiving Holiday	
15 - 11/28	Ch. 16 - Monopolistic Competition	
15 - 11/30	Ch. 16 – Cont.	Ch. 16 Aplia Due; Ch. 16 Class Activities; Quiz #7 on Ch. 15-16
16 - 12/5	Ch. 19 – Earnings & Discrimination	Ch. 19 Class Activities
16 - 12/7	Ch. 20 - Inequality	Ch. 20 Class Activities Review for Final Exam
Dec. 19	Final Exam (Tues., 2:45 to 5:00 pm)	Cumulative Final Exam