

**San Jose State University**  
**Economics 1A**  
**Principles of Macroeconomics, Section 2, Fall 2018**

## Contact Information

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                          (Mike) MW 6:00-6:30 pm and by appointment  
**Class Days/Time:** MW 4:30pm-5:45pm  
**Classroom:** 348 DMH

## **Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging**

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the class website in Canvas at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking your email and announcements made in Canvas to learn of any updates. I will email you through Canvas or to you at your SJSU account as defined at MySJSU.

## **Communication Outside of Class**

I want to be available and to support you in this class, and I try to make myself available reasonably during off hours. I am not usually on the SJSU campus on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, but I can often make an appointment for a meeting during those days via Skype or phone. Skype works very well, and we can share screens to help communicate. I will respond to email, but reasonably at my discretion and time, usually in the evenings after working hours. Do not expect an immediate reply to “an emergency email.” Plan ahead. I am typically not available Saturday or Sunday, and I may not reply to a weekend email until the following Monday.

I typically do not link to students via social media. Do not be offended if you ask me to link with you via LinkedIn and I don't reply or link. There just isn't any way to not link aside from ignoring the LinkedIn request. This is "nothing personal." On average, I just don't make my professional network available to students.

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## **Course Description**

Determination of economic aggregates such as total output, total employment, the price level and the rate of economic growth. Notes: May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1B.

## **Course Goals and Learning Objectives**

### **Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have a sufficient foundation to pursue intermediate study in macroeconomic theory related to three broad areas: comparative advantage, macroeconomic measures, and macroeconomic models. Specific learning objectives include:

- Comparative Advantage (specialization and the gains from trade; globalization)
- Macroeconomic Measures (real versus nominal calculations; components and concept of GDP; components and concept of unemployment figures; calculation of inflation)
- Macroeconomic Models (circular flow; monetary and fiscal policy; the market for loanable funds & interest rate determination; the demand and supply of money & price level determination)
- Common macroeconomic policy interventions – actions government can use to try to achieve macroeconomic outcomes.

## **Required Texts/Readings**

### **Textbook**

*The Thinker's Guide to Analytic Thinking*, by Linda Elder and Richard Paul, ISBN 978-0-94458319-7, Foundation for Critical Thinking

The primary textbook is *Principles of Macroeconomics, Eighth Edition* by N. Gregory Mankiw. In addition there is a required online, electronic homework and learning system called Mindtap by Cengage Publishing. They are available either separately or bundled together in several ways. You can purchase these materials directly from Cengage or purchase them from the bookstore. You can find the myriad of ways these products are bundled and purchase one right for you through the addendum at the end of this syllabus.

Choose whatever fits your needs best, but you must have both Mindtap and some version or electronic access to the textbook to succeed in the class. You will access Mindtap through Canvas. You will “pay” for Mindtap through Canvas by providing the Access Code you get.

### **Other Required Readings (Available on the Web or on Canvas)**

*Not What They Had in Mind: A History of the Policies that Produced the Financial Crisis of 2008*, by Arnold Kling available at  
[http://mercatus.org/uploadedFiles/Mercatus/Publications/NotWhatTheyHadInMind\(1\).pdf](http://mercatus.org/uploadedFiles/Mercatus/Publications/NotWhatTheyHadInMind(1).pdf)

Generally, I will post or link to any additional readings on the course website on Canvas, and I post .pdf versions of the class slides presented to Canvas after class.

### **Other equipment / material requirements**

Because of the need to access Canvas, the online homework and exercise system Mindtap, and other readings, you will need access to a computer and the internet.

## **Course Requirements and Assignments**

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, twelve hours for this course) 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. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

The course consists of three midterms, one final exam, near weekly online homework assignments and other participation assignments including take-home and in-class work. The midterms and comprehensive final exam cover material presented both in class and in the textbooks. Midterms and final exams are multiple choice exams that require a Scantron form 882E, which students are responsible for acquiring for the exam.

Online homework and participation assignments reinforce and apply key concepts.

Students should attend all class meetings, not only because they are responsible for the discussed material, but also because active participation frequently ensures maximum benefit for all classmates. Attendance per se, though, shall not be used as a criterion for grading. Participation, however, is.

If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what transpired in it. Ask fellow students, review the posted class slides/notes, and re-read the textbook to learn what was covered. If I have covered the answer to a question in class, I will refer you to class materials for you to find the answer.

## **Grading Policy**

I grade students by their earning of points throughout the course as follows from a nominal point count of 1000 points throughout the course.

970-1000	A+	870-899	B+	770-799	C+	670-699	D+	<600	F
940-969	A	840-869	B	740-769	C	640-669	D		
900-939	A-	800-839	B-	700-739	C-	600-639	D-		

The course grade has the following weightings.

- Midterm 1 (Multiple choice), 100 points
- Midterm 2, (Multiple choice), 100 points
- Midterm 3, (Multiple choice), 100 points
- Online homework, 250 points
- Comprehensive Final Exam (Multiple choice), 250 points
- Participation (pop quizzes, in-class activities and take-home team assignments as assigned in class or taken home), 200 points

### **Late / Missed Homework and Exam Policy:**

I do not accept, and you will get a “0” for, any late homework or missed participation. To accommodate personal “emergencies,” I do not count one week of homework and one participation assignment (the lowest grades are not counted). If you miss one homework and/or participation assignment due to personal issues, you’ll not be penalized. Missing two will hurt your grade.

If you miss one of the midterm exams for a *verified and valid* personal emergency or medical reason *documented to me in advance of or immediately after the exam*, you may substitute a weighted average of your other two midterms and final exam in its place. You must have a verified and valid personal emergency to qualify for this exception.

If you need to miss the scheduled final exam for a *verified and valid* reason *documented to me in advance of the final*, I will reschedule with you on the make-up day of the final.

### **Extra Credit**

I only offer limited extra credit opportunities. Students should expect to complete high quality work the first time and should not expect incentives such as extra credit that reward low quality or late work habits.

## **Classroom Protocol**

I expect students to arrive and be seated before class begins, with cell phones turned silent and out of sight. Students should put all electronic devices not required for classroom

participation away. I expect students to conduct themselves in a way that respects the goals of the instructor and fellow students.

### **University Policies**

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

## Econ 1A, Section 2, Fall 2018 Course Schedule

*This schedule is subject to change with fair notice via classroom announcement or email. I may assign additional readings to help elaborate upon certain points or that seem particularly interesting, relevant and timely.*

Week	Date	HW	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	W 8/22		Course syllabus, overview, Managing this semester for success
2	M 8/27 W 8/29	Get Started	PMae ( <i>Principles of Macroeconomics</i> ) Chapter 1 PMae Chapter 2
3	M 9/3 W 9/5	1, 2	No Class – Labor Day PMae Chapter 3
4	M 9/10 W 9/12	3	PMae Chapter 4 PMae Chapter 5
5	M 9/17 W 9/19	4, 5	PMae Chapter 6 PMae Chapter 7
6	M 9/24 W 9/26	6, 7	Review Chapters 1-6 in class Midterm 1 (Chapters 1-6)
7	M 10/1 W 10/3	none	PMae Chapter 8 PMae Chapter 9
8	M 10/8 W 10/10	8, 9	PMae Chapter 10 PMae Chapter 11
9	M 10/15 W 10/17	10, 11	PMae Chapter 12 ( <i>Taught by Sharika R.</i> ) Review Chapters 7-11 in class ( <i>Led by Sharika R.</i> )
10	M 10/22 W 10/24	12	Midterm 2 (Chapters 7-11) PMae Chapter 13
11	M 10/29 W 10/31	13	PMae Chapter 14 PMae Chapter 15
12	M 11/5 W 11/7	14, 15	PMae Chapter 16 PMae Chapter 17
13	M 11/12 W 11/14	16, 17	No Class – Veteran’s Day Review Chapters 12-17 in class
14	M 11/19 W 11/21	none	Midterm 3 (Chapters 12- 17) No Class - Thanksgiving
15	M 11/26 W 11/28	none	PMae Chapter 18 PMae Chapter 20
16	M 12/3 W 12/5	18, 20	PMae Chapter 21 PMae Chapter 22
17	M 12/10	21, 22	Chapter 23, <i>Not What They Had in Mind</i>
Final Exam	Th 12/13	23	2:45pm-5:00pm, 348 DMH

Unless otherwise communicated, homework is due on Wednesday nights at 11:59pm with no late submissions accepted. See the Canvas assignments and details. Participation assignments are due as noted in the assignment. You may submit your homework early, however ☺.

# Required Course Materials Addendum

This course will require **MindTap for Mankiw's Principles of Macroeconomics, 8<sup>th</sup> edition** from Cengage.

*NOTE: You will have several purchase options outlined below, so I advise that you choose the “14-day trial access” when you initially log into MindTap before making your purchase choice.*

## Purchase Options - choose the best ONE for you:

1. MindTap Standalone for Mankiw's Principles of Macroeconomics, 8e, ISBN: 9781337096591 , List Price \$130
2. Bundle: Loose-leaf text with MindTap code, ISBN: 9781337378994, List Price \$176.95
3. **Cengage Unlimited Subscription.** *With a Cengage Unlimited Subscription you get MindTap for Mankiw's Principles of Macroeconomics, 8<sup>th</sup> edition and more!*
- 4.

PRINTED ACCESS CODE		
DURATION	ISBN	MSRP PRICE
4 months (1 sem.)	9780357700037	\$119.99
12 months	9780357700044	\$179.99
24 months	9780357700051	\$239.99

**What is Cengage Unlimited?** It is a digital subscription service (think Netflix or Apple Music) which can save you a lot of money. With Cengage Unlimited you can access ANY Cengage materials you are using across ALL of your courses AND a library of 20,000 ebooks, study guides and reference materials.

You also get a free print rental when you activate **MindTap**. You'll pay just \$7.99 for shipping. You may also have the option to purchase a looseleaf version of your textbook, which you can keep. As a bonus, when your subscription ends, you can choose up to six ebooks to retain in your virtual locker for an additional twelve months.

## Getting Registered

To access your course materials and explore Cengage Unlimited, login to Canvas and click on the link that says **Cengage**. When prompted, login with your Cengage account and follow the prompts to complete the registration process.

### **Additional Registration/Purchasing Support**

Should you need additional guidance, please visit [www.cengage.com/start-strong](http://www.cengage.com/start-strong). Financial Aid students can purchase access to Cengage Unlimited from the college bookstore.

	<b>Platform + textbook</b>	<b>Cengage Unlimited Subscription</b>
<b>Price</b>	<b>\$176.95</b>	➤ \$119.99 for 4-month access ➤ \$179.99 for 1-year access ➤ \$239.99 for 2-years access
<b>Material included</b>	Only the materials required for this course.	Your required course materials + access to the entire Cengage catalog including 20,000 eBooks across 70 disciplines.
<b>Free print rental?</b>	No	Yes. Just \$7.99 for Shipping
<b>Access to additional study guides?</b>	No	Yes
<b>Access to reference materials</b>	No	Yes