

San José State University
Department of Economics
Econ 1B - 63, Principles of Microeconomics, 44639, Fall 2019

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Ghislaine Lang
Office Location:	DMH 131
Telephone:	(408) 924 5411
Email:	Ghislaine.lang@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Tu/Th 12:00pm – 1:15pm + appointments
Class Days/Time:	Tu + Th: 10:30am -12:00pm
Classroom:	DMH 161

Course Format

Lecture and class discussion: face-to-face
Online homework assignments

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. GE Area: D1

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

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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)

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Lee Coppock, Dirk Mateer, Principles of Microeconomics, 2nd edition Ed. W.W. Norton. ISBN: 978 0 393 28314 3

Required online enrollment at WWNorton in Canvas.

How to register for online assignments and e book:

Click on the Inquizitive or Smartwork link under “Assignments” in Canvas. Click on “Purchase options” then “Ebook for Principles of Microeconomics” at \$75, follow different steps until registration is completed.

Other Readings

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

You may attend one, two or three lectures. In order to get extra credit, you must 1) sign-up the attendance sheet; 2) turn in a one-page summary of the lecture within one week. Each lecture attended will give you .5 point on your overall econ GPA: no more than 1.5 extra points may be earned during the semester.

September 18, 2019 (Wed.)

David Skarbek

SJSU, Student Union Theater | 5:15pm - 6:45pm | free, open to public

October: TBA

November: TBA

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

You will need internet access for Canvas where PowerPoints, handouts, important class information or material will be posted.

Access to Inquizitive and Smartwork using Canvas

You will need a basis calculator for quizzes and exam: no smartphone, earbuds, other internet connectivity allowed.

You will need 7 Scantrons: 5 quizzes + midterm + final

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>

Course Requirements and Assignments

This course requires regular textbook reading and regular homework assignments.

University policy S16-9 requires the following language to be included in the syllabus:

“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.”

Final Examination or Evaluation

University Policy 17-1 states that:

“Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.”

Grading Information

Determination of Grades

- **Exams:** There will be one midterm and one final.
- **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.
- **Smartwork:** weekly online assignments. **Due every Sunday at 11:00 pm.**
- **Inquizitive:** weekly online adaptive assignments. **Due every Monday at 11:00pm**
- **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.

Write this paper for a reader with no prior knowledge or understanding of economic concepts.

- Part I: Introduction:

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

Identify and define the concept covered by the article using Mateer’s definition: the author of your book. Please identify the paragraph referring to your definition. (It is strongly encouraged you email me confirming that you correctly identified the concept before writing the paper).

You will name and quote Mateer’s definition of the economic concept covered by the article. This is the economic concept you will analyze in your paper.

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

Summary: collect the important information of the article using you own words. No quotes!

Analysis: thoroughly explain the economic concept to the reader. I encourage you verify the thoroughness of your explanation with the book’s. Then, find the commonalities between the theory and the article. Use this to show how accurately the concept explains the real life situation covered in the article.

Generalization: Find another article where the very same economic concept is covered. (Pls include the web address) and explain briefly your choice.

- Part III: Conclusion (E Evaluate)

Conclusion: What the article was about and how you evaluate it.

- graph(s). You will refer to the graph in your analysis.
- Indicate word count: (1850 words +/- 10%) on your essay.

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

You may attend one, two or three lectures. In order to get extra credit, you must 1) sign-up the attendance sheet; 2) turn in a one-page summary of the lecture within one week. Each lecture attended will give you .5 point on your overall econ GPA: no more than 1.5 extra points may be earned during the semester.

All assignments will be graded on a curve listed below: see table.
Missed work receives a grade of 0.

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

Basis for final grade	Midterm	20%
	Final	25%
	Inquizitive	10%
	Smartwork	20%
	Quizzes	20%
	Paper	5%

Classroom Protocol

Students are expected to be on time, and be involved. Your presence in class is important and active participation in class discussions is expected. *I would rather prefer that you ask a question than remain confused.*

Phones are to be turned off or set to silent alarm.

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...

University Policies

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.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>
Make sure to review these university policies and resources with students.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Suite 126 in Clark Hall for drop-in hours and the King Library 2nd floor with appointments. 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/>

Econ 1B – 63, Principles of Microeconomics, Fall 2019, Course Schedule

Schedule is subject to change with fair notice

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
0	Aug. 22	Introduction to Economics, Syllabus
1	Aug. 27 Aug. 29	Chapter 1: Five Foundations of Economics
2	Sept. 3 Sept. 5	Chapter 2: Model Building and Gains from Trade
3	Sept. 10 Sept. 12	Quiz 1 ; Chapter 3: The Market at Work: Supply and Demand
4	Sept. 17 Sept. 19	Chapter 4: Elasticity
5	Sept. 24 Sept. 26	Quiz 2 ; Chapter 5: Market Outcomes and Tax Incidence
6	Oct. 1 Oct. 3	Chapter 6: Price Controls
7	Oct. 8 Oct. 10	Midterm Chapter 7: Market Inefficiencies: Externalities and Public Goods
8	Oct. 15 Oct. 17	Chapter 7: Market Inefficiencies: Externalities and Public Goods
9	Oct. 22 Oct. 24	Chapter 8: Business Costs and Production
10	Oct. 29 Oct. 31	Quiz 3 ; Chapter 9: Firms in a Competitive Market
11	Nov. 5 Nov. 7	Chapter 10: Understanding Monopoly Paper: 1st version
12	Nov. 12 Nov. 14	Quiz 4 ; Chapter 13: Oligopoly and Strategic Behavior
13	Nov. 19 Nov. 21	Chapter 12: Monopolistic Competition
14	Nov. 26 Nov. 28	Thanksgiving Holidays ☺
15	Dec. 3 Dec. 5	Quiz 5 , Chapter 12: Monopolistic Competition Review Session + paper: final version
16 Final Exam	Dec. 13	Friday, December 13 09:45am-12:00pm DMH 161 Cumulative Final Exam with emphasis on chapters covered following midterm http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/final-exam-schedule-fall.html

Exams and Quizzes

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

Tuesday, Sept. 10:	quiz 1
Tuesday, Sept. 24:	quiz 2
Tuesday, Oct. 8:	midterm
Tuesday, Oct. 29:	quiz 3
Thursday, Nov. 7:	paper: 1 st version
Tuesday, Nov. 12:	quiz 4
Tuesday, Dec. 3:	quiz 5
Thursday, Dec. 5	paper: final version
Friday, Dec.13:	final 9:45am