

**“Economics deals with society's fundamental problems; it concerns everyone and belongs to all. It is the main and proper study of every citizen.” *Ludwig von Mises***

ECONOMICS 101—MICROECONOMICS ANALYSIS

San Jose State University  
Fall 2020  
ONLINE

**INSTRUCTOR:** DR. NINOS P. MALEK  
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**OFFICE HOURS:** Online (Fridays 9:00AM—11:00AM)

***COURSE DESCRIPTION AND TEACHING PHILOSOPHY***

Economics can be defined as *the study of exchange given certain institutional arrangements* or as *the study of human action—people making choices*. This course builds upon your knowledge of introductory microeconomics. You will learn how economic models can help us think about important real world phenomena. Topics that will be covered include the supply and demand model and applications of it; elasticity of demand, elasticity of supply, cross-price elasticity, and income elasticity; theory of consumer choice and using indifference curve analysis; costs of production; market structures (perfect competition, monopoly, monopolistic competition, and oligopoly); basic game theory; externalities and public goods; and public choice analysis

**I will not focus on the mathematics of the economics\*.** It is more important to me that you have an intuitive understanding rather than a mathematical understanding. Of course, you will be expected to learn and apply some graphical models that you did not encounter in your principles class. ***The goal by the end of the semester is to get you to analyze personal situations, listen to the news, discuss politics, and argue with your friends and family using the “economic way of thinking.”***

I will assign numerous short readings and video clips on various policy topics. **The goal of these readings and video clips is to make you think critically and to look at issues from a perspective you probably have not considered before this class.**

## ***UNIVERSITY HONOR CODE***

Students are expected to be familiar with the SJSU Policy on Academic Dishonesty which can be found in the University Schedule of Classes and the University Catalog. The Department of Economics Academic Fairness Standards states: “An individual instructor who discovers, or is presented with, conclusive evidence of cheating shall assign a course grade of ‘F,’ and inform the Chairman of the Department the reasons for the grade and for further disciplinary action.” Plagiarism is defined as the act of representing the work of another as one’s own (without giving appropriate credit) regardless of how that work was obtained and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements. Plagiarism at SJSU includes but is not limited to: **1.** The act of incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs or parts thereof, or the specific substance of another’s work, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one’s own work, knowingly or unknowingly or **2.** Representing another person’s scholarly or artistic works as one’s own.

Plagiarism is unacceptable. The instructor will discuss any instances of suspected plagiarism with the student involved and apply appropriate sanctions. Evidence of plagiarism will result in course failure and may also result in expulsion from San Jose State University. To avoid plagiarism, a good rule of thumb is to use quotes and citations if you use five words from someone else.

## ***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 talk to me as soon as possible. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu> to establish a record of their disability.

## ***REQUIRED BOOKS***

*Microeconomics, Ninth Edition* by Pindyck and Rubinfeld **with MyEconLab (package)**

***You have to purchase the MyEconLab access for the textbook***

*MyEconLab is the online program that Pearson (the publisher) provides that allows the professor to create practice assignments, tests, and the Final. Therefore, you **MUST** purchase the **textbook and MyEconLab access** in order to be in this class.*

*Do not just borrow a physical (printed) textbook or buy the textbook from Amazon. You need to purchase the MyEconLab/textbook combination offered by the bookstore.*

*The bottom line is that you need the **EXACT** book (author, title, edition, etc.) listed above and on the Spartan Bookstore website.*

## ***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 section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the Current Academic Calendar web page located at [http://www.sjsu.edu/academic\\_programs/calendars/academic\\_calendar/](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/). The Late Drop 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 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising>.

## ***GRADES AND MAKEUP POLICY***

- ✓ Three tests: the **highest two** will count—even if you get an “A” on the first two tests, I highly recommend that you do not slack off. The Final will cover material from all the tests and you are required to take the Final) **200 points each**
- ✓ Final (**comprehensive plus** remaining material\* after Test 3): **600 points**

Grades will be based on the number of points you received on the **highest two tests** (400 points maximum) and the Final (600 points maximum). There will be a total of 1,000 points.

***Whatever percentage you earn out of 1,000 points will determine your grade.***

***WARNING!!!!***

**\*There will be no completing tests after they are due. NO EXCEPTIONS**

**Please do not ask me if you can submit test later.**

I will not drop you after the appropriate date because of poor performance or missing scores.

***GRADING SCALE***

|            |                  |           |                   |
|------------|------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>A+:</b> | <b>96.5—100</b>  | <b>D:</b> | <b>59.5—69.4</b>  |
| <b>A:</b>  | <b>92.5—96.4</b> | <b>F:</b> | <b>59.4—BELOW</b> |
| <b>A-:</b> | <b>89.5—92.4</b> |           |                   |
| <b>B+:</b> | <b>86.5—89.4</b> |           |                   |
| <b>B:</b>  | <b>82.5—86.4</b> |           |                   |
| <b>B-:</b> | <b>79.5—82.4</b> |           |                   |
| <b>C+:</b> | <b>76.5—79.4</b> |           |                   |
| <b>C:</b>  | <b>72.5—76.4</b> |           |                   |
| <b>C-:</b> | <b>69.5—72.4</b> |           |                   |

**The Final exam will be due on Wednesday, December 9.**

**NO EXCEPTIONS OR CHANGES!**