

“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—MICROECONOMIC ANALYSIS
Section 03**

**San Jose State University
Fall Semester 2022
DMH 165
TUESDAY 6:30PM—9:15PM**

INSTRUCTOR: DR. NINOS P. MALEK

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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday 9:15PM—10:15PM

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) and antitrust; basic game theory; externalities and types of 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 and you will have to perform some calculations.

The goal by the end of the semester is to get you to analyze personal situations, listen to the news, discuss public policy, and have conversations 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 Accessible Education Center at <https://www.sjsu.edu/aec/> to establish a record of their disability.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

I expect all students to behave professionally during class. This means that I will not tolerate **cell phone** text messaging, catching up on **social media** during class or looking at **irrelevant websites** on your laptop, **reading** the school newspaper or other materials, or **talking** while another student is asking a question, during a video, or when I am lecturing.

Talking is very disruptive to students who want to learn and to me as the instructor. I will not tolerate any **sleeping** or **heads down** during class. If you get tired, **go outside** and walk around until you wake up. If you get **bored**, please do not let me know that by putting your head down on your desk. I would rather you **leave** the classroom.

NO CELL PHONES WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE OUT DURING CLASS. IF YOU NEED TO TEXT OR CALL, GO OUTSIDE PLEASE.

IF YOU NEED TO USE A LAPTOP/TABLET, YOU MUST SIT IN THE FIRST ROW (ACROSS) AND LAPTOPS/TABLETS WILL ONLY ALLOWED TO BE OPENED DURING CERTAIN TIMES*.

IF YOU ARE TEXTING, ON YOUR LAPTOP/TABLET WHEN IT IS TO BE CLOSED, OR LOOKING AT IRRELEVANT WEBSITES WHEN IT IS OPEN, I WILL ASK TO YOU LEAVE MY CLASS.

Also be **realistic** about your **personal discipline** and **commitment** to this class. If you know that you will not be focused or if your job/extracurricular activity/other commitments will make it difficult for you to attend class, pay attention, or to stay the entire time, you should take this class at another time.

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.*

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND CALENDAR

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc.

Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Academic Calendar: <https://sjsu.edu/classes/calendar/2022-2023.php>

Important Deadlines: <https://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/calendar/fall-2022.php>

Add/Drop: <https://www.sjsu.edu/ue/student-petitions/drops/index.php>

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!!!!

****You will not be allowed to take a test/Final early or later. NO EXCEPTIONS***

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

GRADING SCALE

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

ATTENDANCE

It is up to you to measure the costs and benefits of your class attendance. However, I highly recommend regular attendance because the tests will cover more than just the readings. So, there is a cost to missing class.

If I were you, I would exchange phone numbers/email addresses with other members of the class. It is **your responsibility** to find out what you missed if you are absent or late or if you leave early.

Do not assume anything regarding the schedule. I reserve the right to change my schedule and the topics that I will cover. I will always give you notice if there are any changes, but if you are absent the next class meeting or if you come in late or leave early, there could be another change to the schedule while you are gone.

Bottom line: if you come in late and I am already talking, assume I made an important announcement and ask me during the break or after class if indeed I did make any announcements. If you have to leave early, send an email to me or someone you trust to make sure that I did not change my mind about the schedule or make any further announcements. It is always a good idea to send an email to me or someone you trust to confirm what we covered if you are absent for the entire class.

The Final exam will be on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 7:45PM

<https://www.sjsu.edu/classes/final-exam-schedule/fall-2022.php>

NO EXCEPTIONS OR CHANGES!

SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

See my Canvas site for the “Topics” file which lists what will be covered for each of the three tests (book chapters, lecture notes, readings, and videos). I will give you a tentative date for the first test and then I will give you updates for the remaining two test dates.