

San José State University
Department of Economics
Econ 1B, Principles of Microeconomics, Section 09, Fall 2023

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Greg Hanle
Office Location:	DMH 219, In class (DMH 234), or online
Email:	Gregory.hanle@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Online: Tues/Thurs 11:00am-12:00pm, In-Person: Tues/Thurs 1:15pm-1:30pm
Class Days/Time:	Tues/Thurs/ 1:30pm-2:45pm
Classroom:	
Prerequisites:	Math Remediation Completed or a post baccalaureate.
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	D (formerly D1)

Course Format

In person Course Requirements:

Our class times will be devoted mainly to lectures with some class activities and group work throughout the semester. Please be prepared to take a huge amount of notes! On your own, you will be reading from your text and doing practice problems. Throughout the semester we will have small pop-quizzes, and three times during the semester we will have an Exam consisting of 60 multiple choice questions and two short answer essay questions. There will also be optional assignments for students who wish to improve their grades. Our comprehensive final will be a larger version of our Exam, about 90 multiple choice questions and 2 short answers.

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](http://sjsu.instructure.com) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking your email or with the messaging system through the course canvas page to learn of any updates.

Course Description

Allocation of resources and distribution of income as affected by the workings of the price system and by government policies. May be taken concurrently or prior to Econ 1A.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Economics 1B is a general education course that meets the requirement for area D in the social science area. Students will learn to apply microeconomic theory, to evaluate social information, draw on different points of

view, and formulate policy implications. Issues of diversity will receive special attention in the analysis of price controls, labor markets, income distribution, and environmental issues. Finally, students will be able to place social events in an appropriate context. The GE writing requirement (1500 word minimum) will be satisfied by several written assignments.

Upon successful completion of an Area D course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the ways in which social institutions, culture, and environment shape and are shaped by the behavior of individuals, both past and present;
2. Compare and contrast the dynamics of two or more social groups or social systems in a variety of historical and/or cultural contexts;
3. Place contemporary social developments in cultural, environmental, geographical, and/or historical contexts;
4. Draw on social/behavioral science information from various perspectives to formulate applications appropriate to historical and/or contemporary social issues.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Core principles of microeconomics, namely:

1. **Incentives Matter** (law of demand; law of supply; rational decision makers weigh marginal costs versus marginal benefits; the power of self-interest)
2. **Opportunity Costs** (sunk costs; production possibilities; the free-lunch fallacy; tradeoffs in consumption and production; gains from interpersonal and international trade; comparative advantage)
3. **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.)

Textbook

required text: Principles of Microeconomics 3e through OpenStax, which is available free on their website: <https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-microeconomics-3e>
(paperback ISBN: 13: 978-1-711471-50-1)

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Canvas: In this class, you will be turning in your writing assignments through the Canvas learning management system (in DOC or PDF format). You will also have access to class handouts, with answers, and practice questions for exams here. To begin, you need to know how to access Canvas.

Login URL : <https://sjsu.instructure.com>

Username : SJSU 9-digit ID

Password : your SJSU One Account Credentials

After logging in, select “FA 23: Econ-1B Sec 09 - Prin of Econ” under “Courses”.

Library Liaison

Christa Bailey is the economics subject librarian in the King Library and may be helpful should you need assistance with finding sources of information for your writing assignments.

Email: christa.bailey@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

Attendance in a class which only meets once a week is extremely important. There will be many pop-quizzes given during lectures to give you extra incentive to be in class on a consistent basis.

There will be 3 exams given during the semester, and one Final exam. Each exam will consist of 60 multiple choice questions. The lowest mid-term exam score will be dropped (not the Final), and 10% of the lowest mid-term exam score will count as extra credit!

No make-up Exams will be given! (part of why lowest score is dropped)

The GE writing requirement (1500 word minimum) will be satisfied by several written assignments. Each assignment must be turned in at or before the class meeting of the due date on our course Canvas page.

Optional Assignments will be provided as a means to earn points for doing additional quiz format problem sets. Note that these are not “extra credit” and can lower your overall grade if you do poorly on them.

Final Examination

The final exam shall be held Thursday, Dec 14 from 12:15-2:30pm. It shall follow a similar format to the previous exams during the semester, 60 multiple choice questions, and 30 extra multiple choice questions will be on comprehensive material.

Grading Information

The standard grading policy for SJSU will be used regarding grades:

100-97 A+, 96-93 A, 92-90 A-, 89-87 B+, 86-83 B, 82-80 B-, 79-77 C+, 76-73 C, 72-70 C-, 69-67 D+, 66-63 D, 62-60 D-, less than 60 F.

Classroom Protocol

I expect everyone to behave in a professional manner, making as little of a disturbance as possible when entering late, leaving, etc. Cell phone calls and texting are to be done OUTSIDE of class. NO CELL PHONES OR ELECTRONIC DEVICES BESIDES SIMPLE CALCULATORS ARE ALLOWED DURING EXAM TIMES!!!

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

Economics Department Tutoring

The Economics department has available tutoring for students as posted in DMH 147. Upper division and graduate students are very happy to work with you on a drop-in basis to help you better understand the principles of microeconomics.

Econ 1B, Principles of Microeconomics, Section 03, Fall 2023

Course Schedule

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/21-8/25	Introductions, Chapter 3: Supply and Demand (covering sections 3.1 - 3.3)
2	8/28-9/1	Finishing Supply and Demand
3	9/4-9/8	Chapter 3 : Economic Efficiency, Government Price Setting (covering sections 3.4 and 3.5)
4	9/11-9/15	Chapter 5: Elasticity (covering all sections)
5	9/18-9/22	Introduction to Types of Firms (from my own materials) Exam 1 on Ch 3, and 5 on 9/21
6	9/25-9/29	Chapter 7: Production and Costs (covering all sections)
7	10/2-10/6	Finishing Ch 7 Chapter 9 and 11: Monopoly and Antitrust Policy
8	10/9-10/13	Finishing Chapter 9 and 11 Pricing Strategy (from my own materials)
9	10/16-10/20	Chapter 10: Monopolistic Competition (section 10.1) (Exam 2 on Ch 7, 9, 11, and my own materials 10/19)
10	10/23-10/27	Finishing Monopolistic Competitions Chapter 8: Firms in Perfect Competition (covering all sections)
11	10/30-11/3	Finishing Ch 8
12	11/6-11/10	Chapter 10: Oligopoly (covering section 10.2)
13	11/13-11/17	Chapter 4: The Market for Labor (covering section 4.1) (Exam 3 on Chapters 10 and 8 on 11/16)
14	11/20-11/24	No class Tues-Thurs due to Thanksgiving stuff
15	11/27-12/1	Finishing Labor Markets Chapter 12 and 13: Externalities, Environmental Policy, and Public Goods
16	12/4-12/6	Chapter 16: Information Problems
Final Exam	12/11-12/15	Thursday, December 14, 12:15-2:30pm