

San José State University (1/26/2018)
Econ 101, *Intermediate Microeconomics*, Section 3, SP 18

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Prerequisite:	Econ 1B

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the syllabus, homework assignments, etc. may be found on Canvas. Ask if you need information on accessing Canvas.

Course Description

Covers core microeconomic theory at the intermediate (non-calculus) level; topics include Consumer Theory (Budget, Preferences, Utility, Choice, Demand, Consumers Surplus, Market Demand), Partial versus General Equilibrium, Exchange, Producer Theory (Technology, Profit Maximization, Cost Minimization, Cost Curves, Firm Supply, Industry Supply), Competitiveness of Markets (Monopoly, Oligopoly), Game Theory and Game Applications, Externalities and Public Goods.

Course and Program Learning Objectives (CLOs and PLOs)

Emphasizes *microeconomics* (ECON PLO1)

By the end of this course, students will be able to 1.) explain how economists model key microeconomic behavior related to consumers and producers operating in markets, 2.) identify precise quantitative answers to well-defined modeling problems, 3.) use mathematical models as well as diagrammatic depictions and verbal descriptions of them to analyze simple and some complex economic relationships (e.g. through a comparative static), 4.) relate theoretical constructs to real world behaviors, and 5.) explain the benefits and limits of model-based reasoning in assisting decision making in problems of every-day, practical importance, as well as in areas of policy and scholarly relevance. CLOs 1-5 and especially 2 & 3 will be assessed through in-class exams.

Required Textbooks

Varian, Hal R. 2010. *Intermediate Microeconomics: A Modern Approach*. 8th edition W.W. Norton & Company. New York, NY.

Note: if you have trouble finding this edition, you can get the currently in-print 9th edition. Students may also find the workbook accompanying the 9th edition to be worth buying though it is not required:

<http://books.wwnorton.com/books/webad.aspx?id=4294979441>

Important Note Concerning Four-Unit Classes

This is now a four-unit course and this will enable us to cover more and deeper material than in previous semesters. Please be prepared for an appropriately faster-paced course.

Grading and Classroom Policy

The grading scale is: 60-62, D-, 62-68, D, 68-70, D+, 70-72, C-, 72-78, C, 78-80, C+, 80-82, B-, 82-88, B, 88-90, B+, 90-92, A-, 92-98, A, 98-100, A+.

I generally don't allow makeup exams unless there is sufficient notice and a very well justified and documented reason. Please talk to me if you wish you use a laptop during class. Food that emit negative externalities are not allowed. During exams you may not leave the room until you submit your exam.

Assignments

There will be three midterm exams and a comprehensive final. Midterm 2 will also be comprehensive, while Midterms 1 and 3 cover the most recent material only. Weekly problem sets worth 1 point each together count for 15% of your grade. Total points sum to 100.

Assignment	Points	Due Dates
Midterm Exams (Exams 1-3)	15 each	2/19, 3/19, 4/23
Comprehensive Final Exam (Exam 4)	40	5/21
Weekly Problem Sets	15	usually weekly at 5p.m. on Fridays

Assignment Details

Midterm and Final Exams will contain questions similar to those given on Problem Sets. **Weekly Problem Sets** will contain questions that may be modified versions of the end-of-chapter questions from the textbook.

Tentative Course Schedule (subject to change, with advance notice)

Date	Topic	Reading (try to complete before class)
1/29	Intro to class; Markets and Consumer Budgets	Ch 1-2
2/5	Preferences and Utility	3-4
2/12	Choice and Demand	5-6
2/19	Exam 1 After exam there will be a lecture on Consumer Surplus.	14
2/26	Market Demand and Equilibrium	15-16
3/5	Exchange; Partial versus General Equilibrium	31
3/12	Review for Midterm 2	Review
3/19	Exam 2 (Comprehensive Midterm)	
3/26	Spring Break	
4/2	Producer Technology and Profit Maximization	18-19
4/9	Cost Minimization and Cost Curves	20-21
4/16	Firm Supply and Industry Supply	22-23
4/23	Exam 3 After exam there will be a lecture on Monopoly.	24
4/30	Oligopoly and Game Theory	27-28
5/7	Game Applications	29
5/14	Externalities and Public Goods	34 & 36
5/21	Exam 4 (Comprehensive Final Exam)	

Page 3 of this syllabus contains information on Dropping and Adding (know the dates!), Academic Integrity (all instances of cheating will be reported to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development, and the Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act (we comply; see Page 3 of the online syllabus for details).

University Policies

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](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/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](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>. 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. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

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 make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.