

San José State University
College of Social Science / Economics Department

Econ 1B Principles of Economics Microeconomics Spring 2023

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Paul Lombardi
Office Location:	DMH 131
Telephone:	(408) 924-5404
Email:	paul.lombardi@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Monday and Wednesday 3:00-4:00 pm or by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Monday and Wednesday 9:00-10:15 am
Classroom:	DMH 348

Class Resources

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas Learning Management System course login website at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>.

Course Description

Allocation of resources and distribution of income as affected by the workings of the price system and by government policies. GE Area: D

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

- Upon successful completion of this course, students have concrete foundation to pursue intermediate study in 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 (Recommended)

1. Mateer, Dirk, and Lee Coppock. *Principles of Microeconomics*, 3rd Edition. (Canada: W.W. Norton and Companies, 2021). Paperback ISBN: 978-0-393-87230-9

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

- There are four components to your grade: three exams (35%), online quizzes (30%), student project (15%), and discussion boards/activities (20%)
- The exams will have multiple choice and short answer questions. The first two exams will be worth 10% and the final will be worth 15% of your final grade. The exam dates are 3/22, 5/3, and 5/23.
- Each module/week will cover about one chapter and will have a corresponding quiz online through Canvas. Quizzes are open book and note. Each quiz is composed of ten multiple-choice questions. Students only get one attempt per quiz.
- Students will write a short paper (i.e., about two to three pages- 1,000 to 1,500 words). The projects will discuss the student's choice of microeconomics topics. The final paper will be due during week 16— 5/23/23. However, intermediate steps leading up to the final paper will be due during the two weeks leading up to week 16.
- Each module/week will have a low stakes discussion or activity during class

Grading Information

Corresponding letter grades will be assigned as follows:

97 to 100% A plus	87 to 89% B plus	77 to 79% C plus	67 to 69% D plus	
93 to 96% A	83 to 86% B	73 to 76% C	63 to 66% D	
90 to 92% A minus	80 to 82% B minus	70 to 72% C minus	60 to 62% D minus	59 to 0% F

Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will have a grade deduction of 30 percent. No credit is provided for any later submissions without prior approval.

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 the Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/Academic_Calendars/. 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/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain the instructor's permission to record the course. "Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone

when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.” “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course, such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic Integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University’s Academic Integrity Policy, located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, 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 is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html. 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 Policy S07-2 requires the 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 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 (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability

Principles of Economics: Microeconomics Econ 1B, Spring 2023 Course Schedule

The following schedule is subject to change. If changes are needed, I will make announcements through email and Canvas.

Class Schedule

Week	Dates	Topics, Assignments, and Exams	Assigned Readings
0	1/25-1/29/23	Discuss Syllabus and Course Structure	
1	1/30-2/5/23	Five Foundations of Economics	MC Ch 1
2	2/6-2/12/23	Model Building and Gains from Trade	MC Ch 2
3	2/13-2/19/23	The Market at Work: Supply and Demand	MC Ch 3
4	2/20-2/26/23	Elasticity	MC Ch 4
5	2/27-3/5/23	Market Outcomes and Tax Incidence	MC Ch 5
6	3/6-3/12/23	Price Controls	MC Ch 6

Week	Dates	Topics, Assignments, and Exams	Assigned Readings
7	3/13-3/19/23	Market Inefficiencies: Externalities and Public Goods	MC Ch 7
8	3/20-3/26/23	Review and Exam One on 3/22/23	
9	3/27-4/2/23	Spring Break	
10	4/3-4/9/23	Business Costs and Production	MC Ch 8
11	4/10-4/16/23	Firms in a Competitive Market	MC Ch 9
12	4/17-4/23/23	Understanding Monopoly	MC Ch 10
13	4/24-4/30/23	Price Discrimination	MC Ch 11
14	5/1-5/7/23	Review and Exam Two on 5/3/23	
15	5/8-5/14/23	Discuss Exams and Review	
16+	5/15-5/23/23	Class Projects Due and Exam Three on 5/23/23	