

San José State University
ECON 1B, Principles of Economics: Microeconomics
Syllabus
Spring 2023

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Nicole Norton
Email:	nicole.norton@sjsu.edu Email is the best contact method for any questions or concerns. I will respond to emails within 48 business hours. Please do not expect a response to emails sent late at night or on weekends. Emails should include a proper salutation and be grammatically correct.
Virtual Office Hours:	Tu 1:30pm – 3pm by appointment Via email, phone, and/or Zoom video conferencing
Class Days/Time:	01- Asynchronous; Fully online via Canvas with NO designated day/time meeting pattern.
Classroom:	Online Instruction—All instruction takes place online, with no physical in-person or on campus meetings or activities required.
Canvas Course Page	sjsu.instructure.com
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	GE Area D1: Social Science, Human Behavior
Prerequisites	May be taken concurrently or prior to Econ 1A

Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

This course adopts a completely online, asynchronous delivery format with no designated day/time meeting pattern. Reliable internet connectivity and a computer or laptop with webcam and microphone are required for the course. This course requires the use of Respondus for electronic proctoring of all exams.

Course Description

SJSU Catalog Description: Allocation of resources and distribution of income as affected by the workings of the price system and by government policies.

Further Description: Microeconomics studies the choice of individuals, firms, the government, and other organizations. The course will provide an introduction to the concepts and tools used by economists to analyze decisions made by individuals and firms who face limited resources.

Course Web Page, E-mail and Other Communication

The syllabus, Macmillan Learning Achieve access, videos, resources, quizzes, exams, etc. may be found on the Canvas course page; this will be your “hub” for the course. Students are responsible for regularly checking Canvas, as well as their e-mail address currently on file with MySJSU, and spam folder. Also, in Canvas, you can set your notification preferences to daily; note that default setting is weekly notification. Please check Canvas “Announcements” for any updates as well as reminders.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

This course satisfies Economics BA/BS PLO1: Microeconomic Theory. By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Recall microeconomic terms.
- Explain how microeconomic concepts and tools are used to understand economic behavior.
- Apply microeconomic concepts and tools to analyze and evaluate markets, firms, and policies.
- Relate microeconomic principles to individual decision-making, current events, and a range of policy questions.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Economics 1B is a general education course that meets the requirements for area D1, Human Behavior in the social science area. Students learn to apply microeconomic theory, to evaluate social information, draw upon different points of view, and formulate policy implications. Finally, students are able to place social events in an appropriate context. The GE writing requirement (1500 word minimum) will be satisfied by several writing assignments.

Required Course Materials

Modern Principles: Microeconomics, Fifth Edition | ©2021

Tyler Cowen; Alex Tabarrok

Macmillan Learning

ISBN-13: 9781319329785; ISBN-10: 1319329780; **Format: Achieve, 1 term access**

Achieve is **REQUIRED** for the course. It includes the following:

- eBook
- LearningCurve, a personalized study plan and adaptive assessment tool
- Online Activities, Homework and Quizzes
- Multimedia and interactive tutorials for practice and mastery of concepts
- Seamless integration with Canvas

Students can choose to purchase a print text as well but it is optional. Special package ISBNs with the print text bundled with an Achieve access card are available online. **Used books DO NOT include Achieve access.** Achieve Registration Instructions (and purchase options) can be found on Canvas.

Other Readings and Multimedia

Online articles

Online videos

Online assessments

There is no additional cost for online materials, activities or assessments. All other course materials will be created and provided free of charge on the Canvas course site.

Technology requirements / equipment / material

Required: Reliable internet connectivity, Computer/Laptop/Tablet with webcam and microphone, Canvas LMS access, Achieve, and Respondus LockDown Browser. [SJSU's technology loan program](#) provides resources for computer equipment and software. Note: Students are responsible for ensuring that they have access to reliable Wi-Fi during exams.

[Canvas](#)

Canvas is the “hub” for the course and will house all communication, content, activities, assignments, assessments, exams, grades, and Achieve. Check out all of the [Canvas student resources](#).

Achieve

Achieve contains course specific content and is integrated with Canvas for single sign-on access. Students are, at a minimum, required to have access to Achieve which includes an eBook. Students can choose to purchase a print text as well at an additional cost, but it is not required.

Respondus

This course requires the use of Respondus for electronic proctoring of all exams. For online exam proctoring, it **is necessary that your computer has reliable, high-speed internet connection**. Respondus information can also be found on the course Canvas site. Online proctoring via Respondus is free for San Jose State University students.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Achieve Learning Assignments: Includes LearningCurve, weekly adaptive learning assessments, and online “Homework”.

Online Participation: Students are expected to participate in weekly online discussions and/or individual or group problem sets and activities. ([University Policy F15-12](#))

Quizzes: Students will have weekly summative quizzes via Achieve.

Writing assignments: Students will be assigned writing assignments as per the GE writing requirement. Further information will be posted on Canvas.

Exams: Students will take two, closed-book exams proctored online via Respondus. Further information regarding the exams and Respondus will be posted on Canvas.

Final Exam: One cumulative final exam. The final exam will be proctored online via Respondus. Further information regarding the final exam and Respondus will be posted on Canvas.

As per [University Policy S17-41](#), "Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment."

Note: no make-ups for any late or missed assignments, e.g. LearningCurve, quizzes, writing assignments, exams, etc. An exception may be *considered* if there is a verifiable, documented emergency.

Assignments and Grading Information

Your numerical grade will be based on the following categories and weights:

Achieve Learning Assignments	20%
Online Participation	15%
Quizzes	15%
Writing Assignments	10%
Exam 1	12.5%
Exam 2	12.5%
Final Exam	15%

Determination of Grades

Your letter grade will be determined using the below numerical scale. Grades are not rounded up.

Points	Grade	Points	Grade	Points	Grade
97-100	A+	93-96.99	A	90-92.99	A-
87-89.99	B+	83-86.99	B	80-82.99	B-
77-79.99	C+	73-76.99	C	70-72.99	C-
67-69.99	D+	63-66.99	D	60-62.99	D-
Less than 60 points is an F.					

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), “Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica.”

Online Class Decorum

Students are expected to maintain proper decorum in the online Canvas site and forums - no offensive language or other improper conduct. Please review the “Netiquette” document on Canvas for further information regarding online class decorum and expectations.

Academic Integrity

Students must abide by the San José State University [Academic Integrity Policy](#). There is zero tolerance for cheating, plagiarism, or any other violation of academic integrity. Students who are suspected of academic integrity violations will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office and depending on the severity of the conduct, will receive a zero on the assignment or a grade of F in the course. Grade Forgiveness does not apply to courses for which the original grade was the result of a finding of academic dishonesty.

Accommodations for Learning Disabilities

Students with learning disabilities are encouraged to request accommodations for the course. Please contact the [Accessible Education Center](#) to schedule an appointment with an AEC coordinator to determine eligibility and register.

Policy on Consent for Sharing Instructor and Course Materials

Students are prohibited from recording, distributing, or posting instructor and course materials (including assessment questions, solutions, feedback, discussion posts, PowerPoint presentations, guides, class lectures, office hours, advising sessions, etc.), without prior written approval ([University Policy S12-7](#)). Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, etc.) are copyrighted by the instructor. Students who record, distribute, or display (post/upload) these instructor and course materials in any way — whether or not a fee is charged — will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses is available at the Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ [Syllabus Information](#) web page.

Course Schedule

The schedule below is a guideline and may be subject to change with notice.

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading Assignments
1	01/23 - 01/29 (mon-sun) 01/25: First day of instruction	Introduction and Syllabus; Microeconomics Big Ideas	Purchase Macmillan Learning Achieve for Modern Principles: Microeconomics; Cowen and Tabarrok 5th edition (CT), Ch. 1
2	01/30-02/05	Power of Trade and Comparative Advantage	CT, Ch. 2
3	02/06-02/12	Supply and Demand – Introduction	CT, Ch. 3
4	02/13-02/19	Supply and Demand Applications	CT, Ch. 4
5	02/20-02/26 02/20: Last day to drop without a W grade	Elasticity	CT, Ch. 5
6	02/27-03/05 03/02: Exam 1	Exam 1 (covers weeks 2-5) Exam proctored online via Respondus	Review for Exam 1
7	03/06-03/12	Price Ceilings and Price Floors	CT, Ch. 8
8	03/13-03/19	Externalities	CT, Ch. 10
9	03/20-03/26	Costs and Profit Maximization	CT, Ch. 11
10	03/27-04/02 03/31: Cesar Chavez Day	Spring Recess	Enjoy the break!
11	04/03-04/09	Monopoly	CT, Ch. 13
12	04/10-04/16	Oligopoly and Monopolistic Competition	CT, Ch. 15 & 17 (all of Chp 15; Chp 17: 319-323)
13	04/17-04/23 04/20: Exam 2	Exam 2 (covers weeks 7-12) Exam proctored online via Respondus	Review for Exam 2
14	04/24-04/30	Price Discrimination	CT, Ch. 14
15	05/01-05/07	Public Goods	CT, Ch. 19
16	05/08-05/14	Political Economy and Public Choice	CT, Ch. 20
17	05/15-05/21 05/15: Last day of instruction 05/18, 5:15-10:00pm: Econ 1B Final Exam	FINAL EXAM (cumulative) Exam proctored online via Respondus	No late, make-up, or extra credit work allowed after last day of instruction. Review for final exam. **05/27: Final grade viewable on MySJSU**