

San José State University
Department of Economics
Econ 1B, Principles of Economics: Microeconomics, Section 62, Spring 2019

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Maria Aziz Adeel

Office Location: DMH 219

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Office Hours: MW 9:30am – 10:15am, TuTh 11:00am-12:00pm (or by appointment)

Class Days/Time: Tuesday & Thursday/ 1:30pm - 2:45pm

Classroom: DMH 166

Prerequisites: May be taken concurrently or prior to Econ 1A A

[Canvas](#)

[Leaning Management System course login website](#) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](http://my.sjsu.edu) at <http://my.sjsu.edu> to learn of any updates. See [University Policy F13-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2> for more details.

Course Description

This course stimulates interest in students about allocation of resources and distribution of income, as affected by the workings of the price system and government policies. May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1A.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

Tyler Cowen and Alex Tabarrok, *Modern Principles: Microeconomics* 2nd ed. (New York: Worth, 2011). ISBN-13: 978-1429239998. ISBN-10: 1429239999.

This book is easily available on www.amazon.com and its very inexpensive. Make sure that you are buying the second edition of the Micro text, and not the third edition, which is a lot more expensive. (New and used copies of the second edition are available for sale on the Internet.)

You also need to buy access to an online course offered by **Sapling Learning**.

Grading Information

Converting number grades to letter grades:

95-100 A+	90-94 A	85-89 A-	80-84 B+	75-79 B	70-74 B-	
65-69 C+	60-64 C	55-59 C-	50-54 D+	45-49 D	40-44 D-	0-39 F

If you experience any difficulty in this course, please do not hesitate to come to me for help. I am available not only during office hours but also by email and appointment. I am always happy to clarify difficult concepts, resolve any lingering confusion, or otherwise assist you in making this course enjoyable and rewarding.

Determination of Grades

10 Sapling Quizzes (10 pts each)	20%
Class Participation	5%
Mid-term 1	20%
Mid-term 2	20%
Final Exam	20%
Term Paper	5% + 10%

12 Sapling Quizzes will be taken over the course of the ssng.

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Econ 1B / Principles of Economics: Microeconomics, Section 62, Spring 2019

The schedule is subject to change with fair notice in class and on Canvas.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	01/24	Introduction and Chapter 1, The Big Ideas
2	01/29	Chapter 2, The Power of Trade and Comparative Advantage, (SAPLING) QUIZ 1
2	01/31	Chapter 3, Supply and Demand
3	02/05	Chapter 3, Continued
3	02/07	Chapter 4, Equilibrium: How Supply and Demand Prices, QUIZ 2
4	02/12	Chapter 5, Elasticity and its implications
4	02/14	Chapter 6, Taxes and Subsidies QUIZ 3
5	02/19	Chapter 7, The Price System: Signals, Speculation, and Prediction
5	02/21	MIDTERM 1
6	02/26	Chapter 8, Price Ceilings and Floors
6	02/28	Chapter 8, Continued And <i>Discussion on the Research Paper</i> , QUIZ 4
7	03/05	Chapter 9, International Trade 02/19

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
15	05/06	Chapter 20, Continued, QUIZ 11
16	05/08	Chapter 21, Economics, Ethics, and Public Policy, QUIZ 12
16	05/13	Review for Final Exam
17	05/17 Friday	FINAL EXAM – 12:15pm – 2:30pm