

**San José State University**  
**Department of Economics**  
**ECON 1A: Principles of Macroeconomics**  
**Section 6, Spring 2020**

**Instructor:**

James (Steve) O'Brien

## **Required Texts/Readings**

Modern Principles: Microeconomics by Tyler Cowen and Alex Tabarrok (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Edition)

This textbook is available for rental as well as purchase from many different sources. I would recommend browsing Amazon. Purchasing the textbook is a requirement for this course, and questions for quizzes and exams will include information from the readings.

## **Other Readings**

I will post or link any additional readings on the Canvas course website.

Canvas: the learning management system will be the central online communication hub for the class. Grades, additional readings and mand

presented both in class and in the textbook. Quizzes will cover both lecture and reading materials.

While attendance is not mandatory, in class quizzes are an important component of your grade. I will not list a schedule of quizzes; they will generally be unannounced “pop” quizzes. Twelve quizzes will be offered, of which, your ten best scores will count toward your grade. These quizzes will be excellent preparation for questions on the midterms and the final exam. If you miss a quiz, I will not be passing out additional copies and there are no opportunities for makeups. I will periodically allow notes to be used for quizzes, but not your textbook or any electronic devices including laptops, phones, and tablets. Please come to class prepared to participate in small group and larger class discussions. I reserve the right to call on you in class at my discretion.

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

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Midterm 1	20%
Midterm 2	20%
Final Exam	30%
Class Activities/Participation	10%
Quizzes	20%

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Your final numerical grade will be the weighted average of your scores in the above categories, and your corresponding letter grade will be assigned as follows:

Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade
97.5% to 100%	A+	93% to 97.49%	A	90% to 92.9%	A-
87.5% to 89.9%	B+	83% to 87.49%	B	80% to 82.9%	B-
77.5% to 79.9%	C+	73% to 77.49%	C	70% to 72.9%	C-
67.5% to 69.9%	D+	63% to 67.49%	D	60% to 62.9%	D-
0% to 59.9%	F				

**To earn GE credit for this course, you must earn a C- or better.**

### **Classroom Protocol**

Please come to class prepared to participate; having completed scheduled readings. Cell phone calls and texts should be conducted outside the classroom. Please quietly excuse yourself from

class to handle calls. Cell phones and all other electronic devices are prohibited from use during exams.

## **University Policies**

## ECON 1A, Fall Course Schedule

### Course Schedule

\*Schedule is subject to change but only with plenty of notice in class and on Canvas

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/23	Introduction and Course Overview
2	1/28	Cowen/Tabarrok (CT) Ch. 1-2, Economic Ideas, Trade, Comparative Advantage
2	1/30	CT Ch. 3 Supply and Demand
3	2/4	CT Ch. 3 Supply and Demand (continued)
3	2/6	CT Ch. 4 Equilibrium and Prices
4	2/11	CT. Ch. 8 Price Ceilings and Floors
4	2/13	CT Ch. 24-25 GDP and Economic Growth
5	2/18	CT Ch. 24-25 GDP and Economic Growth
5	2/20	CT Ch. 28 Unemployment and BDC For Food (1) 21T

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
13	4/16	CT Ch. 35 Fiscal Policy
14	4/21	CT Ch. 34-35 (Continued)
14	4/23	CT Ch. 9 International Trade
15	4/28	CT. Ch. 9 (parts of Ch. 36 International Finance)
15	4/30	Ch. 19-20 Political Economy and Public Choice
16	5/5	Ch. 19-20 (Continued)
16	5/7	Review for Final Exam
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Monday 5/18</b>	<b>9:45AM – 12PM DMH 161</b>