

San José State University
Department of Economics
ECON 1B: Principles of Microeconomics
Section 83 Spring 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	John Linford
Office Location:	Dudley Moorhead Hall (DMH) 219
Cell phone:	(209) 914-0430
Email:	John.Linford01@sjsu.edu (email is preferred)
Office Hours:	M 2:30PM – 4:30PM Pacific Time (or by appointment; online only via Zoom)
Class Days/Time:	Online only
Classroom:	N/A
Prerequisites:	May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1A.
GE/SJSU Studies Category:	D1 (Human Behavior)

Course Format

-person lectures, and it is expected that students watch them in addition to completing the assigned reading(s) each week. While the video lectures will cover many of the same topics as the assigned readings, they will also cover complementary information that will be included in quizzes and exams.

Course Description

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

Course Goals

This course is aimed at helping students think critically not only about economics but also about other political and social issues. Students will use our core concepts, including opportunity cost, the importance of incentives, and the supply and demand model.

GE Learning Outcomes (GELO)

Economics 1B is a general education course that meets the requirements for area D1 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 will be satisfied by students completing a brief writing assignment for each chapter covered in class.

Course Learning Outcomes

x Incentives Matter

Library Liaison (Optional)

The librarian for the Economics Department is Christa Bailey. She can be reached at Christa.Bailey@sjsu.edu or (408) 808-2422.

Course Requirements and Assignments

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. Other course

I **do not** use a grading curve. All grades are rounded to two decimal places. 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 on the next page:

Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade
97.50% - 100.00%	A+	87.50% - 89.99%	B+	77.50% - 79.99%	C+
93.00% - 97.49%	A	83.00% - 87.49%	B	73.00% - 77.49%	C
90.00% - 92.99%	A-	80.00% - 82.99%	B-	70.00% - 72.99%	C-
Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade		
67.50% - 69.99%	D+	0.00% - 59.99%	F		
63.00% - 67.49%	D				
60.00% - 62.99%	D-				

Although Canvas follows the same letter grade assignments, I do not use the Canvas grade as the official course grade due to various issues in how it calculates grades. Instead, I keep my own gradebook on my computer using the weighting and points indicated in this syllabus. Students may ask me for their official course grade at any point during the semester; I will gladly discuss a student's grade during a pre-scheduled meeting, too.

Grading Information

This course must be passed with a C- (70.00%) or better as a CSU graduation requirement.

Course Protocol

Due to the nature of this online course, if a student does not understand a concept or other course material, they are expected to contact me ASAP to resolve the confusion.

Readings come primarily from the textbook, though I will require additional readings occasionally. Additional readings are specified in the schedule included in the syllabus and will be posted in the Additional Readings folder in the Files section of Canvas.

Office hours are held weekly on Mondays from 2:30PM to 4:30PM (Pacific Time). Office hours will be completed using Zoom, which students can access through Canvas. Students are expected to schedule appointments for office hours ahead of time to allow me sufficient time to share relevant meeting access information. I do not make same-day appointments, but I will work to

ECON 1B (Section 83) Spring 2020

Week	Topics and Assignments	Readings	Due Dates
1 (Week of Jan. 20)	- Introduction and syllabus Jan. 23: First day of instruction	x Syllabus	
2 (Week of Jan. 27)	- The Economic Approach - Some Tools of the Economist	x Ch. 1 x Ch. 2	Due Feb. 2 x Quiz #1, #2 on Canvas x WA* #1, #2 on Canvas
3 (Week of Feb. 3)	- Demand, Supply, and the Market Process Feb 4: Last day to drop course w/o W	x Ch. 3 con't x "I, Pencil"	Due Feb. 9 x Quiz #3 on Canvas x WA #3 on Canvas x HW** Ch. 1, 2, 3 on MindTap
4 (Week of Feb. 10)	- Demand and Supply: Applications and Extensions Feb. 11: Last day to add course w/o petition and latefee	x Ch. 4	Due Feb. 16 x Quiz #4 on Canvas x WA #4 on Canvas x HW Ch. 4 on MindTap
5 (Week of Feb. 17)	- Difficult Cases for the Market, and the Role of Gov't	x Ch. 5 x "Burning Money" x "The Island of Stone Money"	

Week	Topics and Assignments	Readings	Due Dates
12 (Week of Apr. 6)	- Price-Searcher Markets w/Low Entry Barriers	x Ch. 10	Due Apr. 12 x Quiz #10 on Canvas x WA #10 on Canvas x HW Ch. 10 on MindTap
13 (Week of Apr. 13)	- Price-Searcher Markets w/High Entry Barriers	x Ch. 11	Due Apr. 19 x Quiz #11 on Canvas x WA #11 on Canvas x HW Ch. 11 on MindTap
14 (Week of Apr. 20)	Midterm Exam 2	Open Notes Open Book	Due Apr. 26 on Canvas
15 (Week of Apr. 27)	- The Supply and Demand for Productive Resources -		