

San José State University
College of Social Sciences
Economics Department
Econ 1B, Principles of Microeconomics
Section 61, Summer 2024

Course and Contact Information

Instructor(s): Ghislaine Lang
Office Location: online
Telephone: (408) 924 5400
Email: Ghislaine.lang@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Zoom by appointment
Class Days/Time: online
Classroom: online

Course Description

Official catalogue description: Allocation of resources and distribution of income as affected by the workings of the price system and by government policies. GE Area: D1
Notes: May be taken concurrently or prior to Econ 1A.

Course Format: asynchronous on-line

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) on [Spartan App Portal](#) (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Master 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)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. *Evaluate and apply the concept of opportunity cost and its impact in real world decisions for households and businesses*
2. *Explain and analyze how firms maximize profits*
3. *Analyze how price are determined in a market economy*

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

You may have noticed that the book for our course is not in the SJSU Bookstore. Here is the information you need to get the book for our class.

Our book:

Modern Principles: Microeconomic, 6th edition

Tyler Cowen and Alex Tabarrok,
Worth Publishers, Macmillan Learning

You will need to register with MacMillan Learning and purchase access to the eBook and Achieve: see info under “modules” → module: "Achieve Access and ebook".

Follow these steps to get started. If you need additional guidance, consult <https://store.macmillanlearning.com/us/content/get-help>

Enroll in this course using one of the following options:

- Select "I want to purchase access" and follow the instructions.
- If you need to start working but can't purchase right away, select "I want temporary access" and follow the instructions. Please note: Your grades are linked to your Achieve account username (email address). If you use temporary access, make sure you purchase or register using the same email address for your paid access.

If you have problems registering, purchasing, or logging in, please <https://mhe.my.site.com/macmillanlearning/s/achieve>

You can reach a representative 7 days a week:

- through the online form
- by chat
- by phone at (800) 936-6899

Your first LearningCurve and the first HW assignments are due on **Wednesday, June 5, at 11:30pm.**

Course Requirements and Assignments

LearningCurve

LearningCurve: you will complete this activity by answering questions until you reach the target score. The target score differs from one chapter to the other, but your grade will be based on how many points you earn.

Once you reach the target score, you receive full credit (a grade of 100%) for completing the activity.

LearningCurve adapts to your level of knowledge; it is a formative, adaptive learning tool that gives you personalized quiz questions on the topics you need the most help with. You can gain or lose points on each question, depending on how confident you judge yourself to be. Questions get harder as you answer more questions correctly, however harder questions are worth more points.

You can continue to improve your score until the due date.

Top 12 grades are used for your LearningCurve/homework average.

Practice questions for each chapter

The questions following each video clip are for practice purposes and do not count toward your class grade.

The videos have closed captions, because I am a slow learner I always open them!

The practice questions (and answer keys where I go over difficult questions) will allow you to continue practicing possible exam questions even after your homework is due.

LearningCurve: you will complete these activities by answering questions until you reach the target score. Due at 11:30pm on the relevant day.

Biweekly quiz: the biweekly practice quiz (Wednesday and Sunday) posted as "homework" consists of 30 - 35 questions. Due at 11:30pm of the relevant day.

You may attempt to take the quiz up to 2 times before the due date. Your grade on the quiz will be your highest score from the two attempts. No late quizzes are accepted and any quizzes that are "in-progress" are automatically submitted at the due date.

You will have ONE LearningCurve assignment per chapter and your final LearningCurve grade is the average of your top 12 quiz grades.

You will have ONE quiz assignment per chapter and your quiz grade is the average of your top 12 quiz grades.

Evaluation

Week 1 (June 3 to June 9)

Wednesday, June 5: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 1

Sunday, June 9: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 2
LearningCurve + quiz chapter 3

Week 2 (June 10 to June 16)

Wednesday, June 12: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 4

Sunday, June 16 LearningCurve + quiz chapter 5
LearningCurve + quiz chapter 6

Week 3 (June 17 to June 23)

Wednesday, June 19: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 8

Sunday, June 23: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 10
LearningCurve + quiz chapter 19

Week 4 (June 24 to June 30)

Wednesday, June 26: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 11

Sunday, June 30: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 13
LearningCurve + quiz chapter 14

Week 5 (July 1 to July 5)

Wednesday, July 3: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 15

Exams: Each exam will cover several chapters. Please choose the best answer for each question. You **do not** get multiple attempts to answer the questions like you do on the quizzes, so please take your time.

Once you begin the exam you will have 45 minutes to answer the multiple choice questions covering the relevant chapter. Don't try to look for the exams. They are only published on their scheduled day.

There will be 3 exams:

Exam 1 (Saturday, June 15) covers ch. 1, 2, 3, and 4

Exam 2 (Saturday, June 29) covers ch. 5, 6, 8, 10 and 19

Exam 3 (Friday, July 5) covers ch. 11, 13, 14 and 15

You are not permitted to use any outside sources when you take the exams.

I will not offer make up exams.

Grade: Group	Weight
LearningCurve:	15%
Quizzes:	25%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3	20%
Total	100%

Letter grade will be assigned as follows:

100% - 97%	A+
96.99% - 93%	A
92.99% - 90%	A-

89.99% - 87%	B+
86.99% - 83%	B
82.99% - 80%	B-
79.99% - 77%	C+
76.99% - 73%	C
72.99% - 70%	C-
69.99% - 67%	D+
66.99% - 63%	D
62.99% - 60%	D-
Below 60%	F

No make ups for ANY test for ANY reason.

Course and Contact Information:

Econ 1B: Principles of Microeconomics

Section: 61

Email: ghislaine.lang@sjsu.edu

I will respond to emails within 24 hours. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to ask.

University Policies

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.

<https://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf>

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](#) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

1B / Principles of Microeconomics

Section 61, Summer 2024

Week/Lesson /Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	
1		<p>Week 1 (June 3 to June 9) <u>Wednesday, June 5</u>: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 1</p> <p><u>Sunday, June 9</u>: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 2 LearningCurve + quiz chapter 3</p>	
2		<p>Week 2 (June 10 to June 16) <u>Wednesday, June 12</u>: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 4</p> <p style="color: #C85130;">Exam 1 (Saturday, June 15) covers ch. 1, 2, 3, and 4</p> <p><u>Sunday, June 16</u> LearningCurve + quiz chapter 5 LearningCurve + quiz chapter 6</p>	
3		<p>Week 3 (June 17 to June 23) <u>Wednesday, June 19</u>: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 8</p> <p><u>Sunday, June 23</u>: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 10 LearningCurve + quiz chapter 19</p>	
4		<p>Week 4 (June 24 to June 30) <u>Wednesday, June 26</u>: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 11</p> <p style="color: #C85130;">Exam 2 (Saturday, June 29) covers ch. 5, 6, 8, 10 and 19</p> <p><u>Sunday, June 30</u>: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 13 LearningCurve + quiz chapter 14</p>	
5		<p>Week 5 (July 1 to July 5) <u>Wednesday, July 3</u>: LearningCurve + quiz chapter 15</p> <p style="color: #C85130;">Exam 3 (Friday, July 5) covers ch. 11, 13, 14 and 15</p>	