

San José State University
Department of Economics
ECON 1B, Principles of Economics: Microeconomics, Section 10 and 11,
Fall 2025

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Fahmida Fakhruddin, Ph.D.
Email:	fahmida.fakhruddin@sjsu.edu Email is preferred and the best way to contact me. I will respond to emails within 24-48 business hours. (Remember to write “Econ 1B-10 or something similar, together with the topic of the email)” You can also use the Canvas Inbox.
Office Location	DMH 214
Office Hours:	Tuesdays and Thursdays before class (8 AM to 8:50 AM) and zoom meeting by appointment only
Class Days/Time:	Tuesdays and Thursdays/Section 10: 9 AM to 10:15 AM and Section 11: 12 PM to 1:15 PM
Classroom:	Section 10: DMH 165 Section 11: HGH 116
Canvas Course Page:	sjsu.instructure.com
Prerequisites:	There are no course prerequisites. May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1A

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)

Course Format

This course adopts a completely synchronous delivery format with designated day/time meeting pattern. Reliable internet connectivity and a computer or laptop with **webcam** and **microphone** are required for the course.

MYSJSU Messaging and Canvas

Course materials such as syllabus, Norton Smartwork5 access, videos, resources, handouts, grades, messages regarding the class can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). This will be your “**one stop shop**” for this class. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) to learn of any updates. Please set your Canvas notification preferences to daily (note that the default setting is weekly notification). Please check Canvas “Announcements” for any updates as well as reminders for assignments. See [University Policy F13-2](#) for more details.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Dirk Mateer & Lee Coppock, **PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS**, 4th edition, Norton

Paperback ISBN: 978-1-324-03415-5

You will also **need access to the online homework system- SmartWork5**. Here is how to obtain access to the book and homework system:

- By purchasing a new copy of *Principles of Microeconomics* from the campus bookstore which will contain an activation code for accessing the online homework system .
- By purchasing a copy of the ebook here: <https://digital.wwnorton.com/prinecomi4> which will contain an activation code for accessing the online homework system.
- By purchasing standalone homework access here (if you have a used copy of the book): <https://digital.wwnorton.com/prinecomi4>

Other Readings and Multimedia

Online articles

Online videos

Online assessments

All other will be available at free of charge on the Canvas course site.

Class Philosophy

Some of you start classes feeling isolated and lost but not in our class! This class is a community and each of you is part of the community. We all have the same objective: to learn. This class is designed to have you learn in community with your peers. When you're a member of a community, you can rely upon others for help and

support when you need it, but you must also be willing to step up and contribute regularly, as well! Let's work together to make this semester awesome for everyone!

Technology requirements / equipment / material

REQUIRED: Reliable internet connectivity, Computer/Laptop/Tablet with webcam and microphone, Canvas LMS access, and Smartwork5. [SJSU's technology loan program](#) provides resources for computer equipment and software.

Canvas

Canvas is the “hub” for the course and will house all communication, content, activities, assignments, grades, and Smartwork5. Check out all of the [Canvas student resources](#).

Smartwork5

Smartwork5 contains course specific content and is integrated with Canvas for single sign-on access. You are, at a minimum, required to have access to Smartwork5. You can choose to purchase a print text which will give access to Smartwork5 or to purchase an ebook which will give access to Smartwork5 as well. You may choose to buy a standalone Smartwork5 access if you would like to buy a used book. **Please note that you don't need to buy access to InQuizitive.**

Course Requirements

As this class is a three-unit class, successful students should expect to spend about 135 hours throughout the session, including reading, preparing for class, participating in course activities, and so on. *More details can be found from [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](#).*

It is expected that you will attend classes and participate in class discussion, take quizzes, midterm, and final exam, and submit the term paper.

Course Assignments and Grading

Your grade will depend on the following assignments:

Smartwork5 Quiz	25%
Mid-term 1	20%
Mid-term 2	20%
Final Exam	25%
Term Paper	10%

Converting number grades to letter grades:

97-100	A plus	93-96	A	90-92	A minus
87-89	B plus	83-86	B	80-82	B minus
77-79	C plus	73-76	C	70-72	C minus
67-69	D plus	63-66	D	60-62	D minus

<60	F	
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I totally understand the stress of getting good grades. To avoid this stress, please try to do your work on time. If you need help on an assignment, don't wait . Contact me or one of your peers as soon as you can. No worries, we all will work together for your success in this class.

Class Attendance and Participation

Attendance and active participation in class are expected and required. Learning material is directly correlated with attending class. Also, the more you attend, the better you will perform on tests.

Class discussion is important for both individual and collective learning. Your active participation is as critical for your learning as mere attendance is.

SmartWork5 Quiz

Approximately 10 quizzes will be given during the semester to reinforce the key course concepts. The quizzes will build on the material discussed in the class. You will have unlimited attempt for the quiz. I do not recommend missing quizzes, as they will cover important material that will be on midterm and final exams.

Midterm and Final

The course consists of two midterms and one final exam. Midterm and final exam will cover material presented in class and will be similar to the practice problems and quiz questions. The final exam will be comprehensive. All exams will be closed book and closed note. There will be practice exams before each exam.

Term Paper

Each student will choose a topic upon instructor's approval to write a term paper as per the GE writing requirement. The purpose of this paper is to get each of you to engage with microeconomic issue by using online economics resources. More detail information will be provided and be available on canvas.

Classroom Protocol

- Please come to class prepared and on time.
- Turn your cell phone off during class sessions.
- Cheating will not be tolerated. Copying another student's work or using an external source of information for which you were not explicitly given permission during an exam will result in disciplinary action. This disciplinary action might include anything from receiving zero points on the exam to an F in the class.

Technical Support for Canvas

Email: ecampus@sjsu.edu

Phone: (408) 924-2337

<http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/>

Communication Policy

What You Can Expect From Me

I will be an active participant in this course and will be with you on the journey through the entire semester. You can expect that I will:

- Communicate with you via Announcements, Canvas Inbox messages, grading feedback, and/or class discussion
- Respond to all student questions within 48 hours
- Provide grades within 1 week of the due date

Late Policy

Plan on submitting work on time.

Every assignment has a due date, and a deadline for submissions. Participants are expected to submit assignments on or before the assigned due date, which, in turn, allows me time to review your work and provide meaningful feedback. Due dates have been designed in the course to ensure time is provided to allow you to produce your best work.

Because time management is challenging, deadlines might not be met. But, you're in luck. Late submissions will be accepted with a penalty. Late assignments will be accepted up to 10 days with a 5% penalty per day.

Don't want the penalty?

If you recognize a due date might be a problem, advocate for your success by following these steps:

1. Identify the problem
2. Contact me to propose a solution
3. Let's negotiate

Statement Regarding Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The World Economic Forum defines generative AI as “a category of artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms that generate new outputs based on the data they have been trained on. Unlike traditional AI systems that are designed to recognize patterns and make predictions, generative AI creates new content in the form of images, text, audio, and more.”

Some examples of generative AI tools include but are not limited to: ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Microsoft Copilot, Stable Diffusion, GrammarlyGo, and Adobe Firefly.

No Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Allowed

In this class, all work submitted must be your own. The use of generative AI tools will be considered academic misconduct and will be treated as such. If you are unsure if the tool or website you are using is a generative AI tool, please contact the instructor for further clarification before using the tool or website.

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, 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](#), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](#).

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

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 21	Syllabus
2	Aug 26- Aug 28	Introduction, Chapter 1, The Power of Trade and Comparative Advantage, Chapter 2
3	Sep 02- Sep 04	Demand and Supply, Chapter 3, Quiz 1
4	Sep 09- Sep 11	Demand and Supply continued, Chapter 3, Quiz 2
5	Sep 16- Sep 18	Elasticity, Chapter 4, Quiz 3
6	Sep 23- Sep 25	Market Outcomes and Tax Incidence, Chapter 5, Quiz 4
7	Sep 30- Oct 02	Price Ceilings and Floors, Chapter 6, Review for Midterm 1
8	Oct 07- Oct 09	Midterm 1 on Tuesday, October 7 , Costs of Production and Factors of Production, Chapter 8
9	Oct 14- Oct 16	Costs of Production and Factors of Production continued, Chapter 8, Cost and Profit Maximization under Perfect Competition, Chapter 9, Discussion of midterm 1, Quiz 5
10	Oct 21- Oct 23	Cost and Profit Maximization under Perfect Competition continued, Chapter 9, Quiz 6
11	Oct 28- Oct 30	Monopoly, Chapter 10, Quiz 7
12	Nov 04- Nov 06	Price Discrimination and Pricing Strategy, Chapter 11, Monopolistic Competition and Advertising, Chapter 12, Quiz 8
13	Nov 11- Nov 13	Oligopoly, Chapter 13, Review for Midterm 2, Quiz 9
14	Nov 18- Nov 20	Midterm 2 on Tuesday, November 18 , Externalities and Public Goods, Chapter 7
15	Nov 25- Nov 27	Discussion of midterm 2 , No Class-Thanksgiving Holiday on November 27
16	Dec 02- Dec 04*	Final Draft of Term Paper Due on December 2 , Review for Final
17 and 18	Dec 11- Dec 16	Final Exam Section 10: Thursday, December 11, 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM Section 11: Tuesday, December 16, 10:45 AM to 12:45 PM

* Last class meeting