

**San José State University**  
**Econ 1A-11 – Principles of Macroeconomics**  
**Spring, 2018**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Don Crooks
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<b>Email:</b>	don.crooks@sjsu.edu
<b>Office Hours:</b>	TTH 3:45 to 4:15
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	TTH 4:30 to 5:45
<b>Classroom:</b>	DMH 357
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Math remediation completed or a post baccalaureate.
<b>GE/SJSU Studies Category:</b>	Area D1: Social Science, Human Behavior
<b>Course Fees:</b>	We use an OpenStax textbook available online for no fee. However, students are required to register for Sapling, the online component of this course, for which there is a one time \$40 fee for the semester. See below for details.

**Course Description**

**Official Catalogue Description:** Determination of economic aggregates such as total output, total employment, the price level and the rate of economic growth. Notes: May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1B.

**Course and Student Learning Objectives:**

- Comparative Advantage (specialization and the gains from trade, globalization)
- Macroeconomic Measures (real versus nominal calculations, components and concept of GDP; components and concept of unemployment figures, calculation of inflation)
- Macroeconomic Models (circular flow; monetary and fiscal policy; the market for loanable funds & interest rate determination; the demand and supply of money & price level determination)

**Assessment:** Students' achievement of these objectives will be assessed based upon their performance on Sapling assignments, quizzes, exams, and classroom activities as discussed below.

**My Comments:** This is an interesting time to be studying economics. From time to time we will take time to discuss current events from an economic perspective. You are encouraged to keep up with general, business, and financial news, and bring your questions, opinions, and ideas to class.

### **Required Texts/Other Course Requirements**

**Textbook:** OpenStax, *Principles of Macroeconomics*, ICBN-13: 978-1-938168-25-3. Accessable online through OpenStax at no charge: <https://openstax.org/details/books/principles-macroeconomics>. You will also be able to access the text through Sapling Learning once you have created an account through Canvas. I recommend obtaining a hardcopy of the text. They are available through OpenStax, the Spartan Bookstore, or elsewhere for \$25 to \$50 or less.

**Canvas:** You will need to register for Canvas, which is free for all SJSU students. Instructions for enrolling in Canvas are available through the mySJSU web site. You will need to be registered for Canvas to obtain access to Sapling Learning, the online learning component of the course.

**Sapling:** Once you have access to Canvas go to this course on Canvas. You will see a link for Sapling Homework under the Course Documents Module. That link will take you to the registration page for Sapling.

- For initial registration, Sapling Learning must be accessed through that link. After logging in the first time using this link, you will be able to log in to subsequent sessions from Canvas or from the Sapling Learning home page.
- If you already have a Sapling account, enter your username and password in the login box. If the login box is disabled, scroll down to the Create an Account portion of the page, fill in the missing info and click Create My Account.
- Once registered you will have been automatically enrolled into the appropriate homework course on Sapling Learning and will be directed to your course page.
- No key code is needed for your course.
- Review the [system requirements](#) and confirm that Flash is updated and enabled in your browser.

**Other equipment / material requirements:** Internet access is required to complete Sapling homework and turn in other assignments. An inexpensive calculator will be useful for class activities, quizzes, and exams. Devices with internet connectivity will not be allowed during quizzes and exams. **You will also need standard Scantrons for the mid-terms and final exam.**

### **Classroom Protocol**

Students are expected to be on time, be attentive, and be involved. Attendance will be taken. Phones are to be turned off or set to silent alarm. If you need to enter or leave during class, please do so as unobtrusively as possible. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Repeated violations of these policies may result in a reduced grade or other appropriate actions.

### **Assignments and Grading Policy**

**Reading:** My lectures assume you have read the assigned chapter in the text before it is covered in class. **Stay current in your reading.** It will help you understand the lectures and you will find that it is difficult to catch up if you get behind.

**Sapling:** You are responsible for completing the Sapling assignments by the deadlines listed on the attached schedule and the Canvas home page. Generally, assignments are due before the class following the first day it is covered in class.

**Testing:** There will be periodic quizzes, two midterms, and a cumulative final exam as shown on the attached schedule. **You will need Scantrons for the two midterms and the final exam,** but not for the quizzes.

**Classroom Activities:** There may be periodic classroom activities which might not be announced in advance. Although they may be group activities, each student will be responsible for turning in hand written reports by the end of class.

**Grading:** All activities will be graded on a curve as follows; 100-97 A+, 97-93 A, 93-90 A-, 90-87 B+, 87-83 B, 83-80 B, 80-77 C+, 77-73 C, 73-70 C-, 70-67 D+, 67-63 D, 63-60 D-, and less than 60 F. **Missed activities receive a grade of 50.** Your final grade will be weighted as follows:

<b><u>Activity:</u></b>	<b><u>Weight</u></b>
Quizzes & Activities	25%
Sapling Assignments	25%
Midterms	25%
Final Exam	25%

**Extra Credit:** There will be a limited number of extra credit opportunities during the semester. The Economics Department sponsors three Provocative Lectures

each semester. You may attend up to three lectures (indicated by signing an attendance sheet available at the event) and receive 1/2 extra credit point for each lecture attended. You may also write a 300 to 500-word report on your reaction to the the lecture for an additional 1/2 extra credit point. The schedule of lectures has not yet been determined, but will be announced in class when available.

You may earn a maximum of 3 extra points in this manner. **Each extra credit point will be worth an additional point added on to your final grade.** There may be other extra credit activities announced during the semester for a maximum of 3 extra credit points during the semester.

### **Attendance and Missed Assignments**

**Attendance** per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading per Academic Policy F-69-24. However, regular attendance is **strongly** recommended.

**Missed exams cannot be made up unless you have a valid, documented reason** (e.g., serious medical condition). You must notify me by email as soon as you are aware of a condition that will cause you to miss an exam. Any make-up exams will not be identical to the missed exam.

**Missed, quizzes, class activities, and Sapling assignments cannot be made up except under extraordinary circumstances.** However, I will drop your two lowest grades from the Sapling Component and your two grades from the Quizzes & Activities component when figuring out your final grade.

### **University Policies**

#### **Workload Expectations**

Students are expected to spend **12 hours a week preparing for a four-unit course**, including time in class. The precise language that defines the requirements for a unit of credit can be found here: <http://www.calstate.edu/acadAff/codedmemos/AA-2011-14.pdf> .

#### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [current academic calendar](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/) web page located at [http://www.sjsu.edu/academic\\_programs/calendars/academic\\_calendar/](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/> . Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

## **Academic integrity**

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

**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. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

## **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

## **Peer Connections**

The Peer Connections is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. Peer Connections is the new campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring. Students are encouraged to take advantage of these services which are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. Visit the Peer Connections website at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.