

SACRAMENTO STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
FALL 2007

ECON 1B: INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMIC ANALYSIS

PROFESSOR:	Jessica Howell	CLASS MEETINGS:	T,R 12:00 – 1:15 pm, MRP 1001
OFFICE:	Tahoe 3013		T,R 3:00 – 4:15 pm, MRP 1001
PHONE:	(916) 278-5588	OFFICE HOURS:	T,R 1:45 – 2:45 pm or email
E-MAIL:	jhowell@csus.edu		to arrange an appointment
WEBSITE:	www.csus.edu/indiv/h/howellj	APLIA WEBSITE:	http://econ.aplia.com

Course Description An introductory microeconomic analysis of the workings of supply and demand in the determination of price, resource allocation, and distribution. Markets are analyzed as they affect economic efficiency and the distribution of income.
3 units.

Required On-line Account (Aplia) All students are required to register for an Aplia account at <http://econ.aplia.com> using the Course Key **7GKG-94LX-6ECJ**. All course materials, including textbook, announcements, practice problems, homework assignments, and homework submission will occur through this on-line account. There is a \$60 fee for the semester that you pay directly to Aplia through their website.

Electronic Textbook (Aplia) *Microeconomics: A Contemporary Introduction* by McEachern, 7th edition
Electronic access to this textbook is **included** in the \$60 Aplia fee.

Paper Textbook (Optional) If you have a strong preference for a hardcopy of the textbook, you may order one directly through Aplia for \$50 or procure a used copy of the current or a previous edition through various websites. The bookstore also carries this textbook bundled with the online access. I've provided ISBN numbers below for recent editions to assist you in ordering from other vendors. Note that one of the more recent editions will suffice if you don't mind figuring out the differences in page numbering, but they **do not** come with access to Aplia.

7th edition (copyright 2006): ISBN = 0324288662 (Green cover)

6th edition (copyright 2002): ISBN = 0324072937 or

ISBN = 0324178093 (Blue cover)

5th edition (copyright 1999): ISBN = 0538888482 (Multi-colored cover)

Additionally, there is a copy of the 6th edition of this textbook on reserve at the CSUS Library Reserve Desk.

Grading	Homework	80 points	(or 20% of final grade)
	Exam I	100 points	(or 25% of final grade)
	Exam II	100 points	(or 25% of final grade)
	Comprehensive Final Exam	120 points	(or 30% of final grade)

The actual letter grade you earn in this course will be based on a grading scale to be determined *after* the final exam. This scale may or may not resemble the 10-point scale that many of you are used to (*e.g.*, 90-100% is some sort of A, 80-89% is some sort of B, etc...) because I reserve the right to curve. I will provide feedback over the semester on how to interpret your raw homework and exam scores so that you know how you are progressing in the course.

NOTE ON THE CONTENT OF THIS COURSE SYLLABUS

I view the information on this syllabus as a contract between me and my students. I try to be very clear about my expectations and policies so that everyone knows the basic rules and we all go home happy every Tuesday and Thursday and, ultimately, at the end of the semester. Please read the following carefully.

Attendance

Attendance at lecture is left up to your discretion, although I obviously believe that spending 2½ hours with me each week will have a positive effect on how much you learn and your final grade. I will not take roll, but that does not mean that I am without eyes and the ability to observe who is there on a regular basis and who is not.

Homework Assignments

In order to complete the homework assignments during this course, you will be required to access a website dedicated to students and professors of economics called Aplia. I have attached an instruction sheet for the Aplia registration process. Please register during the first week of class. **There are already multiple assignments posted, one of which is DUE THIS WEEK.** There is a grace period (through 09/24/2007) during which you can use the site for free, so please register even if you are not ready to pay. If you have questions or problems concerning Aplia, please contact me immediately.

Because technical difficulties or unforeseeable circumstances may occasionally interfere with your ability to submit assignments by their due date, I will drop your lowest homework score before calculating your total homework average. Please spend this “**free pass**” wisely; there are no other get-out-of-jail-free options. The remaining Aplia assignments (those not dropped) will receive equal weight in your homework grade. **All graded Aplia assignments are due by 11:00 pm on the evening of the stated deadline.** The Aplia system will not allow you to submit or change graded assignments after the stated deadline and, therefore, neither will I.

Exams

The exam dates listed below are carved in stone. Put them in your calendar immediately because there are no makeup exams and very few acceptable excuses for missing one. Acceptable excuses include a death in the family, a University-sponsored event or excursion, or a serious illness documented by a doctor. You are responsible for bringing a scantron form (882-E), a pencil, and a non-cell-phone calculator to all exams. Exams are all closed-book, closed-note, and closed-friend/neighbor.

EXAM SCHEDULE

Exam I	Thursday October 11, 2007	(in class)
Exam II	Tuesday November 20, 2007	(in class)
Comprehensive Final Exam	Tuesday December 18, 2007	
	• <i>Section 7 (12:00 class)</i>	<i>12:45 – 2:45</i>
	• <i>Section 10 (3:00 class)</i>	<i>3:00 – 5:00</i>

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS

- If you choose to attend, I do request that you **be on time**. If you arrive late, please come in quietly, settle quickly, and at least muster an apologetic expression for me. It is your responsibility to get any material that you miss. I will not provide lecture notes under any circumstances, so I recommend that you find a study-buddy in the class. Any handouts distributed in class will also be posted on the Aplia class website, so check there frequently.
- Please make sure that all cell phones and pagers are shut off during lecture. At a minimum, put these devices in silent mode and refrain from answering calls/pages/text messages during class.
- If you have a physical or learning disability that requires accommodation, please let me know as soon as possible and contact Services to Students with Disabilities at (916) 278-6955 to get the proper documentation well in advance of the first exam.
- Don't cheat. Neither of us really wants to have to deal with this situation, but my job is to teach you economics and then give you a grade that reflects your knowledge of the subject. If you cheat, you force me to assume that you know zero, and that is precisely the grade you will get. Additionally, all instances of cheating and/or plagiarism will be reported to Judicial Affairs. All students are expected to adhere to the University Student Code of Conduct outlined in the *CSUS University Policy Manual*. Please read the policy manual carefully at www.csus.edu/admbus/umannual/UMAN00150.htm.
- It is useful to clarify the difference between acceptable group study and unacceptable sponging off of your unsuspecting neighbor. **I encourage you to work together on assigned practice problems and even graded homework assignments, although every student is responsible for submitting his/her own answers to each graded assignment in order to receive credit.**
- When you begin to feel lost, **BE PROACTIVE!!** In a large class, I have very limited ability to catch your look of confusion and ask where I'm losing you. I am more than happy to entertain questions during lecture and encourage you to use email and my office hours to get your questions answered. I think I am actually quite helpful in office hours and via email, but only if you show up or contact me. I don't read minds or make house calls.

- I am interested in your feedback and would prefer *not* to rely on the seven generic and basically useless evaluation questions that I am only able to read *after* the semester is already over. I am happy to listen to suggestions and criticisms in person or via email, but if you feel uncomfortable telling me what you really think, I've set up an anonymous feedback form on my website at www.csus.edu/indiv/h/howellj/econ1b/overview.htm. Yes, it's really anonymous.
- **GE Area: D1A.** This course meets the GE writing requirement through brief written response questions on in-class exercises and/or on examinations. You will find that economics develops your analytical skills and the resulting analyses may involve graphical solutions, mathematical solutions, written responses, or some combination of the above. Success in this course requires that you work on all of these skills.



Student Registration and Payment Instructions

Course Name: McEachern Micro Assignments, Fall 07, Howell

Start Date: 09/04/2007

Professor: Jessica S Howell

Course Key: 7GKG-94LX-6ECJ

You can begin working on your homework as soon as you register!

- In this course, you will use a textbook and Aplia's website.
- You will save money if you buy these together.
- You have two purchase options.
- **Do not postpone registration because you are not ready to pay.** You will have free access to Aplia and the electronic textbook during a grace period that ends 09/24/2007.

Registration

Registration Instructions

1. Connect to <http://www.aplia.com>.
2. Click the **System Configuration Test** link below the **Sign In** and **Register** sections to make sure you can access all of the features on Aplia's website. This takes just a few seconds and tells you how to update your browser settings if necessary.
3. Return to <http://www.aplia.com>.
 - If you have never used Aplia before, click the **New Student** button and enter your Course Key: **7GKG-94LX-6ECJ**. Continue following the instructions to complete your registration.
 - If you have used Aplia before, sign in with your usual e-mail address and password and enter your Course Key when prompted: **7GKG-94LX-6ECJ**. If you are not prompted for a new Course Key, click the **Enter Course Key** button to enroll in a new Aplia course. Enter your Course Key when you are prompted.
4. If you understand your payment options, pay now. Otherwise, postpone your purchase decision by choosing the option to pay later. Your payment grace period ends at the end of the day on 09/24/2007.

Payment

Option A: Pay Aplia Directly

- Purchase access to your course directly from Aplia on our website for \$60.00 USD. The website includes:
 - Access to an online copy of your textbook.
 - Content that has been customized for your textbook and course.
- If you decide you would also like a physical textbook, you can order one from Aplia for \$50.00 USD plus \$7.50 for shipping and handling.***

Option B: Purchase at Bookstore

- Purchase a bundle from your school's bookstore, which includes:
 - An Aplia Access Card containing a Payment Code that you can enter on Aplia's website as payment for your Aplia course.
 - A physical textbook. ***

*** See first page of syllabus for cheaper ways of acquiring a paper copy of the textbook.