

# ECONOMICS 1: MICROECONOMICS, FALL 2021

All Lectures are T-Th  
All Discussion sections are on Mondays

In-person lectures: GA Auditorium: 12:30-1:50pm and 3:30-4:50pm  
Remote Class: 5:10-6:30pm (click the “Zoom LTI PRO” link on Canvas)

Students are welcome to attend any lecture (or watch the recording) **except on exam days**.  
You will take exams with your scheduled class

## *Instructor:*

Dr. Melissa Famulari

*email:* mfamulari@ucsd.edu

*Remote Office Hours:* Friday 1-4:00pm  
(click “Zoom LTI PRO” link on Canvas)

*Graduate TAs* and their office hours, all remote through Zoom (click “Zoom LTI PRO” link on Canvas)

## Tuesday Office Hours:

Christian Bechler, T 8-10am

Steven Ye (T 10am-noon)

Steven Brownstone, T 6:30-8:30pm

## Wednesday Office Hours:

Malte Lammert, W 8-10am

Vincent Armentano, W 9-11am

Rohini Ray, W 11am-1pm

Frederick Papazyan, W 3-5pm

Jordan Mosqueda-Juarez, W 5-7pm

## Thursday Office Hours:

Diana Martinez, Th 8:30-10:30am

Molly Shatto, Th 10:30-11:30

Ali Uppal or Jianan Yang Th 6:30-8:30pm

## Friday Office Hours:

Emily Fallick, F 10am-noon

Angela Yutong Gu, F 9-11am

## *Undergraduate TAs:*

Khang Nguyen, Th 5-7pm

Zijun (Sibyl) Lin, W 3-5pm

Ashley Tavana, T 11-1pm

## *Supplemental Instruction Leaders*

Nathan Chu

Stephanie Nguyen

*Prerequisites:* None, but I will be presenting every topic verbally, graphically and algebraically. Refreshing your graphing and algebra skills will help you do your best in Econ 1.

*Course Objectives:* As the first class in economics, Econ 1 is designed to help you understand why individuals interact in market settings. You will learn how the demand for and supply of a product is determined as well as how equilibrium in a market occurs. You will do a deep dive into how individuals make consumption choices, how firms behave under perfect competition and why perfectly competitive markets lead to efficient outcomes. You will learn about labor markets which will help you identify the effects of the minimum wage and the factors contributing to income inequality. Finally, you will learn about international trade and be able to determine the winners and losers from trade.

## *Course Materials:*

### *Required Material:*

Frank, Robert H., Ben S. Bernanke, Kate Antonovics and Ori Heffetz (2018), *Principles of Economics*, 8<sup>th</sup> edition, McGraw-Hill Irwin.

- If you order the book through Canvas, you have access to the 8<sup>th</sup> edition e-book for 5 years. You will also get a Connect Access Code (Connect is a homework testing system) good for 540 days. The e-book plus a Connect Access code costs \$105.39.
- I am not using Connect to assign grades this fall. Professor Valerie Ramey, the instructor for Econ 3 in the winter is also not using Connect to assign grades. (I will check with the winter Econ 2 and spring Econ 3 instructors.) This means you will likely be able to find the textbook for cheaper (on McGraw-Hill's web site, the ebook is \$55 for 1 year access).
- You have time to decide: you can use the book for free for two weeks you make your decision. I definitely recommend reading your textbooks, all classes! Further, the Provost of 7<sup>th</sup> College, Professor Kate Antonovics, is one of the authors as is Ben Bernanke, former Fed Chairman.

*Additional Useful Material:*

- (1) A free online textbook written by Preston McAfee when he was at CalTech <http://www.introecon.com/> is at a level between Econ 1 and 100A. Preston has been chief economist for Google (where he is now), Microsoft, and Yahoo. Update is here: <https://www.kellogg.northwestern.edu/faculty/dale/ieav21.pdf>
- (2) [Core Econ](#): I like this web site for learning economics!
- (3) [Khan Academy](#): Sal does a good job both math and microeconomics. I also love his Mindset videos!

*Course Modifications for COVID-19:* We are still in the middle of the global, COVID-19 pandemic, which has required dramatic changes to how we teach and learn.

*Lecture:*

- *In-person classes at 12:30 and at 3:30pm:* I am so happy to be returning to the classroom!
  - It is very important that we keep each other safe. Please wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth at all times (except for short hydration breaks). Watch video message from your AS President: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNxpHtkdOEg>
  - If you feel sick at all, please do not come to the in-person class that day, *even if it is an exam day!* More on this below. Instead, attend the live remote class (5:10-6:30 pm, Zoom link on Canvas) or watch the recording of the remote class (on Canvas in the Media Gallery).
  - Please ask questions! You can ask questions by raising your hand in class or by asking on Discord. Discord joining link: <https://discord.gg/5kZpBu44zr>
- *Live Remote class from 5:10-6:30pm:*
  - **Note the 10 minute time change!** I moved one of my back-to-back classes to remote to accommodate those that cannot make it to campus. I have a live lecture that ends at 4:50 and I need 15-20 minutes to pack up, make it to my office and set up for remote teaching. On left hand side of Canvas class, click "Zoom LTI PRO" and click on the Zoom link to join class.
- *Lecture Recording:* The remote class will be recorded and made available to all Econ 1 students on Canvas in the Media Gallery.

*Discussion Sessions:* Mondays for one hour starting at 10am through 7pm (except 1pm which has no discussion section). Discussions are mandatory and are conducted by your TAs who are all graduate students in our Economics PhD program. They will work through problem sets, answer your questions regarding lectures or the textbook (you can also ask them about graduate school if that is a path that you are considering!) and prepare you to take the online quizzes which open most Monday nights at 7pm.

*Office Hours:* Do you have questions about the book, lecture, problem sets, or a quiz or exam question? We can help! Did you not do as well as you expected on an exam? We can help! Come to office hours! All are remote, click "Zoom LTI PRO" and click on the Zoom link to join office hours.

*Canvas:* This is where you access the syllabus, class handouts, your grades, homework assignments,

Gradescope, Piazza, etc. Monday quizzes will also be found on Canvas.

### **Additional Help for Econ 1 Students provided by the Teaching and Learning Commons!**

(1) *Supplemental Instruction Study Groups*: There will be collaborative study session facilitated by your supplemental instruction leaders, Nathan Chu and Stephanie Nguyen. Learn more about Supplemental Instruction [here](#). To join a Zoom session, go to the link provided to you by the Academic Achievement Hub through email. Zoom sessions are not recorded.

Nathan	Friday	3:30pm - 4:50pm	TLC 1504
	Tuesday	11:00am - 12:20pm	Zoom
	Wednesday	3:00pm - 4:20pm	Zoom
Stephanie	Thursday	10:00am - 11:20pm	Zoom
	Tuesday	1:00pm - 2:20pm	Zoom

(2) *Econ 1 one-on-one tutoring*: For more information and to sign up, see [Content Tutors](#).

### **EXAM Proctoring:**

- 12:30 and 3:30 in-person classes: exams will be in-person (pandemic allowing!). As part of my efforts to maintain integrity, I will assign seats for all exams. Seats assignments are posted on Canvas an hour before the exam. If you do not sit in your assigned seat, I will deduct 5% of the points on the exam. If you do not know your seat and ask the instructional team, I will deduct 1% of the points on the exam. If you are not cleared for campus on exam day, let us know *before the test*. We will provide a remote testing option if you feel well enough to take the exam.
- *5:00pm class, Remote Exam Proctoring*: Proctoring in the remote environment is challenging. I believe that having you proctor yourself via a Zoom recording that you submit on Canvas at the end of the test provides the best balance of maintaining integrity and your privacy. On Canvas, I have detailed instructions about how to proctor yourself via Zoom. There are a lot of steps for you to convince me that you took your exam with integrity! So, we will practice this proctoring method for the prerequisite quiz so that you are ready to create your proctoring video for your midterms and final exam.
  - Please e-mail me if this proctoring method will not work for you and we will come up with an alternative method to maintain integrity of your exam.
  - Note: Your proctoring video will be in *your* MyMedia on Canvas and so you control access to your video at all times. *Please delete your proctoring videos at the end of the course.*
  - **I reserve the right to give an oral test if I feel it is necessary to uphold academic integrity.** The length of an oral test is typically 30 minutes but may be longer if I feel it is necessary to assess your knowledge

**Stay Honest:** Even good students can be tempted to cheat. Here are tips to support you <https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/take-action/covid-19-students.html>

*Assessment:* There are 1000 points in the class. There will be six quizzes (math quiz plus 5 online quizzes) and I will drop your lowest score. Your top 5 quizzes will account for 100 points. There will be two midterm exams on worth a total of 500 points. I will down-weight the lower midterm score to 200 points (multiply your lowest

midterm score by 200/250) and upweight the higher midterm score to 300 points (multiply your score by 300/250). The final exam will be cumulative and worth 400 points.

Note: There are three opportunities for extra credit! (These points are added after the grade distribution is set, so they can help you but will not harm your grade if you do not do them.)

- Before November 18: I will award a 10 point bonus to anyone who e-mails econ1@ucsd.edu a news article that I discuss in class or post on our web page (look for relevant articles from a reputable source—local newspaper, WSJ, Economist, etc.)
- Before December 5: I will award a 10 point bonus to the top 25% of “good answerers” on the Piazza Discussion board
- Finally, you can earn up to 20 bonus points by taking two surveys during this quarter as a part of an independent study being run by a graduate student at UCSD. For each survey, you will receive 2 points for opening the survey and 8 points for completing it. The link for the first survey will be available through a Canvas assignment on 10/04 and the link for the second survey will be available on 11/08. For further information about the study please refer to the study description at the end of the syllabus. If you wish to opt out of participation in this study, please fill out this form <https://forms.gle/x42m96FsxD7hXjd7>. If you have any questions about this study, please contact Anjali Pai at [a1pai@ucsd.edu](mailto:a1pai@ucsd.edu).

*Homework:* It is very important that you keep up with the course and that you practice solving economic problems. Here are the incentives we give you for keeping up.

1. Online quizzes on Canvas most weeks: Graded on the percent of questions you answer correctly. There will be 6 and your lowest score is automatically dropped. Except for the Quiz 1: Math prerequisite which will be given in class on Tuesday 9/28, quizzes will be open from 8pm Monday to 12:30pm on Tuesday. Once you open the quiz, you have one hour to complete it (so be sure to start before 11:30am on Tuesday!) The ONLY resources you may use to complete the quizzes are your class and discussion notes, the textbook and my recorded lectures.
2. *Problem Sets:* Available on Saturday and answers posted the following Saturday. The Graduate TAs will go through these problems in discussion sections.

### ***Administrative Issues:***

- Students requesting accommodations for this course due to a disability must provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter (paper or electronic) issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (<https://osd.ucsd.edu/students/>) Students are required to discuss accommodation arrangements with instructors and OSD liaisons in the department in advance of any exams or assignments.
- Any student who violates UC San Diego’s academic integrity policy will earn a failing grade for Econ 1. In addition, the Council of Deans of Student Affairs will impose a disciplinary penalty.
- Remote Exam Proctoring
  - a. You may not use the restroom during exams. The midterms are only 80 minutes. However the final exam is 3 hours. So, the final exam will be in two parts and we will have a restroom break between parts. Please let me know as soon as possible if this restroom policy will create a problem for you.
  - b. You must show your UCSD STUDENT ID at the midterms and final.
  - c. You may only use a pen/pencil and a straight edge (e.g., a ruler, your student ID) during exams. Exams are closed book and you may not use any notes, calculator, etc.
  - d. Grading concerns. We are using Gradescope for exam grading. If you believe there is a grading mistake on a question, let us know within one week of the exam being returned.

- i. If the TA agrees that there is a grading mistake on a question, it will be corrected immediately.
- ii. If the TA disagrees that there is a grading mistake on a question, we will deduct two points from your midterm exam and 5 points from the final exam.

Additional UCSD Support Services:

- Basic Needs: [The Hub](#)
- Technical Support: [IT Service Desk](#)
- Mental Health and Wellbeing: [CAPS](#)
- Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs: [student success resources](#)
- Teaching + Learning Commons: [services for students](#)
- UC San Diego Libraries: [services and resources](#)
- [TritonLink](#): find student services and support

Week	Text (pages)	Topic
Week 0: 9/20	Chapter 1 (1-19) Appendix 1 (20-30)	<b>Part 1: Introduction</b> 1A. Thinking Like an Economist
Week 1: 9/27	Chapter 2 (31-54)	Tuesday 9/28: Quiz 1 (during class time) on Appendix 1  1B. Comparative Advantage (continued)
Week 2: 10/4	Chapter 3 (55-88)	Quiz 2 (online) Comparative Advantage (open Monday 10/4, 7pm to Tuesday 10/5 11:30am)  1C. Supply and Demand
Week 3: 10/11	Chapter 4 (89-114)	Quiz 3 (online) on Supply and Demand (open Monday, 10/11, 7pm to Tuesday, 10/12, 11:30am)  <b>Part 2: Competition and the Invisible Hand</b> 2A. Elasticity
Week 4: 10/18	Chapter 5 (115-150)	<b>Midterm 1: Tuesday 10/19 during class time</b>  2B. Demand
Week 5: 10/25	Chapter 6 (151-174)	Finish 2B. Demand Start 2C. Perfectly Competitive Supply
Week 6: 11/1	Chapter 7 (173-202)	Quiz 4 (online) on Demand/ Perf. Comp. Supply (open Monday 11/1, 7pm to -Tuesday 11/2 11:30am)  Finish 2C.  Start 2D. Efficiency, Exchange and the Invisible Hand
Week 7: 11/8		Quiz 5 (online) on Supply/ Efficiency (open Monday 11/8 7pm to Tuesday 11/9, 11:30am)  Finish 2D.  <b>Veteran's Day Holiday Thursday, Nov 11</b>
Week 8: 11/15	Chapter 13 (349-372)	<b>Midterm 2: Tuesday 11/16 during class time</b>  Start Part 3: Input Markets
Week 9: 11/22		Finish Part 3: Input Markets  <b>Thanksgiving Holiday Thursday Nov. 26</b>
Week 10: 11/29	Chapter 15 (397-422)	Quiz 6 (online) on Input Markets (open Monday 11/29 7pm to Tuesday 11/30, 11:30am)  Part 8: International Trade and Trade Policy

Final Exam Week (12/4-12/11)		<b>12:30 Class:</b> Friday, December 10, 11:30a-2:30p <b>3:30 Class:</b> Monday, December 6, 3:00p-6:00p <b>5:00 Class:</b> Friday, December 10, 7:00p-10:00p
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### Participation in a Research Study:

This class is providing important information for a study regarding undergraduate students' views of the field of Economics. This is part of an independent research project being run by a graduate student in the UCSD Economics Department (who is not a TA for this class). Any information you provide for this study will ONLY be seen by the graduate researcher conducting the study and will NOT be seen by your instructor or your TAs.

If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to take **two short surveys** during this quarter. Additionally, by agreeing to take part in this study you are consenting to allow the researcher to use **your final grades from this course (Econ 1)** and the **list of Economics courses you enroll in during future academic quarters at UCSD**. This data will only be available to the graduate researcher and will be de-identified before analysis to protect your confidentiality.

If you complete the surveys, you will receive bonus points toward your final grade in this course. For **each survey** you will receive 2 bonus points for opening the survey and 8 bonus points for completing the survey, for a total of **10 possible bonus points** per survey. Final grades in this course will be calculated out of a total of 1000 possible points. Additionally, the grade distribution for Econ 1 will be finalized *before* the bonus points for participating in this study are added to your grade. This guarantees that your Econ 1 grade **will NOT be harmed** if you choose not to participate in this study.

Research records will be kept confidential to the extent allowed by law. Any identifying information (such as student PIDs) will be removed from the data prior to analysis and any report we make public will not include any information that would make it possible to identify you.

### Your Consent

Participation in research is entirely voluntary. If you consent to participate in this study, no action is needed. If you DO NOT consent to participate in this study, please submit this form online at <https://forms.gle/x42m96FsxD7hXjd7>. You may submit this form to *opt-out at any time before December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021*. Your instructor will not have access to the list of students who have opted out.

If you have any questions about this study or would like more information, please email Anjali Pai at [alpai@ucsd.edu](mailto:alpai@ucsd.edu).