

**Economics 1A**  
**Introduction to Microeconomics**  
**Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:10pm-4:30pm in Rock Hall**

Dr. Janine LF Wilson		Teaching Assistants					
<i>Office:</i>	1103 Social Sciences and Humanities Building	<i>TA Name</i>	Jae Wook Jung	Pedro Funari	Joshua Grelewicz	Geoff Schnorr	Natasha Orlova
<i>Email:</i>	<a href="mailto:jlflathmann@ucdavis.edu">jlflathmann@ucdavis.edu</a>	<i>Office</i>	SSH 139	SSH 115	SSH 115	SSH 117	SSH 117
<i>Office Hours:</i>	T&R 1:45pm-2:45pm (and by appointment)	<i>Email</i>	<a href="mailto:jwjung@ucdavis.edu">jwjung@ucdavis.edu</a>	<a href="mailto:ppfunari@ucdavis.edu">ppfunari@ucdavis.edu</a>	<a href="mailto:jbgrelewicz@ucdavis.edu">jbgrelewicz@ucdavis.edu</a>	<a href="mailto:gcschnorr@ucdavis.edu">gcschnorr@ucdavis.edu</a>	<a href="mailto:norlova@ucdavis.edu">norlova@ucdavis.edu</a>
<i>Course Website:</i>	<a href="http://smartsite.ucdavis.edu">http://smartsite.ucdavis.edu</a>	<i>Office Hours</i>	W 12-2pm	R 4:45-5:45pm	R 12-1pm	R 5-6pm	T 9-10am
		<i>Section</i>	A01,A02, A03,A11	A10, A12	A06, A07	A04, A05	A08, A09

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Analysis of the allocation of resources and the distribution of income through a price system; competition and monopoly; the role of public policy; comparative economic systems

**COMMUNICATION**

**All content and homework related questions should be posted on the course piazza site which can be found on <http://smartsite.ucdavis.edu>.** One drawback of this forum might be to have frequent email notifications. By default setting, you may receive an email per 4 hours for new questions or notes. Please change your ``account/email setting" which will be shown on the right top corner of your screen, for your preference. Under the account settings, you can change the frequency of email notification from "no email" to "one hour"

**READINGS**

*Required text:* Microeconomics by Michael Parkin. On the course website you will find the "Pearson etext" tab. The first time you log in, you will need the access code emailed to you by the university bookstore. Please see etext login FAQs if you have trouble logging in at all during the quarter. These can be found under the "resources" section of the course website. Some browsers need some coercing a few times during the quarter.

*Current Events:* I will expect you to read or listen to the news during the session.

*Further Reading:* Additional readings will be found in the "resources" section of the course site as the course progresses.

**GRADING**

*Distribution of Points:*

Your final grade in the course will be determined by the following:

6%	Homework	Due according to the schedule below
27%	Midterm 1	Thursday, October 15 <sup>th</sup> in class (Bring a pink scantron)
27%	Midterm 2	Tuesday, November 10 <sup>th</sup> in class (Bring a pink scantron)
40%	Final Exam	Friday, December 11 <sup>th</sup> from 1pm-3pm (Bring a pink scantron)

*Exam Policy:*

There will be no make-up exams. If you miss a midterm exam due to a university excused illness, your final exam ranking will determine the score used for your missed midterm. You must have documentation of any university excused illness.

## HOMWORK ASSIGNMENTS

Homework can be found by clicking the “Do Homework” tab on the course website. Multiple chapter assignments will be assigned for each week and will be due according to the schedule below. **No late assignments will be accepted for any reason, there will be no exceptions.** The 6% of your grade consists of the top six of the seven online homework assignments (1% for each of the four assignments). There will be no excused assignments as a result of illness or your own technical difficulties (internet down, bad connections etc...) so it will be important to attempt all six assignments.

- Homework #1 for chapter 1, chapter 1 appendix and chapter 2 are due Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
- Homework #2 for chapters 3 and 4 are due Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
- Homework #3 for chapter 5 is due Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
- Homework #4 for chapter 6 is due Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:59pm
- Homework #5 for chapters 11 and 12 are due **Saturday**, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
- Homework #6 for chapters 13 and 14 are due Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59pm
- Homework #7 for chapter 15 is due Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm

### Additional Note

If you have a physical disability, any difficulty with the English language, or other special needs that are relevant to your success in this class please see me early in the quarter. I will help you get access to resources that may help you manage any special concerns you might have in the course.

## COURSE OUTLINE (Tentative! Topics could spill into the following lecture)

<b>Topic 1: Introduction (9/24)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 1 & Appendix
<b>Topic 2: The Economic Problem (9/29)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 2 <u>Further Reading:</u> “Jailhouse nation”, The Economist Magazine issue June 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Topic 3: Demand and Supply (10/1-10/6)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 3 <u>Further Reading:</u> “Digital maps: Location, location, location”, The Economist Magazine issue July 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Topic 4: Elasticity (10/8-10/13)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 4 <u>Further Reading:</u> “The legal marijuana industry: Silicon Valley meets Bob Marley”, The Economist Magazine issue July 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>MIDTERM 1 WILL BE HELD IN CLASS ON THURSDAY OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup></b>	

<b>Topic 5: Efficiency and Equity (10/20)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 5 Further Reading: “Minimum wages: a reckless wager”, The Economist Magazine issue July 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Topic 6: Government Actions in Markets (10/22-10/27)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 6 Further Reading: “Film-making in California: The Empire strikes back”, The Economist Magazine issue June 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Topic 7: Output and Costs (10/29-11/3)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 11 Further Reading: “Aviation: Volting ambition”, The Economist Magazine issue July 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Topic 8: Perfect Competition (11/5)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 12 Further Reading: “Uber: Driving hard”, The Economist Magazine issue June 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>MIDTERM 2 WILL BE HELD IN CLASS ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup></b>	
<b>Topic 9: Monopoly (11/12-11/17)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 13 Further Reading: “The funeral trade: A grave business”, The Economist Magazine issue July 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Topic 10: Monopolistic Competition (11/19)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 14 Further Reading: “Primark: Faster, cheaper fashion”, The Economist Magazine issue September 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Topic 11: Oligopoly (11/24)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 15
<b>Topic 12: Public Choices and Public Goods (12/1)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 16 Further Reading: “Urban Planner: Streetwise”, The Economics Magazine issue September 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Topic 13: Externalities and the Environment (12/3)</b>	<u>Readings:</u> Parkin, Chapter 17 Further Reading: “Renewable energy: Banishing the clouds”, The Economist Magazine issue June 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
No Class on November 11 <sup>th</sup> in Honor of Veteran’s Day	
<b>OFFICE HOUR FOR FINALS WEEK WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> 11AM-12PM</b>	
<b>CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM HELD ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> FROM 1PM-3PM</b>	