This syllabus is intended to guide us through the course. However, circumstances can change and so I reserve the right to change the syllabus as needed to ensure that we fulfill the objectives of the course. You will receive full and fair notification regarding any such changes.

As per SDSU policy, students with disabilities or religious needs who require special accommodation must give the instructor at least two weeks’ notice. Disability accommodation requires documentation from Student Disability Services (SDS) located at Calpulli Center, Suite 3101.

Distance or Online learning Prerequisites:
The prerequisite for this course is total online or distance learning preparedness. (1) Take SDSU’s “readiness survey” (https://sunspot.sdsu.edu/pls/webapp/survey.hybrid_learning.main) and (2) prepare your computer for the course as follows:

- Get a headset or speakers and microphone.
- Download (for free) all necessary software, including the latest versions of: Adobe’s Acrobat Reader and Flash Player, QuickTime Player, and Java.
- Download Mozilla’s Firefox (Explorer or other browsers won’t work well with Blackboard).
- Formulate a backup plan for fulfilling course obligations when/if your computer malfunctions. For example, to find out about computers at the library, go to http://scc.sdsu.edu/home.php.
- If you need to learn how to use Blackboard, go to: http://its.sdsu.edu/blackboard/student/

Technological Issues:
This is an online course. You are responsible for your own connectivity. Information technology or IT challenges can—and will—come up. Be prepared for them. Please be assured that if and when problems occur on the SDSU end, you will not be penalized. However, when problems occur on your end, the story is different: "YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR COMPUTING NEEDS; student IT problems are not an acceptable excuse for non-completion of work.

When problems occur on your end, you must fix them prior to any deadlines implicated. You can go to the Student Computing Center in Love Library for help or to use their computers; call (619) 594-3189; email scc@rohan.sdsu.edu; or click http://scc.sdsu.edu/home.php. The instructor cannot provide IT support.

Graphing calculators are not allowed during quizzes and exams, but you need to have a calculator that can deal with exponents.

Course Description/Objectives:
This course is meant to deepen your understanding of Micro Economics which deals with the smallest decision-making units of the economy or the markets (places where goods and services are traded). Any market has two sides – a demand side and a supply side. On the demand side, buyers are smallest decision-making units, while on the supply side sellers are the smallest decision-making units. A market is the place where the buyers and the sellers interact to buy and sell goods and services.
We will explore how buyers make buying decisions to maximize their satisfaction or utility. The ideas of optimization will be useful in understanding these maximization procedures. On the supply side, we will cover key concepts and fundamental models of business firm activities which are motivated by maximization of profit (and strategic concerns in some cases). We will then understand how buyers' utility maximization and sellers' profit maximization interact in different kinds of market organization (such as perfect competition, monopoly, etc.) to generate different outcomes such as prices, volumes of trade and welfare to the society. We will also briefly talk about government policies/interventions that affect markets and their implications.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
By the end of the semester students will be able to:
1. Explain how buyers form their preferences and make their optimal buying decisions.
2. Explain how sellers make their optimal production decisions.
3. Describe how demand and supply sides together determine market outcomes in different types of markets by applying the concept of equilibrium.
4. Analyze how different types of markets operate.
5. Explain the application of “economic way of thinking” in their daily life.

**Required Text, Course Slides & Subscription:**
1. The required text is *Microeconomics* by Jeffrey M. Perloff (7th edition). (You NEED access to MyEconLab along with the book.)
2. The *Course Slides* will be posted on the Blackboard under weekly modules; the slides will be very useful for your preparation. Please **print** out the slides and have them with you during the lectures. The slides are made up of incomplete versions of actual slides we will be going over during the lectures. You will be taking notes on the slides by filling out the missing parts.
3. You will need access to MyEconLab. For this you will have to purchase the access and complete registration. See the handout titled “MyEconLab_handout” posted under the link “Syllabus” on course website on Blackboard.

**Student Expectations:**
1. Econ 102 is a prerequisite. You are expected to have taken Math 120 or 121 or 150.
2. You should be prepared to devote roughly 2 hours of your time for every hour of lecture to studying, practicing techniques, solving problems. This is an estimate for students on the average; you may actually need to more or less depending on your preparation and aptitude. I strongly encourage you to talk to me whenever you need, during my office hours. Please do not hesitate nor wait until after you get a bad grade.
3. Mathematics Preparation: This course will involve **algebra** in every chapter and **calculus** (differentiation) in several chapters. So it is very important that you are comfortable with this mathematics. To refresh your math skills and to give you an idea about the type/level of math we will require in this course, we will start the course with a math review. (The lecture and slides will start with math review.) If you are not comfortable with the materials covered in this review, please talk to me. This is very important!

**Organization and Pacing:**
The course is organized into **six weekly modules**, one for each of the six weeks in this course. That is, Module 1 is to be completed in week 1, Module 2 to be completed in week 2 and so on. Each module may contain some or all of these: **lecture video, homework assignment, quiz and exam**. The Calendar and Road Map section below will give you a complete description of each module and important deadlines. You will be responsible for keeping up with the schedule and ensuring that you complete each module on time. I **strongly recommend** that you put the deadlines in your calendar on your phone/computer and set reminders.

Please note that you may work at your own pace within a given module as long as you complete your work by the set deadlines. The modules are linked in the sense that an assessment (i.e. a homework assignment, quiz or exam) in one module may be based on the materials covered in one or
more of the modules completed in the past. The Calendar and Road Map section below will give you a complete description.

The course website on Blackboard will help you keep up with the weekly modules and provide you with the necessary materials. On the left panel you will find six links to the six weekly modules. Watch the video titled “Course Organization on Blackboard” posted under the link “Introductory Videos” on course website on Blackboard.

LIKE ALL OTHER RULES SET OUT IN THIS SYLLABUS the work completion deadline rule applies to EVERYONE. I do appreciate how difficult it can be to balance school, work, family, and so on. However, I cannot extend deadlines or waive requirements for students who overextend themselves. Please think twice about enrolling if you anticipate being overtaxed by other courses or obligations, or have a history of trouble with deadlines or with following written instructions. Please do not put me between a rock and a hard place later by asking me to break rules for you. I cannot and will not do that.

**Evaluating Student Performance:**
Your course grade will be determined by your performance in several assessments (homework assignments, quizzes, and exams) along with a short Bio/introduction you provide at the beginning of the course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Items</th>
<th>Number of Assessments</th>
<th>% of Course Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bio/Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Homework Assignments</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Quizzes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Exams</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

There are no fixed cutoffs for grades in this course. Individual homeworks, quizzes or exams will NOT be curved. **Final grades will be curved** around class average at the end of the semester if necessary (i.e. if class average falls below C+).

**Description of Assessments/Graded Items and Other Building Blocks of the Course:**

1. **Bio/Introduction:** you will provide a short description of yourself.
2. **Online lectures:** recorded lectures will be posted on Blackboard under the weekly modules.
3. **Practice Materials:** (a) practice multiple-choice questions (MCQ’s), (b) practice problem-solvings posted on Blackboard under the link weekly modules, and (c) practice problems on MyEconLab.
4. **Online homework assignments:** posted via MyEconLab. The “MyEconLab Homework” link on Blackboard under the weekly modules will take you to the appropriate website. (See below for detailed descriptions.)
5. **Online quizzes:** posted via MyEconLab. The “MyEconLab Quizzes & Tests” link on Blackboard under the weekly modules will take you to the appropriate website. (See below for detailed descriptions.)
6. **Online exams:** posted via Blackboard. The “Exams” link on Blackboard will take you to the appropriate exams on the scheduled times and dates.
We will now go over each of these items into details:

1. **Bio/Introduction:** Each student is required to introduce him or herself to the class at the beginning of the course as the first step in joining the class and creating this particular community of learners. This assignment must be completed by the end of the second day of the class, by 11:00pm PST\(^1\). To complete this task, press the “Bio/Introduction” link to be found under “Week 1 module” on Blackboard. Then press the “Create Thread” button. Then write your description in the box labeled as “Message” and press “Submit”.

2. **Online lecture:** The lectures are recorded and posted on Blackboard under the link “Lectures Videos” under each weekly module. The lectures are thus organized by the modules, and within each module the videos are organized by the chapters of the textbook we’ll cover in that module. You should cover the lectures on any particular chapter before you start working on the homework assignment from that chapter. So, the homework due dates can be a guide for you to figure out which lectures you should have covered at any point during the semester.

3. **Practice materials:** (A) **practice multiple-choice questions (MCQ’s); (B) practice problem-solvings:** In order to help in your preparation and understanding of the course materials, **practice multiple-choice questions** and **practice problems** will be made available through Blackboard under the link “Practice Materials” under the weekly modules. (They will not be graded. So you don’t have to turn in your works.) You will be responsible to **download** these materials from the Blackboard and practice them on your own as we cover the related topics/chapters in lecture. The **solutions** will also be made available at the same locations on Blackboard. You are strongly advised not to look at the solutions before you’ve solved the questions/problems or have tried to solve them several times. (C) Practice problems on MyEconLab: More practice problems will be posted on MyEconLab. They will be organized by chapters. Learning to solve all these practice problems will be extremely important for your preparation for homework assignments, quizzes and exams.

4. **Online homework assignments:** There will be ELEVEN online homework assignments via MyEconLab, roughly one after each chapter we cover. After you have gone though the lectures, practice MCQ’s and practice problems on each chapter, you will do the homework assignment on that chapter.\(^2\) Each homework assignment will be made available on a prescheduled date for a time period of 24 hours, 9:00am PST – 9:00am PST on the next day. You will have to complete the assignments within this time period on the scheduled dates. The prescheduled due dates are discussed in the table under the Roadmap & Calendar section.

   To access the assignment under a weekly module, you will press the “MyEconLab Homework” link under that weekly module on Blackboard to go to the appropriate website. Then select the homework you need to complete. You will be allowed two attempts for each question.

   Pay attention to the due dates/times (discussed below under the Roadmap & Calendar section below) so that you don’t miss any homework. There will be no make-ups under any circumstances.

   The two lowest assignment scores will be dropped at the end of the semester.

5. **Online quizzes:** There will be THREE online quizzes via MyEconLab, (roughly) evenly spread throughout the semester. Each quiz will be made available on a prescheduled date for a time period of 5 hours, 8:00am PST – 1:00pm PST. You will have to take the quizzes within this time period on the scheduled dates. The prescheduled due dates are discussed in the table under the Roadmap & Calendar section. **Very important:** (1) within the 5-hour time period, once you start a quiz you’ll have to complete it within a fixed amount of time (usually 30-40 minutes) which you will be told when you start the quiz; the website will not save an incomplete quiz, meaning that once you leave a quiz you’ll not be able to come back and finish at a later time. (2) The MyEconLab quizzes are will require you

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\(^1\) PST stands for Pacific Standard Time.

\(^2\) The first homework assignment is not based on any course material. The purpose of this assignment is to help you learn how things work on MyEconLab website, help you be prepared for the later homeworks and make sure you read and understand the syllabus. (There is no homework assignment on math review. Quiz 1 will cover math review.)
to install a “lockdown” browser which is a special kind of browser that does not allow the user to browse any other website while taking the quizzes. So, you will have to take the quizzes on a computer in which you are allowed to install softwares. (For example, computers at the library will not allow you to install this browser. This browser is also not compatible with mobile devices.) A mock quiz has been set up in the first week to familiarize you with the lockdown browser.

To take a quiz scheduled under a weekly module, you will press the “MyEconLab Quizzes & Tests” link under that weekly module on Blackboard to go to the appropriate website. Then select the quiz you need to complete. You will be allowed a single attempt for each question.

Pay attention to the dates/times so that you don’t miss any homework. There will be no make-ups under any circumstances.

The practice MCQ’s (on Blackboard), practice problems (on Blackboard) and the homework assignments (on MyEconLab) will be your guide for the quizzes. (Remember, these are just guides for the types the things to expect on the quizzes and their level of difficulty, but may not be the exact things you'll see on the quizzes.)

Your lowest quiz score will be dropped at the end of the semester.

6. Online exams: There will be THREE exams in total. Each exam carries the same weight. You must take your exam at the scheduled date and time. A missed exam will imply a score of 0 and there will be no make-ups. A student may miss at most one midterm exam and this can happen only when a verifiable medical excuse is documented (such as a doctor’s note which is submitted to me within a week after the exam). In that case, either a make-up exam will be given or quiz scores and the other two exam scores will be used to replace the missed exam.

Exams will consist of MCQ questions. You do not need any scantron or exam-book for any of the exams. The practice MCQ’s (on Blackboard and MyEconLab), practice problems (on Blackboard), the homework assignments and quizzes (on MyEconLab) will be your guide for the exams. (Remember, these are just guides for the types the things to expect on the exams and their level of difficulty, but may not be the exact things you’ll see on the exams.)

The exams will be administered via Blackboard. Further instructions will be emailed to you few days before each exam regarding how to take the exams on Blackboard. You will need a computer/laptop with a webcam to take the exams.

After the exams are graded and the grades are posted on the Blackboard, during the immediate next office hour I will discuss the solutions. You’ll have three days after you have taken a look at your exam to fix your grade in the instance where you think that there may have been a problem with the grading.

Your lowest exam score will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Missed Homework, Quiz and Exam:
Without a verifiable medical reason, a missed homework, quiz or exam will imply a grade of zero.

Honor Policy:
Cheating of any form (which includes plagiarism) will not be tolerated. Evidence of cheating by a student will result in an automatic “F” as that student's grade. Any evidence will also be promptly reported to the Judicial Procedures Office.

Contacting the Professor:
• You can email me at the email address given at the beginning of the syllabus. I'll try to respond within 24-48 hours; for quick questions the turnaround time may be much shorter.
• For questions that involve, say, the clarification of a concept or solutions, I strongly encourage you to talk to me during my office hours.
• The office hours will be held online via Blackboard. To talk to me during office hours, press the “Office Hours” link on the course website on Blackboard. Then press “Click Here to Enter Office Hours”. This uses an app called Collaborate within Blackboard which will allow us to communicate during office hours. Please take a look at the “Collaborate_Student_Guide” posted under the “Syllabus” link on Blackboard. (Start from #6 on the first page.)
• You will need a microphone to talk to me during the office hours.
Email Policies:
- If you need me to explain something, please don’t make that request over email; talk to me during office hour.
- Include “Econ 321” as the subject in all of your emails to me.
- I will be communicating with the class via emails regarding important issues/announcements. Please make sure that your current email address is on your Blackboard account.
- It will be your responsibility to check your emails regularly.

Accommodation for Disability:
If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact Student Disability Services at (619) 594-6473. To avoid any delay in the receipt of your accommodations, you should contact Student Disability Services as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive, and that accommodations based upon disability cannot be provided until you have presented your instructor with an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Roadmap & Calendar:
The table below shows, on a weekly basis, each module and within each module the chapters you are to cover (by reading the textbook and going through the lecture videos), the homework assignments to complete and their due dates, and the quizzes/exams to be taken and their dates. The table also shows the materials each homework, quiz and exam covers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 1 (Week 1): 6 July - 12 July</th>
<th>Chapters to Read</th>
<th>Homeworks, Quizzes &amp; Exams</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math Review</td>
<td>Bio/Introduction: Introduce yourself HW-1: Understanding syllabus &amp; MyEconLab website HW-2: Chapter 2</td>
<td>By 11:00pm 7 July 9:00am 8 July – 9:00am 9 July 9:00am 11 July – 9:00am 12 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supply and Demand (Chap 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 2 (Week 2): 13 July - 19 July</td>
<td>Applying the S-D Model (Chap 3) Consumer Choice (Chap 4)</td>
<td>Mock Quiz Quiz-1: Math Review &amp; Chap 2 HW-3: Chapter 3 HW-4: Chapter 4</td>
<td>13 July (8:00am-1:00pm) 14 July (8:00am-1:00pm) 9:00am 16 July – 9:00am 17 July 9:00am 18 July – 9:00am 19 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firms and Production (Chap 6) Costs (Chap 7)</td>
<td>Review for Exam 1 Exam 1: Math review, Chap 2, 3, 4 HW-5: Chapter 6 HW-6: Chapter 7</td>
<td>20 July (7:00pm-8:00pm) 21 July (10:00am-11:30am) 9:00am 23 July – 9:00am 24 July 9:00am 25 July – 9:00am 26 July</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 3 (Week 3): 20 July - 26 July</td>
<td>Comp. Firms &amp; Markets (Chap 8) Applying Comp Model (Chap 9)</td>
<td>Quiz-2: Chap 6 &amp; 7 HW-7: Chapter 8 HW-8: Chapter 9</td>
<td>28 July (8:00am-1:00pm) 9:00am 30 July – 9:00am 31 July 9:00am 1 Aug – 9:00am 2 Aug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 5 (Week 5): 3 Aug - 9 Aug</td>
<td>Monopoly (Chap 11) Pricing and Advertising (Chap 12)</td>
<td>Review for Exam 2 Exam 2: Chap 6, 7, 8, 9 HW-9: Chapter 11 HW-10: Chapter 12</td>
<td>3 Aug (7:00pm-8:00pm) 4 Aug (10:00am-11:30am) 9:00am 8 Aug – 9:00am 9 Aug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Game Theory &amp; Oligopoly (Chap 14 and 13)</td>
<td>Quiz-3: Chap 11 &amp; 12 HW-11: Chapter 14 &amp; 13 Review for Exam 3 Exam 3: Chap 11, 12, 13, 14</td>
<td>11 Aug (8:00am-1:00pm) 9:00am 13 Aug – 9:00am 14 Aug 15 Aug (7:00pm-8:00pm) 16 Aug (10:00am-11:30am)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 6 (Week 6): 10 Aug - 16 Aug</td>
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