



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
**SAN ANTONIO**

**ECON 2302-910: Principles of Microeconomics**  
Spring 2024, CRN: 22878  
Department of Accounting & Finance, College of Business

### **Course Syllabus**

<b>Class Modality:</b>	<b>Hybrid</b>
<b>Class Meeting Time and Place:</b>	T (Tuesday) 12:30- 1:45PM, CH 203
<b>Class Duration:</b>	01/16/2024 – 05/07/2024
<b>Instructor:</b>	Ashley S. Arriaga E-mail: <a href="mailto:aarriaga@tamusa.edu">aarriaga@tamusa.edu</a> Student emails will receive a reply within two business days.
<b>Course Website:</b>	<a href="https://tamusa.blackboard.com/">https://tamusa.blackboard.com/</a>

**Catalog Course Description:** The objective of this course is to understand the modern tools and methods used in economic decision-making. The course is designed for student with limited or no background in economics. The focus of the course is on the study of supply and demand, price theory, competition and market structure, market failure and the role of government and other economic issues. This course meets social behavioral sciences requirement under the core curriculum. *Prerequisite(s):* ENGL 1301, ENGL 1302, MATH 1314 or MATH 1324.

**Course Objectives:** The objective of the course is to provide a basic understanding of why companies and financial markets behave the way they do. Focusing on the practical aspects of business, this course will provide guidelines to analyze problems and find solutions by finance professionals.

**Prerequisites:** ENGL 1301, ENGL 1302, MATH 1314 or MATH 1324. Students who do not meet the pre-requisites must contact the instructor immediately.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** After successful completion of this course, students will be able to understand:

- 1) how to think like an economist;
- 2) how markets reach equilibrium and factors that affect that equilibrium;
- 3) how firms decide their price and quantity in different market settings;
- 4) when markets fail and the role of the government to fix it.

**AACSB Assessment:**

The College of Business is in the process of applying for AACSB accreditation. As part of that process, students will be assessed on program level outcomes based on course outcomes from various courses. The materials from this course may be used for assessing such program level outcomes, and hence students must follow the necessary rigor to ensure mastery and retention of the above course outcomes.

**Required Materials:**

- Textbook: *Gregory Mankiw, Principles of Microeconomics, 9th edition. 2021.*

- **Blackboard:** Connect to <http://tamusa.blackboard.com>. You will have lecture notes, solutions to problems, multimedia materials and other supplementary materials in Blackboard. All class communications will be through Blackboard and students should monitor this several times a day.
- **Computer Hardware:** In order to participate in the tutoring sessions (if offered) you will need a computer with an internet connection, a microphone and speakers/headphones.
- **Time Expectations for Coursework:** You are expected to spend 2-4 hours per week for the course. Based on the background, some students may require more time. Time spent may be longer when assignment/exams are due.

**Other Recommended / Reading Materials:** Additional reading materials are available on the course website as recommended by the instructor.

***Course Requirements every student must fulfill in order to succeed in course:***

1. Students should check the Course Calendar, Announcements, and Messages (e-mail) systems in Blackboard on a regular basis.
2. Students should keep current with all course assignments, quizzes, and examinations.
3. If the course uses remote proctoring for exams, students must schedule their exam early in the semester.
4. Students should ask questions and communicate with the instructor either in class, online, off-line or during office hours.
5. For all classwork, exams, quizzes etc., if a student is completing it off-campus, then they are responsible for availability of internet connectivity. Extensions will not be granted for lack of availability of internet connections.
6. Students should remember that online and hybrid courses assume greater responsibility and independent learning skills by the student for their own learning outcomes.
7. For online courses, students should keep current on class recordings, if not attending the live class (either in person or online).
8. For online asynchronous courses, there will be no online class sessions. All materials will be made available through Blackboard or through online links.
9. For online synchronous courses, there will be online class sessions as indicated. Students are expected to attend the online session at the given time. If a student is unable to attend a session, the instructor will make the recording of the session available for the student to view. All materials will be made available through Blackboard or through online links.

**Grading Policy:** The final course grade will be based on your performance on the quizzes, exams, assignments and class participation using the following weights:

Assignments	30%
Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Final Project	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

The final letter grades will be assigned as follows: Above 90% ⇒ A; 80 – 89% ⇒ B; 70 – 79% ⇒ C; 60 – 69% ⇒ D; Below 60% ⇒ F. This course has a requirement of a grade of C as a minimal grade for satisfactory completion of this course.

**If you missed more than one-fourth of the classes, your final grade will be adjusted to one letter lower. If you missed more than 50% of the classes, your final grade will be F.**

The instructor reserves the right to adjust the student's final grade based on the overall performance.

**Examinations and Quizzes:** There will be 2 exams during the semester. Failing to take the exams in the allotted time will result in a grade of zero for that exam and may result in a fail grade in the course. The exams will consist of conceptual multiple-choice questions, problem solving questions, and short essay questions. The exam materials will come from lecture notes, the text, and any addition notes posted. Questions will emphasize understanding and applications of concepts and topics covered in class.

**Assignments:** There will be weekly homework assignments during the course. Individual assignment statements and due dates will be posted through Blackboard. For all assignments, ALL intermediate work of the problem solution steps MUST be shown. This includes the use of the formula, the values substituted in the formulas for problem solution, as well the intermediate steps of the arithmetic computation. The units of measurement are extremely important and MUST be shown at each stage of the computation. Considerable points will be taken off for not following these requirements.

**Presentation/Project:** There will a mandatory project assigned after the second exam. Information on the requirements and grading breakdown for this project will be discussed and posted on Blackboard after the second exam.

**Make up and Late Assignment/Exam policy:**

As a general rule, make-ups or late submissions will NOT be offered or accepted for any missed assignments/exams. Late submissions or make-ups may be accepted/administered only in extra-ordinary circumstances such as an excused official university activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. However, you must provide comprehensive documentation either before or within a few days of the missed assignment/ exam.

**Class Conduct and Civility Code:** Everyone in class is expected to follow all rules in the student handbook, as well as common courtesy during classroom lectures and discussions in class and online, including the following:

1. It is the students' responsibility to obtain and be able to use the required materials and software for this class.
2. Student must retain copies of all assignments and graded work for verification purposes and provide it to the instructor, if necessary. Keep own copies of all computer files and e-mails till final grade is received.
3. For any questions about the exams and assignments, a student should contact the instructor, well in advance of the day they are due, so the instructor may have enough time to provide feedback.
4. All communications will be via e-mail communications to the Texas A&M University e-mail account, and students are expected to use their school provided email account. The instructor will reply to a student e-mail messages and voice messages within 2 business days (Monday-Friday).
5. All assignment submissions must be uploaded to Blackboard by the due date and time. Submission window may close or marked late, even if late by one second.

Anyone violating these policies may be subject to disciplinary actions.

***Spring 2024 ECON 2302-910 Class Schedule***

The provisions and information set forth in the schedule below are intended to be informational and not contractual in nature. The instructor reserves the right to amend, alter, change, delete or modify the provisions of the schedule.

TR 12:30 - 1:45PM		Microeconomics - A&M			
	Dates		Topics	Chapter	Homework
<b>Week 1</b>	1/16	Tues.	Syllabus Day		1. Discussion Post
	1/21	Sun.	Ten Principles of Economics	1	
<b>Week 2</b>	1/23	Tues.	Thinking Like an Economist w/ Appendix on Graphs	2	2. Questions on Ch. 1 and 2
	1/28	Sun.			
<b>Week 3</b>	1/30	Tues.	The Market Forces of Supply and Demand	4	3. Questions on Ch. 4
	2/4	Sun.			
<b>Week 4</b>	2/6	Tues.	Interdependence and the Gains from Trade	3	4. Questions Ch. 4, 3 and 6
	2/11	Sun.	Supply, Demand, and Government Policies	6	
<b>Week 5</b>	2/13	Tues.	<b>EXAM 1</b>		
	2/18	Sun.			
<b>Week 6</b>	2/20	Tues.	Elasticity and Its Application	5	5. Questions on Ch.5
	2/25	Sun.			
<b>Week 7</b>	2/27	Tues.	Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency Market	7	6. Questions 7 and 5
	3/3	Sun.			
<b>Week 8</b>	3/5	Tues.	Externalities	10	7. Discussion Post on the topic
	3/10	Sun.			
	3/11	3/15	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>		
<b>Week 9</b>	3/19	Tues.	Public Goods and Common Resources	11	8. Questions on Ch. 10 and 11
	3/24	Sun.			
<b>Week 10</b>	3/26	Tues.	<b>EXAM 2</b>		
	3/31	Sun.			
<b>Week 11</b>	4/2	Tues.	The Costs of Production	13	9. Select a Company
	4/7	Sun.	Firms in Competitive Markets	14	
<b>Week 12</b>	4/9	Tues.	Monopolistic Competition	16	10. Questions on Ch. 13, 14, 16, and 17
	4/14	Sun.	Oligopoly	17	
<b>Week 13</b>	4/16	Tues.	Monopoly	15	11. Progress on the Project
	4/21	Sun.			
<b>Week 14</b>	4/23	Tues.	<b>WORK ON PROJECT</b>		
	4/28	Sun.	<b>WORK ON PROJECT</b>		
<b>Week 15</b>	4/30	Tues.	<b>READING DAYS</b>		
<b>Week 16</b>	<b>5/1 - 5/7</b>		<b>PROJECT</b>		

## IMPORTANT POLICIES AND RESOURCES

**Academic Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities** Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact Disability Support Services in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210, or at (210) 784-1335 or visit <https://www.tamusa.edu/index.html> or email us at [dss@tamusa.edu](mailto:dss@tamusa.edu). Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

**Academic Learning Center:** The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the Tools section of Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing [tutoring@tamusa.edu](mailto:tutoring@tamusa.edu), calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202.

Counseling/Mental Health Resources: As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and/or negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment call 210-784-1331 or visit Modular C, Room 166 (Rear entrance).

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services.

Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 (after-hours select option '2'). For more information and self-help resources, please visit [www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling](http://www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling)

Emergency Preparedness: JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>.

More information about Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan can be found here: <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/campus-information/safety/university-police-department/documents/emergency-operations-plan.pdf> and <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/campus-information/safety/university-police-department/documents/emergency-action-plan.pdf>

Download the SafeZone App for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance: According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center: The Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center supports graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as eportfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. Students can schedule appointments through JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. The Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at <https://bit.ly/WLDCCenter>.

Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance

in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students (DOS@tamusa.edu) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources they may possess.

**Military Affairs:** Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, and special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations). You are also encouraged to visit the Patriots' Casa in-person room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military.va@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

**Religious Observances:** Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

**The Six-Drop Rule:** Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student's GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "F" grades and will impact the student's GPA.

**Statement of Harassment and Discrimination:** Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the appropriate offices within their respective units.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and for the university as a whole. If you have experienced any form of sex- or gender-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. A&M-San Antonio's Title IX Coordinator can support those impacted by such conduct in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The university strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator. Please be aware that all A&M-San Antonio employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as counselors and trained victim advocates) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the university. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator (titleix@tamusa.edu, 210-784-2061, CAB 439K). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting requirement, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331 or visit them in Madla 120.

Pregnant/Parenting Students: Texas A&M-San Antonio does not require a pregnant or parenting student, solely because of that status or issues related to that status, to (1) take a leave of absence or withdraw from their degree or certificate program; (2) limit the student's studies; (3) participate in an alternative program; (4) change the student's major, degree, or certificate program; or (5) refrain from joining or cease participating in any course, activity, or program at the University. The university will provide reasonable accommodations to pregnant students that would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition and that are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child. These could include maintaining a safe distance from substances, areas, and

activities known to be hazardous to pregnant individuals and their unborn child; excused absences because of illness or medical appointments; modified due dates for assignments; rescheduled tests/exams; taking a leave of absence; and being provided access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for excused absences, if these would be provided to any other student with an excused absence. Pregnant/parenting students are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator with any questions or concerns related to their status ([titleix@tamusa.edu](mailto:titleix@tamusa.edu); 210-784-2061; CAB 439K).

Texas A&M-San Antonio has also designated the Title IX Coordinator as the liaison officer for current or incoming students who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of age. The Title IX Coordinator can provide students with information regarding support services and other resources.

Students' Rights and Responsibilities: The following statement of students' rights and responsibilities is intended to reflect the philosophical base upon which University Student Rules are built. This philosophy acknowledges the existence of both rights and responsibilities, which is inherent to an individual not only as a student at Texas A&M University-San Antonio but also as a citizen of this country.

#### Students' Rights

1. A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no University rule or administrative rule that in any way abridges the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.
2. Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the University, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
3. A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
4. Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of university student rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

#### Students' Responsibilities

1. A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty and administration.

2. A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted with the published University Student Rules found in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct, on our website, University Catalog and to comply with them, as well as federal, state, and local laws.
3. A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire University community.
4. A student has the responsibility to recognize the University's obligation to provide an environment for learning.
5. A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official university notification.

We expect that students will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Students are expected to exhibit a high level of honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education. Students engaging in an act that violates the standards of academic integrity will find themselves facing academic and/or disciplinary sanctions. Academic misconduct is any act, or attempt, which gives an unfair advantage to the student. Additionally, any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion may be considered as academic misconduct. For more information on academic misconduct policies and procedures please review the Student Code of Conduct.

**Use of Generative AI Permitted Under Some Circumstances or With Explicit Permission** There are situations and contexts within this course where you may be asked to use artificial intelligence (AI) tools to explore how they can be used. Outside of those circumstances, you should not use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any student work (assignments, activities, discussion responses, etc.) that is part of your evaluation in this course. Any student work submitted using AI tools should clearly indicate with attribution what work is the student's work and what part is generated by the AI. In such cases, no more than 25% of the student work should be generated by AI. If any part of this is confusing or uncertain, students should reach out to their instructor for clarification before submitting work for grading. Use of AI-generated content without the instructor's permission and/or proper attribution in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

### **Key Dates for Spring 2024 Semester**

The complete academic calendar is available online:

<https://www.alamo.edu/contentassets/a308471438db4746a76f00d44279643a/academic-calendar-2023-2024.pdf>

Jan 16	Classes Begin
Jan 31	Census Date.
Apr 13	Last day to drop with an automatic "W"
Apr 20	Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University
Apr 29	Last day of Scheduled Classes
Apr 30	Reading Days
May 1-7	Final Examinations - See your college catalog for schedule
May 7	End of Spring 2024 Semester
May 16	All grades for Spring 2024 16-week session due by Noon via JagWire