

Honors Economics

Course

Students will learn about Economics both as an academic discipline and as a skill for advancing real life goals. Honors Economics content area will focus on personal finance, theory and policy. Students will apply this knowledge during in-class debates, projects, assignments and assessments. This course is divided into six themes that cover the full spectrum of economics as a discipline and everyday reality. The goal of this course is to provide a knowledge base that is meaningful and relevant to the student's everyday life, from managing one's own budget to participating in the larger economic debates of our time.

The course is divided up into the following themes:

- Theme 1 Personal Finance
- Theme 2 Economics and Market Structures
- Theme 3 Supply and Demand
- Theme 4 Business and Labor
- Theme 5 Monetary and Fiscal Policy
- Theme 6 Final Project

Textbooks

McGraw/Hill. *Understanding Economics*. The economics text can be accessed on-line from the Instructional Apps folder using the ConnectED App.

Expectations

This course will emphasize economic thinking, that is, understanding interactions in terms of exchange. This involves learning how to observe the world as an economist would, and analyzing the lived experience by applying economic models and theories. Literacy and numeracy are integral aspects of economics as a discipline. Consequently, students can expect to be stronger in both literary and mathematical skills by the end of the semester.

Students are expected to complete all assignments on time and as directed. Late assignments will receive a zero (Z) in the gradebook. I do accept make-up work, but I reserve the privilege to deny late-work or full credit when I feel the system is being abused. In the event of an absence the school make-up policy will be strictly enforced. Students will have one class day for every excused day absent, plus one day to make up any missed work. This only applies to excused absences. All assignments will be posted on the day assigned. Note: there will be no exceptions for "computer glitches," "corrupted files," "lost emails," etc. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer is in working order, and to keep back-up files in case of a technological problem.

In the event of a field trip or other planned absence, the student is expected to check Google Classroom for any missed work. District make-up policy applies. I do not give assignments early.

Students will keep a college composition book for this class. Many college professors require the use of composition books. In the composition book students are required to keep at least the following: Any notes, taken in class, or self-guided, and any assignments designated for the composition book. Composition books will be graded at the end of every theme for completion and quality.

This class is divided into 6 themes. The first five themes will be tested independently. Each theme will have a multiple choice, content based assessment that can be done on the student's own time. This assessment will be posted at the beginning of each theme. Each theme will also have a higher order thinking assessment that will be completed on the scheduled date.

Pacing**

Theme 1: Personal Finance Chapter 19

August 11: Classrooms Rules, Expectations and Procedures
August 13: Making a Budget
August 17: Managing Your Money
August 19: Consumerism and Advertising
August 23: Managing Credit and Debt
August 25-27: Personal Money Decisions
August 31: Exam Day

Theme 2: Economics and Market Structures Unit 1 Chapter 1-3

September 2: The Study of Economics **Adam Smith Biography**
September 7: Economic Data -- I Love Charts and Graphs
September 9: Debate Fracking
September 13: Economic Systems and Mixed Economies
September 15: Global Transition to Capitalism
September 20: Roles, Responsibilities and the American Free Enterprise
September 22: Evaluation of Economic Performance
September 24: Should students be paid for good grades?
September 28: Exam Day

Theme 3: Supply and Demand Unit 2 Chapter 4-7

September 30: Demand **David Ricardo Biography**
October 4-6: Supply (Business Plan Project)
October 8: Shark Tank
October 12: Prices
October 14: Market Structures
October 19: Market Failures and the Role of the Government
October 21: Debate Raising the Minimum Wage

October 25: Exam Day

Theme 4: Business and Labor Unit 3 Chapter 8-9

October 27: Starting and Growing a Business

October 29: Non-Profit Organizations

November 2: The Labor Movement

November 4: Wages and Labor Disputes

November 8: Debate Outsourcing

November 10: Employment Trends and Issues

November 15: Exam Day

Theme 5: Monetary and Fiscal Policy Unit 4-6 Chapter 10-16

November 17: Money, The Gold Standard, and Banking **John Maynard Keynes Biography**

November 19: Financial Markets: How to Make Money by Doing Nothing

November 30: Fiscal Policy and Taxes,

December 2: The Monetary Base, Demand Side vs. Supply Side Economics

December 6: Monetary Policy and the Federal Reserve **Milton Friedman Biography**

December 8: Debate Bailing out the Banks

December 10: How much Government?

December 14-16: Economic Challenges **Paul Krugman Biography**

January 3: Exam

Final Exam: January 5-7 TBA

Project Based: Choose ONE of the following:

Globalization: Trade, Multinationals, and Supply Chains

Neoliberalism vs. Progressive Economics

Economic Inequality in the U.S. (Causes, Consequences, and Solutions)

Global Inequality (Causes, Consequences, and Solutions)

A World without Want

Economic Growth vs. Economic Sustainability

Unlimited Wants in a Limited World

Economics of Space

Cyber-Economics

Resources and Human Rights