



Economic\$ - Fall 2021

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Available Periods 2nd and 9th or mornings/after school by appointment

Classroom: 2612

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This one semester social science elective class is designed to provide an introduction to macro and micro economics and to theories related to international trade. The course will also promote an understanding of the role of the individual in the economy as a consumer and producer. Each student will be expected to become familiar not only with economic concepts and the analytical skills used in economics, but also the current economic conditions and problems. Part of the class will focus on microeconomics, which is the study of the choices made by economic groups such as households, companies, and individual markets. The second part will focus on macroeconomics, which examines the behavior of entire economies. Completion of the course satisfies the economic education requirement for graduation.

UNITS OF STUDY:

The following units and their focus questions will be used as a framework to address the course focus question: How Do Economists Think?

- Unit 1 Introduction to Economics
 - Why does the study of economics exist? What are our economic problems and choices?
- Unit 2 Demand, Supply, and Prices
 - What is the relationship between demand and supply? How are prices determined?
- Unit 3 Types of Competition, Businesses and Investments
 - How do imperfect markets work and what is fair competition? What are the advantages and disadvantages of different business structures? How can investments help an economy?
- Unit 4 Economic Indicators and Activity
 - Why do economic cycles exist? How do we determine the successes and/or failure of an economic system?
- Unit 5 The Tools of Fiscal and Monetary Policies
 - How can the tools of fiscal and monetary policies impact an economy? What are and what should be the roles of government and the Federal Reserve in the economy?
- Unit 6 International Trade
 - How does the modern global economy exist? What are the advantages and disadvantages of free trade?

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Opportunity Cost - No choices are free, choosing is refusing, what you give up, or refuse is your opportunity cost. Keep in mind at all times, what is your opportunity cost in the choices you make?

This class will follow the stated school policy regarding tardiness, absences, technology usage and disciplinary measures. PLEASE read those sections in the student handbook for a further explanation.

EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS:

You are expected to behave in a RESPONSIBLE, MATURE and RESPECTFUL manner with classmates and teachers. This is especially important as we will discuss and learn about many controversial and sensitive economic issues. You are expected to report to class each day prepared mentally and physically. The following items will be needed for the course:

- 1. Highlighter, pencil, and pen
- 2. 1 inch, 3 ring organized notebook (with loose-leaf paper & all class handouts and worksheets)
- 3. Calculator
- 4. Post-its
- 5. Chromebook charged and ready to use
- 6. Textbook (online and physical) but does not need to brought to school for class

TEXTBOOK:

The main textbook that will be issued for the class is: Ray, Anderson, Krugman's Economics for AP 2017 Edition. You will be given a physical book and have access to the e-textbook. It will be supplemented with numerous other economic resources, especially ones that cover current topics since this class will focus on the current issues and the current state of the economy.

*Students will be told at the start of each week the expectations for assignments and participation in class. Students should minimize all distractions including not using cell phones and headphones (including wireless) during the class period, unless permission is given. This is not a study hall period, so other assignments should not be worked on during Economics class. Since this is a hands-on, interactive course, participation is essential to your success and you will learn a lot from being engaged. I hope to also provide you with a class field trip or special presentations this semester.

**To also aid you in your success, I have office hours during my prep times and some days before or after school. Feel free to make an appointment with me or email at cfikis@d94.org. I am in Classroom 2612 throughout the day. Please feel free to stop in and see me or make an appointment.

ABSENCES:

CONSISTENT ATTENDANCE is the #1 factor of your success in this class. While much of your learning will happen individually, EACH day we meet is vitally important to understanding the content. If you are absent, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to obtain all missed assignments. You should check Google Classroom and/or with me for an update of assignments. As per school policy, if you are TRUANT from class you will NOT be able to make up work you missed.

GRADING PROCEDURES:

The focus of this course will be LEARNING Economics, but grades are part of our school system. Grades for this course are cumulative throughout the semester using total points. Grades will be determined by these categories (although grades are not weighted by those categories):

- 1. Assignments
- 2. Class participation
- 3. Quizzes
- 4. Assessments

Letter grades will be awarded according to the percentage of points earned as follows:

A = 100%-90%

B = 89%-80%

C = 79%-70%

D = 69%-60%

F = 59% or lower

- * Grades will be available online, and updated regularly on Powerschool, so you will be able to check AND you SHOULD check your grade with your account weekly.
- * Assignments will be given in advance and posted on Google Classroom. All textbook module readings will be posted numerous days in advance of the due date, so time management is important to avoid feeling overwhelmed. All major assignments must be turned in on time. Some assignments are time sensitive and will NOT be accepted late. The content of this course builds on each unit of study. Those students who complete their assignments regularly and on time, perform well in the class. If you fall behind or need extra time or help, do not hesitate to reach out to me.
- * Quizzes can be given at any time, to check understanding of the course material, but all notes and handouts in your Economics binder can be used to help you on the quizzes, so staying on top of readings, taking good notes, checking problems, and staying organized will be beneficial to you.
- * Since we will engage in numerous economic simulations, problem solving activities, small group discussion, and daily economic practices, class participation is one major component of the class. You and I will both grade your class participation using the attached rubric. Please see it for specifics.
- * One extra credit enrichment assignment will be given each quarter. It will help you further explore topics in Economics, but do not expect it to "save your grade."

*I	look forward,	and I	hope '	you look	forward,	to	a won	derful	and	successful	semester	of	our	study
of	the economy!													

I have read and understand the above course outline	and classroom expectations for Economics class.
Student Name	ID#
Student Signature	_
Parent/Guardian Name	Signature

Economics Class Participation Rubric

Together we will grade your class participation for each unit of study, using the following rubric.

Grade Attendance

- A Student is never tardy and never absent to classes.
- **B** Student is rarely or never tardy and demonstrates regular attendance.
- C Student is occasionally tardy and/or has a few absences for class.
- **D** Student is occasionally tardy and/or has unexcused absences for class.
- **F** Student is often tardy and does not demonstrate regular attendance.

Grade Class Preparedness

- A Student always is prepared for class, including having all necessary materials without returning to the locker and not using hallway passes, and homework fully completed.
- **B** Student is prepared for class, usually having all necessary materials without returning to the locker, occasionally using hallway passes, and homework fully completed.
- C Student is prepared for class, sometimes having all necessary materials without returning to the locker and using the hallway passes regularly, and homework sometimes fully completed.
- **D** Student is usually not prepared for class, lacking all necessary materials, leaves class regularly, including completed homework.
- **F** Student is regularly not prepared for class and does not have necessary materials, including completed homework.

Grade Attentiveness in Class

- A Student pays attention in class every, follows directions without having to be reminded and uses technology appropriately.
- **B** Student almost always pays attention in class, follows directions without having to be reminded and uses technology appropriately.
- C Student regularly pays attention in class, with a few distractions, and rarely has to be reminded to stay on task.
- **D** Student sometimes pays attention in class, follows directions with reminders, and does not use technology appropriately.
- F Student does not pay attention in class and does not follow directions regularly. Technology use is inappropriate/distracting.

Grade Volunteerism

- A Student volunteers every day. Comments and answers are always respectful and appropriate.
- **B** Student volunteers almost every day. Comments and answers are respectful and appropriate.
- C Student volunteers a few times a week. Comments and answers are usually respectful and appropriate.
- **D** Student rarely volunteers. Comments and answers may not always be respectful and appropriate.
- F Student does not volunteer. Comments and answers are not respectful and appropriate.

Grade Leadership and Teamwork

- A Student always participates in all group activities; participation is always relevant to the subject studied in class. Student always acts as a leader, cooperates, and does his/her share of work in groups.
- **B** Student almost always participates in all group activities; participation is almost always relevant to the subject studied in class. Student almost always acts as a leader, cooperates, and does his/her share of work in groups.
- C Student participates in all group activities; participation is usually relevant to the subject studied in class. Student sometimes acts as a leader, cooperates, and does his/her share of work in groups.
- **D** Student participates in all group activities; participation is not relevant to the subject studied in class. Student rarely acts as a leader, cooperates, and does his/her share of work in groups.
- F Student rarely participates in all group activities; participation is not relevant to the subject studied in class. Student does not act as a leader, cooperates, and does his/her share of work in groups.