Course Description

AP Econ is a fast paced college-level course that focuses on the decision making of individuals, businesses, and the government. Students will study a variety of economic theories and analyze their practical application in the real world.

This course will cover macroeconomics. Macro focuses on the economy as a whole, including economic measures, economic growth, fiscal policy, monetary policy, and international economics. Student are encouraged to take the AP exam in May.

This class will prepare you for college and potentially allow you to earn 3 university credits upon passing the AP exam. Extensive math skills are not required; (hooray!) however, the ability to analyze graphs and charts is essential.

Course Objectives

1. Students will be able to apply ECONOMIC ANALYSIS to a variety of real world situations to improve their personal and civic decision-making skills.
2. Students will prepare for their future educational and career goals by meeting COLLEGE-LEVEL EXPECTATIONS and practicing skills for life-long success.
3. Students will develop a sense of community and MAKE their senior year their best year of high school.

Resources


Course Requirements

You are expected to be in attendance each day, as missing a day of this class could prove detrimental to your grade.

*Here’s the secret to success for this class: are you ready for this? Show up and do the work I ask you to do.*

All students will be held to the highest standards of academic integrity. Students who violate rules or fail to uphold these standards will be subject to punishment, including, but not limited to, loss of credit on any assignment affected by the violation.

While there is a fair amount of reading and preparation for this class, it is not overwhelming, and you should be able to complete work and assignments in a reasonable amount of time. *Under no circumstances should you arrive in my classroom and attempt to complete your assignment due that day – and it’s especially not a good idea to work on assignments from other classes in my room...it’s bad news – don’t do it!*
One other note – in the next few months, you will begin applying for college acceptance, scholarships, or job opportunities. First impressions are very important, and when you are sending messages to potential schools or employers, you want your information to be as professional as possible, not using email addresses like ‘ilikecats@aol.com’, or ‘partyallnight@yahoo.com’. So, when you email me, please make sure that the email you use is some variation of your name, like ‘m_smith@yahoo.com’, ‘sanchez.john@gmail.com’, or something like that. This is more professional and allows me to know who is sending me messages before I open them.

Class supplies:
* 2" 3 ring binder - I will provide you with copies of primary sources and other handouts that will be important when studying for exams. **Do not throw anything away until the end of the school year!** (Yes – school year, not semester. You need to be able to prepare for the exam in the spring.)
* One composition notebook for WOD/Bell Ringer assignment
* LOOSELEAF paper for assignments – I **do not** accept work torn from notebooks
* Pens - black or blue
* Highlighters
* Pencils for Scantron exams and quizzes

Find cool supplies you like working with – I’m a firm believer in making your work enjoyable! Keep in mind that I **do not** accept papers torn from a spiral notebook.

**Class Policies:**

1) **Late Work:** **LATE WORK IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.** My policy is that work that is not turned in on the date due without a parent phone call or email may be turned in the following day for 50% credit. It will not be accepted after that. (Read this one again, folks – you’ll need to remember it!)

2) **Grading:**

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<td>A+</td>
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In order to keep up with your grades, I ask that you check grades on a weekly basis throughout the semester to avoid surprises at the end of the year. Please make sure your parents/guardians check your grades regularly as well.

**Be aware that I do not round semester grades. If your grade is not a 60% or higher at the end of the semester, I will not round it, and you will not receive credit for the course. In other words, if you earn a 59.9%, this indicates you have not mastered the curriculum for the course, and will not earn credit for it. Do not put yourself in this position.**
Assessments:
1) **Reading:** In order for you to be successful in a college level course of this type, you must maximize your time and complete all assigned readings prior to class discussion. Readings, along with lectures/class discussions will figure prominently in quizzes and exams. Readings will be substantial, but not overly burdensome. (I know you have other lives!)

2) **Group Work:** For the purpose of reading assignments and some papers, you will be placed into groups. Establishing good rapport and practicing teamwork is key to success in this class and can help you manage the amount of reading required. Because of the small size of these classes, others will depend on you to do your reading. Group work is essential to success in this class.

3) **Examinations:** These will closely resemble the national exams. The format will be multiple choice, essays, and graph analysis. You will have ample time to familiarize yourself with the format.
   - Unit exams include in between 30 to 40 multiple choice questions
   - Approximately 25% of the questions are actual AP questions given on previous exams
   - Each exam will also feature 2 to 3 FRQs that focus on the concepts learned.
   - The FRQ section constitutes one third of your exam score.

4) **Homework:**
   - **Reading Guides**
     - Reading Guides assigned as necessary.
   - **Activities and Simulations**
     - This year you will participate in several activities or simulations that will allow you to learn by doing.
     - The more you participate the more fun these activities will be.

5) **Extra credit policy:** Extra credit is rare in my classroom, and only offered on completed assignments. (hence the term ‘extra’) I do not provide extra credit opportunities to students who choose not to complete regular day-to-day assignments. In the event that you get behind, do not count on extra credit to save you. It is highly unlikely that it will be offered.

6) **Makeup work policy:** Students who miss class must ask for makeup work or check the website within 24 hours. You have as many days as you missed to make up work you missed. In the event that you miss an exam, you must show up the following Wednesday after the missed exam to make it up. If you do not show up, the exam will be recorded as a zero.

7) **Attendance and tardy policy:** All classes at LCHS will adhere to the LCHS attendance and tardy policy. Students must be on time and attend class for every session. This class is REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION FROM ALL NM HIGH SCHOOLS.

8) **Passes:** Students may not leave the classroom for any reason in the first fifteen minutes or the last fifteen minutes of class. If you have to leave the room and we are in between those times (and I am not teaching), you may ask to leave. I will give you the
pass, and you will leave your cell phone on my desk. Don’t worry. I won’t take it, and I won’t read your messages while you are gone.

9) Assignment Expectations: Teachers can be picky about certain things, and I am no exception. All hand written assignments will be turned in on college ruled notebook paper or graph paper that has NOT been torn from a spiral notebook. Any papers torn from notebooks will not be graded.

10) Cell Phones: APS policy states that you are to have your phone off and put away during the school day, which is defined as 7:20 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. If I see it or hear it, I will take it. Do not be the one to test me on this. Of course I don’t need to even begin to talk about what happens if you are using a test during a testing or quiz situation. You don’t even want to find out, but be aware that if you are suspected of cheating, I will check your phone for incriminating texts. Besides, who on earth do you need to contact during my class?

I think that’s it! I know it looks like a lot, but you’ll do fine. Many before you have been successful. As usual, I am available for you! If you need assistance on an assignment, or you are stressed, or whatever, please contact me via email. I get paid to help you! This will be a great experience…you will definitely be challenged, but I will help you through it. I promise!