

ECONOMICS (Senior Level)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: A student will improve mastery in the decision making process to maximize his/her resources for the benefit of the individual, group, society, and all participants within the global Economic system.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: Economics Principle in Action, Prentice Hall (Pearson)

COURSE ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLES:

- Limited amounts of resources (natural, human, and capital) drives people and organizations to make economic decisions regarding what, how, and for whom to produce.
- The invisible forces within the marketplace determine supply and demand, which in turn determines price and output (quantity).
- Different types of market structures evolved from the competition among producers that sometimes results in conflict with labor (union) and/or government.
- Consumers' financial stability hinges upon their decisions regarding credit, investment, saving, and consumption (spending).
- The interaction between consumers, producers and government indicates the overall performance of the free-enterprise economy as measured by the business cycle (GDP), unemployment, and inflation.
- The government attempts to create stability in the economy through fiscal policy, which consists of taxing and spending.
- The Federal Reserve utilizes the reserve requirement, discount rate, and open market operations to create economic stability.
- Due to emerging technologies, international trade is increasingly important (as a percentage of GDP) and expanding to include less developed, developing, and developed nations.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Students will identify ways to make a personal, value-centered contribution in a diverse global society.
- Students will evaluate critical facts and concepts in discipline-related written material to support problem solving and decision making.
- Students will identify and analyze problems/issues in order to generate solutions to individual, community and global problems/issues.
- Students will identify the basic elements of emotional, physical, academic and mental wellness in order to conduct self assessments and set goals for successful matriculation in the collegiate/university environment.
- Students will apply qualitative/quantitative reasoning through the application of knowledge, skills, and competencies when solving real life problems with satisfactory performance on projects, tests, quizzes and exams.
- Students will analyze sources related to current socio-cultural issues in order to construct and support a thesis in a well documented research paper using MLA or APA styles.
- Students will demonstrate facility in using email, internet, Microsoft Office applications and web-based programs, such as Google Apps, Quia, and other discipline specific software in order to complete projects and assignments.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION and COMMUNICATION

In addition to lectures, discussions, web instruction, guest speakers, and direct face-to-face instruction, all students and parents will have access to academic support electronically through, email, web form response, SMS text, and private voice mail (accessible at the dedicated course website, www.lhepburn.com).

COURSE GRADING SCALE**A** = 90.0+**B** = 80.0+**C** = 70.0+**D** = 60.0+**F** = 59.0 below

- An "A" student demonstrates mastery of the various course learning objectives, turns in all assignments on time, participates to the fullest in class and group projects, and is in attendance for the majority of the semester.
- A "B" student masters the majority of course learning objectives, turns in all assignments on time, participates in class discussions and group assignments, and is in attendance for the majority of the semester.
- A "C" student masters about half the course learning outcomes, turns in most assignments on time, participates in class when called on, contributes minimally to group assignments, and generally is in attendance throughout the semester.
- A "D" student performs unsatisfactorily, fails to turn in all assignments, and misses a considerable amount of classes throughout the semester.
- An "F" student fails to turn in more than half the assignments and is not in attendance for the majority of the semester.

Summative assessments will count for 70% of the final grade. All summative assessments can be retaken.

- Students will retake different forms of the assessment (not the same exact test).
- Students are allowed 3 attempts at each test (first time, with up to two retakes). Please note that retake grades will replace the prior grade, not be averaged into it.
- Retakes must be taken within 3 weeks of the original assessment.
- Assessments are more than just multiple choice tests. They can be projects, presentations, papers, etc.

***All grades will be posted for review by parents/students on Pinnacle** (link provided on the course website).

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

- Academic dishonesty is considered a serious offense and may result in disciplinary action in accordance with VCSD policy.

ACCOMODATIONS / CONCERNS

- If you have problems, questions, or concerns with this course or your ability to complete assignments, contact me immediately. **Do not wait until the end of or after the semester to discuss your concerns.** Most issues can be worked out without much difficulty if done in a timely manner.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

The following expectations are to enhance your ability to learn in this class, to avoid disruption and distraction, and to improve the quality of the classroom experience. Repeated failure to meet these expectations may result in a lower grade for the course.

The Golden Rule: It is important that we respect each other and that begins with me, so I challenge you to join me in treating everyone with love and respect. Thank you in advance for your maturity and self-discipline.

Entering/Exiting Class: Arrive on time to class and stay for the entire class period. Late arrivals and early departures are disruptive. If despite your best effort you arrive late, please quietly take a seat. Similarly, in the rare event that you must leave class early (e.g. for a medical appointment), email/text me in advance to let me know, then sit close to the rear door and leave as unobtrusively as possible. During exams, ask permission before leaving to use the restroom. Try to use the restroom *before* class.

Noise: When class begins, please stop your conversations. Wait until class is completely over before putting your materials away in your backpack, standing up, or talking. Do not have conversations outside of the classroom door when class is in session.

Electronic Devices:

- No taping, filming, or photography in class without my prior permission (whether by camera, cell phone, or other means). These activities are distracting and inhibiting to faculty and other students, may infringe upon privacy or copyright, and have a chilling effect on classroom discussion.
- Cell phones should be turned off.
- Ear buds/ headphones must be removed from ears during class.

Email/Text Message Etiquette:

- You are expected to write as you would in any professional correspondence. Email/Text Message communication should be courteous and respectful in manner and tone. Do not send emails that are curt or demanding.
- Do not post personal information about yourself or others about third parties to the class or any other list serve. For example, if you are having trouble with a group member you should see the instructor in person to discuss the specifics of the issue.

Common Courtesy:

- Food and drink are not allowed in class.
- Show respect for me and your fellow classmates. Do not interrupt another who is speaking. It is okay to disagree with an idea but not okay to ridicule or make fun of another person and his/her ideas. Raised voices, derogatory language, name-calling, and intimidating behavior will NOT be tolerated.
- Do not disturb others by engaging in disruptive behavior. Disruption interferes with the learning environment and impairs the ability of others to focus, participate, and engage.

Statement of Student Responsibility

I state that I have read and understand the course requirements as defined in this syllabus. I take responsibility for completing the assignments as required and take responsibility should I fail to comply with the guidelines for the course. I agree to abide by the VCSD's Code of Student Conduct and the Classroom Etiquette standards understanding that failure to do so may result in dismissal and/or VCSD academic misconduct proceedings. I understand that if I need assistance with materials throughout the term the instructor is available to guide me, but that ultimately I am responsible for my own work, and for notifying the instructor if I have problems with material or in completing the work in a timely manner. Finally, I understand that courses at Pine Ridge are taught at a level which requires considerable work, and I am prepared to take on that responsibility.

*I have read and agree to be governed by the **syllabus** given for this class. I have also read the above Statement of Student Responsibility, and I agree to abide by it. My true and accurate **signature is provided below.***

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date