

Course Title: Economics IB SL

Department: Social Studies

Course Number: 1711

Grade Level/s: 12

Length of Course: Year

Prerequisite/s: None

UC/CSU (A-G) Req: G

Brief Course Description: This course meets UC/CSU elective and District graduation requirements for elective credit. The IB Diploma Program economics course emphasizes the economic theories of microeconomics, which deal with economic variables affecting individuals, firms and markets, and the economic theories of macroeconomics, which deal with economic variables affecting countries, governments and societies. These economic theories are not to be studied in a vacuum—rather, they are to be applied to real-world issues. Prominent among these issues are fluctuations in economic activity, international trade, economic development and environmental sustainability.

The ethical dimensions involved in the application of economic theories and policies permeate throughout the economics course as students are required to consider and reflect on human end-goals and values. The economics course encourages students to develop international perspectives, fosters a concern for global issues, and raises students' awareness of their own responsibilities at a local, national and international level.

The course also seeks to develop values and attitudes that will enable students to achieve a degree of personal commitment in trying to resolve these issues, appreciating our shared responsibility as citizens of an increasingly interdependent world.

In addition to open-ended response assessments, students will produce a portfolio of three commentaries, based on different sections of the syllabus and on published extracts from the news media. The IB exam will be offered in May.

I GOALS

The student will:

- A. Develop an understanding of microeconomic and macroeconomic theories and concepts and their real-world application. (California Content Standards 12.1 and 12.2)
- B. Develop an appreciation of the impact on individuals and societies of economic interactions between nations. (California Content Standards 12.3, 12.4 and 12.5)
- C. Develop an awareness of development issues facing nations as they undergo the process of change. (California Content Standards 12.6)

II OUTLINE OF CONTENT FOR MAJOR AREAS OF STUDY

Semester 1

A. Microeconomics

- 1. Demand
 - a. Law of demand
 - b. Demand curve
 - c. Non-price determinants of demand
 - d. Shifts of the demand curve
 - e. Linear demand functions, equations, and graphs
- 2. Supply
 - a. Law of supply
 - b. Supply curve
 - c. Non-price determinants of supply
 - d. Shifts of the supply curve
 - e. Linear supply functions, equations and graphs.
- 3. Elasticity
 - a. Price elasticity of demand
 - b. Cross price elasticity of demand
 - c. Income elasticity of demand
 - d. Price elasticity of supply
- 4. Government intervention
 - a. Indirect taxes
 - b. Subsidies
 - c. Price controls
- 5. Market failure
 - a. Meaning of market failure
 - b. Types of market failure

B. Macroeconomics

- 1. Level of overall economic activity
 - a. Economic Activity
 - b. The business cycle
- 2. Aggregate demand
 - a. The AD curve
 - b. Components of AD
 - c. Determinants of AD
 - d. Causes of shifts in the AD curve
- 3. Aggregate supply
 - a. The AS curve

- b. Components of AS
 - c. Determinants of AS
 - d. Causes of shifts in the AS curve
- 4. Equilibrium
 - a. Short-run equilibrium
 - b. The Monetarist/new classical model
 - c. The Keynesian model
- 5. The Keynesian Multiplier
- 6. Macroeconomic objectives
 - a. Low unemployment
 - b. Low and stable rate of inflation
 - c. Economic growth
 - d. Distribution of income
- 7. Fiscal policy
 - a. The role of
- 8. Monetary policy
 - a. The role of
 - b. interest rates
- 9. Supply-side policies
 - a. The role of
 - b. Interventionist supply-side policies
 - c. Market-based supply-side policies
 - d. Evaluation of supply-side policies

C. Final Exam

Semester 2

- A. International Economics
 - 1. International trade
 - a. Free trade
 - b. Trade protection
 - 2. Exchange rates
 - a. Free floating exchange rates
 - b. Government intervention
 - 3. The balance of payments
 - a. Structure of balance payments
 - b. Current account deficits
 - c. Current account surplus
 - 4. Economic integration
 - a. Forms of economic integration
- B. Development Economics
 - 1. Economic development
 - a. The nature of economic growth and development
 - 2. Measuring development
 - a. Measurement methods
 - 3. The role of domestic factors
 - a. Domestic factors and economic development
 - 4. The role of international trade
 - a. International trade and economic development
 - 5. The role of foreign direct investment

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6. The role of foreign aid and multilateral development assistance
7. The role of international debt
 - a. Foreign debt and its consequences
8. The balance between markets and intervention
 - a. Strengths and weaknesses of market-oriented policies
 - b. Strengths and weaknesses of interventionist policies

C. Preparation for IB exam

III ACCOUNTABILITY DETERMINANTS

A. Key Assignments

1. IA – Students will produce a portfolio of three commentaries, based on different sections of the syllabus and on published extracts from the news media. Maximum of 750 words for each commentary.
2. Other – Will include oral presentations, essays, DBQs and chart analysis.

B. Assessment Methods

1. Paper 1 – extended response paper in which students will answer one essay question from Section 1, microeconomics, and one question from Section 2, macroeconomics. Students will be given a choice of two questions from each section.
2. Paper 2 – Extended response paper in which students will answer one essay question from Section 3, international economics, and one question from Section 4, development economics. Students will be given a choice of two questions from each section.
3. Non IB Assessments – Will include oral presentations, essays and DBQs.

IV INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGIES

A. Required Textbook(s)

Title: Economics for the IB Diploma

ISBN: 9780521186407

Format: Print

Author: Ellie Tragakes

Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Year: 2011

B. Supplementary Materials

None

C. Instructional Methodologies

1. Application of economic concepts and theories to real-world situations
2. Identification and interpretation of economic data
3. Use of economic concepts and examples to construct and present an argument.
4. Production of well-structured written material, using appropriate economic terminology, within specified time limits.
5. Selection, interpretation and analysis of appropriate extracts from the news media.
6. Discussion and evaluation of economic information and theories.