

Economics (Econ) -2020 Course Syllabus-

Contact Information

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- Phone: 661-822-2130 ext. 1701 (Please call between 7:00 am to 5:00pm)
- Office Hours: 7:00am-5:00pm (Room 701)
- Remind.com: @teamecon2
- Class Website: <https://www.teh.k12.ca.us/Domain/438>
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/maino_the
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/themainogarage/>
- Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8VLaHtB8AUsubjMDteuUZA>

Course Description

This is not a personal finance class. This is a topical economics course (think Econ 101). At the end of the semester, you will have a fundamental understanding of the economic system, your place in it, and will be able to understand how macro and microeconomics (read: policies and pillars of economic thought) affect your life. All this information will be guided by the California State Teaching Standards for 12th Grade Economics and the Common Core State Content Standards. As a backbone to the course, we will use the Prentice Hall *Economics Principles in Action* textbook. Supplementary materials will be heavily used to supplement the required textbook.

Bring to Class Materials

- Pen/pencil → must be black or blue ink
- Colored pens (highlighters) and pencils → especially useful when we are graphing (which you will be doing a lot of!)
- Composition Notebook or loose-leaf paper (college bound is the best -for notes)
- CALCULATOR → This is an economic course, math is involved!!! **You cannot use the calculators on your cell phones.**

Class Web Resources

I will place all class digital material on the web as PDF files. You can locate these at the Tehachapi High School official website. If you miss a day or need to print out missing assignments, start here before you ask me. The web address is: <https://www.teh.k12.ca.us/Domain/438>.

Anticipated Timeline

We are using the Prentice Hall *Economics Principles in Action* textbook. The following chart is the correlation of the topic/material, chapters in the textbook and anticipated time within the unit of study.

Unit -Topic Theme	Textbook Chapter	Anticipated Weeks in Unit
1 –Introduction to Economics: The Basics	1-3, 17	5
2 –Microeconomics: How Markets Work (Demand/Supply/Prices and Market/Business Structures)	4-9	5
3 –Macroeconomics: Fiscal and Monetary Policies	10-16	5
4 -Exploratory Economics -The New Field of Behavior Economics	--	2

*Various aspects of other chapters will be included in your Unit Packets

Layout of Course

- We cover a variety of subjects every day in class, therefore it is IMPARATIVE that you do not miss this class.
- Each class usually is broken down as follows: homework review, lecture, pair/group/class work and work review.
- Quizzes are usually on Fridays but can change due to the pacing of the class
- Tests are usually on Fridays but can change due to the pacing of the class
 - If you miss a test or quiz, you will make it up the following class period. The only exception to this rule is if an abnormally large number of students miss a quiz/test, in this case the quiz/test will be offered during lunch. If you do not make it during this time, the quiz/test is entered as a ZERO in your grade book unless other arrangements are made.

Class Notes

Notes will be taken almost every day. I will review how I want notes to be completed. Notes are used to answer the essential question (EQ) that are provided for you at the start of the chapter PowerPoint and found on the first page of the Unit Packet. I do not collect the notes themselves but understand this does not mean you shouldn't take them.

Each student will keep a three-ring notebook which will be divided into the following categories:

- Unit Packets (UP)
- Unit Problem Set Packet (UPSP)
- Unit Vocabulary/Chapter (Reading) Quizzes
- Unit Tests/Final

Bring this to class every day! We're always bouncing around in the materials and resources we use; best to have all this stuff with you at all times!

Class Grades/Late Work/Rules/Regulations

Class Overall Grades: Grades will be based on a point system which is weighted. The purpose of this grading scale is to promote the creation of a well-rounded Economics student. The grading scale is as follows:

Topic	Percentage Value	Grades and Ranges 100-90% = A 89.5-80% = B 79.5-70% = C 69.5%-60% = D 59% or lower = F + or – indicates you're within the top or bottom 1% of that respective range
Unit Participation Grade	50%	
Unit Test/Final Grade	30%	
Unit Quiz/Mid-Term Grade	20%	

Grade Mark System: I use two stamps to mark your homework; a “full credit” and “incomplete credit”. A complete credit stamp signifies the work is over 90% complete and is done on-time/correctly. An incomplete stamp signifies the work is not 90% complete and is not done on-time/incorrect. An incomplete stamp automatically earns 50% of the total grade for the assignment (the work still must be completed, if not, all missing points are added together IN ADDITION TO the ½ credit). It is very important that you stay on top of the homework assignments to earn maximum points.

Unit Participation Grade -50% of total grade

- **Unit Packet (UP):** UP’s are based on their respective chapters in the book. UP’s begin with a set of essential questions that will be answered by reading, lecture, and discussion and are due when the UP is turned in at the end of the unit. Most UP’s are broken down into four categories: Preview Questions, PowerPoint Vocab/Questions, Textbook Reading Questions and Closure. We will review all aspects of the UP during class. The bulk of your points are found in the UP, therefore it is VERY IMPORTANT that you keep on top of all UP work. Point value varies in this category.
- **Unit Problem Set Packet (UPSP):** UPSP’s add depth to the material that is covered via the lecture and textbook reading. Point value varies in this category.

Unit Test/Final Grade -30% of total grade

- **Unit Tests:** Tests mark the end of the unit in study; thus any packets/problem sets from that unit that are not turned in BEFORE the test will not be collected. If you are absent for the unit test, you will make-up the test on the following day. Any information that is missed that would better prepare you for the test is your responsibility to cover. Each unit test is valued at 100 non-curved points.
 - **Unit Test Risk Points:** These are VOLUNTARY QUESTIONS that are found at the end of each unit test. Each question is worth a set amount of points that if answered correctly earn you additional points on the test. If they are answered incorrectly, those additional points are removed from your over-all test score. Will you take the risk?
 - **Cell-Phone Tax:** If I see you using your phone, I will place a hashmark next to your name. On the Unit Tests, there is a category called “Cell Phone Usage Tax”. For each hashmark that you earn during the Unit of study, I will remove those amounts of points from your entered score (after test corrections). I want you to realize that economics is all about the study of choices based on the concept of scarcity. The two items that are scarce in this scenario are time (mine and yours) and points.
- **Final Exam:** On average, we cover about 150 vocabulary terms during our course of study. Of these 150 terms, you will be tested on 100 of them via a multiple-choice exam. The Final Exam is entered into your grade as a TEST grade, is valued at 100 points and has no risk points associated with it.

Unit Quiz Grade -20% of total grade

- **Unit Quizzes:** Each unit quiz will cover a chapter in the respective unit and come in one style: combined vocab/reading. The vocabulary component covers terms that we cover and use within class via the PowerPoint. The multiple choice (MC) questions are based off the reading via the questions located within the Unit Packet. If you only look for the vocab terms and rely only on my lecture, you’re going to have issues with the M/C component. There also is a section dedicated to the specific graph being taught. Each quiz is valued at 25 points within that respective unit
 - **Mid-Term Exam:** There is a mid-term exam in this class. The mid-term is valued at 100 points and will be presented as 50 multiple-choice questions that are based on the material that we have covered up to that point. The Mid-Term Exam is counted as a QUIZ grade.

Late Work: I accept late work up to the END OF THE UNIT. The Unit Test “seals” the unit at that point. Any work turned in during this time can receive a maximum grade of 50% of the original score. After the Unit Test, I will enter a ZERO into the grade book for that assignment. This also applies to quizzes or tests. If you miss a quiz or test, you must make it up on the following day. If you do not make up a quiz or test score by the end of the unit, you have earned a zero. If you miss school, be prompt with making up your work!

I do not offer extra credit. I’m not going to give those who are already not completing the regular class work more work not to complete. Stay on top off all assignments and your grade will reflect your effort.

Rules/Regulations: All standards (rules) concerning the dress code, tardiness, and attendance found in the Tehachapi High School Student Handbook are strictly enforced in my classroom. Some notable additions are listed on the General Classroom Expectations, Rules, Regulations, and Information sheet.

Cheating and Plagiarism

The definitions and consequences for cheating and plagiarism are outlined in the Tehachapi High School Student Planner (pg. 4) and will be followed to the LETTER, plus these additions:

Cheating: Any student caught cheating will earn a negative point value for that assignment and will receive a phone call home and a referral to the office. Further action will be taken as necessary.

Plagiarism: Any student caught with material that is not theirs will earn a negative point value on the assignment and will receive a phone call home and a referral to the office. If this happens during a group project, ALL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WILL EARN A NEGATIVE POINT VALUE FOR THAT ASSIGNMENT. Further action will be taken as necessary.

No Cell Phones Allowed *UNLESS I SAY OTHERWISE!!! Remember the Cell Phone Tax!!!*