

Chinese Christian Schools
Advanced Placement Microeconomics
Spring 2011 Course Description

Course Description: Through reading, lecture, discussion, group and individual projects and discussion, students will study the functions and operations of free market economies from a Biblical perspective in preparation for the AP Microeconomics examination. The course will have three major themes - productivity, industry, and integrity – that underscore the study of general economic principles, product markets, cost curves, and international trade.

Course Pre-Requisites:

- minimum 3.0 GPA in high school English and History classes;
- access to the Internet;
- approval of instructor; and
- parent's permission.

Attendance & Classroom Participation Policy

By school policy, students will be dropped from AP standing if absences exceed 10 per quarter or 15 per semester. Students are expected to come to class prepared and will be held accountable for daily assignments through various forms of assessment (e.g. quizzes, discussion, reflections, etc.).

Cooperative Assignments

Part of the class will involve working with other students to complete a group assignment. The student must be willing to work collaboratively and carry out his/her responsibilities outside the classroom.

Textbooks:

Principles of Economics (3rd Edition): N. Gregory Mankiw
ISBN: 0-324-16862-4
ISBN (4th edition): 0-324-42351-9

Materials: Textbooks
Numerous handouts
Newspaper subscription or other source of daily news

Time Allotment: 50 minutes three days per week, 85 minutes one day per week

Areas to be evaluated: (values approximate)

Homework assignments and projects = 25%
In class work and class participation = 15%
Tests and quizzes = 60%

AP Microeconomics Exam:

All students enrolled in this class are expected to take the AP Microeconomics exam in May of 2011. Students that do not take the exam will not be given AP credit for this course nor will they receive the additional grade point in GPA calculation.

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Spring 2011 Class Discipline

Many economic principles are best understood and learned through practice exercises and the use of graphs and charts. Therefore, class attendance and participation are important components of this class. The ability to explain an economic analysis logically and thoroughly is a critical skill, much like being able to complete a geometry proof. Students will be graded for their analytical abilities more than their ability to acquire and recall knowledge and facts.

The class is fast paced and requires students to read and learn some subject areas on their own. Accountability is maintained through tests, quizzes, and assignments. Students who have trouble keeping up with their assignments should seriously consider whether they wish to take this class.

The goal is first that all students will learn the fundamentals of free market economic systems. Second, that they will feel empowered with knowledge and information so they will understand how economic and business decisions are made. Finally, it is hoped that students will do well on the AP exam and earn college units for their efforts.

Assignments

This is a college-level course, and students are expected to turn in college-level work. Assignments are to be submitted electronically whenever appropriate. Students should maintain a copy of graded and ungraded assignments for their own records and review. If a paper copy is submitted, it must either be typed or written neatly in ink. Only standard business fonts (Times, Times New Roman, Palatino, Helvetica, Arial, New Century Schoolbook, or similar) may be used.

Quizzes

To ensure accountability, class periods will often begin with a quiz or short assignment. This is to insure students are prepared for the day's discussion and/or work. Students who miss these quizzes or assignments will not be allowed to make them up as they are considered part of the student's participation grade.

Late Work

Assignments are due on the date and time requested (generally the beginning of class). Late work will be accepted and graded if it is received during the grading period, but a penalty will apply. Work received the same day will be penalized 5%. Work received the following day(s) will be penalized 10% per day up to 50%.

Exams

Unit exams will be modeled after the AP exam and contain multiple choice questions as well as free response questions.

Semester Grade & AP Exam Scores

A student's semester grade will be adjusted upward 5% for receiving a score of "5" on the AP exam and 3% for receiving a score of "4."