

## Economics Northbrook HS Instructor-Mr. Gordon

Welcome to Economics... and Congratulations on making it to your Senior Year!

**Economics** is the social science that is concerned with the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. It concerns each of us and there is no escaping it. Economics is all around us influencing when we get up, what we eat, how and where we live and many other facets of our lives. This class will be a general overview of what can be a very complicated subject; complicated because people are complex and their behavior is complex. But, this can be a very interesting, and in the end, lucrative subject to acquaint yourself with.

The expectations for you the student are for you to:

- (1) go to the bookroom and get an Economics Textbook
- (2) be diligent in your reading of the text
- (3) stay current with assignments and
- (4) stay abreast of current economic events.

There will be group and individual work, class discussion, lecture and outside readings assigned. It will be expected that at least four hours of outside work be done a week. Those students who strive for excellence will put in more time. Essentially, like all social studies classes, this is a class that puts great emphasis on VOCABULARY. Students have different ways of learning new words and we'll be trying different strategies to find one that works for you. You should have a notebook or folder with a listing of all objectives, new vocabulary and ideas and this will be checked periodically. All work should be done in pen (blue or black ink only) on lined paper with your name, date, and period on each page. Failure to follow instructions will impact your grade. Please do not write on the back of your papers. Periodically I will be giving you handouts (like this one) and these must be entered into your folder/notebook. There is a three-hole punch in the classroom. Ask for it. We will be taking copious notes and I will assist you in acquiring this essential skill. Go online and inquire about the Cornell system of taking notes. This will be to your advantage.

A general guide to the class will be as follows: The class is divided into nine units and eighteen chapters and we will be spending about two weeks a unit or a chapter a week. Some chapters will be studied more in depth than others so pay attention to what is coming up and stay current on your reading. This is the primary method for being successful in Economics. Each unit of study will consist of two or more quizzes and an exam. The first unit will be an introduction to Economics and an explanation of "The Economic Problem." The second unit will be a study of Demand, Supply and Market Equilibrium. We will finish the six week grading period with a unit on Business Organizations and Market Structure.

Students needing assistance are encouraged to come to tutorials after school. Come see me for the days I'm available. Be careful of your attendance as this is the principle reason seniors are not able to exempt themselves from the final. You do not want to take the Economics Final and it is easy to exempt yourself from it if you do not have too many absences or tardies!

Again, welcome to the class.

## Current Event Project for Economics

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In order to better understand the concepts studied in class and to improve your ability at reading college level writing you are required once a week to obtain an article pertaining to Economics from any media (newspaper, news magazine, internet site, etc.) Read it, look up any vocabulary unfamiliar to you and write it down. Then, clip the article and paste it onto a piece of loose leaf paper for your folder. You must also write a one or two sentence commentary on the article such as why you chose it or what you learned from it.

Most news has some economic component (or something to do with production, distribution or consumption of goods and services) so it should be relatively easy to find articles dealing with the economy. If you do not have access to media you may use newspapers from my classroom. Be careful that you clip the entire article! Most stories begun on the front page of a newspaper section are continued elsewhere in the paper. You must have the entire article to get credit.

Please include the date of your article and where you got it. For example: The Houston Chronicle, the Wall Street Journal, Newsweek Magazine or a URL if you obtained your article from the internet.

There must be a hard copy of the article for your file so if you obtain it from the internet you must print it. If you have no access to a printer you may send it to me through e-mail and I will print it for you. Do not send me a link! Copy and paste the article onto a document and send it to me that way so I don't end up printing a lot of unnecessary ads and other unneeded text.

You should have the one you are currently working on in your Economics notebook. As you finish it you will collect these into a file in class.

These are due every Friday.