

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
SOSC 4430 Economics Honors  
Course Syllabus

Course Description:

An introduction to the American market economy, including the forces that influence both supply and demand, the informal and formal mechanisms, and the private and government agencies/organizations that control the economy. This course will engage students in areas that should be of vital interest; including areas such as federal/state/local agencies involved in the economy, taxation, operation of the market economy both nationally and globally, and students' impact on the economy. ***Students who take this course are also simultaneously being prepared for AP United States Government and Politics; consequently work for that course will also be scattered throughout the semester and will in part justify the honors designation.***

Curricular Mapping:

Previous social studies courses will provide the foundation for the course, especially US History. This course is designed to provide students with the basic knowledge of economics; including terms, concepts, business structures and tools of management and measurement. Students will analyze the impact of ongoing changes occurring in the economy through analysis of current events. The course will also cover fundamentals of personal finance in an effort to prepare students for life in the "real world." Formal and informal discussions will enhance and reinforce basic understanding. Applicability to the student's' life as well as biblical principles of work, stewardship and charity will be constant themes.

Course Objectives:

Upon the successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Explain biblical standards for stewardship of finances and resources.
2. Understand and define common economic terms and concepts and economic reasoning.
3. Contrast how different economic systems answer the three basic economic questions.
4. Analyze the elements of America's market economy in a global setting.
5. Explain the relationship and influence of the federal government on the American economy.
6. Analyze the elements of the U.S. labor market in a global setting.
7. Interpret and assess the aggregate economic behavior of the U.S. economy.
8. Analyze issues of international trade and explain how the U.S. economy affects, and is affected by, economic forces beyond US borders.
9. Create a personal budget.
10. Complete basic tax forms.
11. Make informed decisions on credit and contracts.

Text:

Your necessary digital texts for this class will be part of a "Required Course Materials Fee" thru the EdTech bookstore. This is a bundle purchase of digital texts for your full schedule of classes and will be available for purchase after 7/18/16. For further instructions please visit the [16-17](#)

[School Year](#) icon on the MVCS homepage. Please note: some courses may require additional purchases outside of the course materials fee.

School Policies and Expected Student Learning Results (ESLRs):

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as found in the Parent-Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student’s responsibility to read and follow all academic policies of Monte Vista Christian School. In addition to addressing each ESLR every year, we target a specific ESLR each academic year for particular focus.

Course Outline

- Unit 1: Economics Terms, Concepts & Reasoning
- Unit 2: America’s Market Economy In A Global Setting
- Unit 3: The Influence of The Federal Government on the American Economy
- Unit 4: The US Labor Market In A Global Setting
- Unit 5: The Aggregate Behavior of the United States Economy
- Unit 6: International Trade & Economic Forces Beyond US Borders
- Unit 7: Economics Semester Final Research Paper

Grading:

<u>Grade Book Categories</u>		<u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration</u>	
Attendance & Participation	10%	Quarter	40%
Homework & Projects	45%	Quarter	40%
Tests	45%	Final Exam	20%

Class Policies:

All students have the right to benefit from the educational experiences of the school. The easiest way to guarantee this takes place in the classroom is for students to follow the logic of the “Golden Rule.” Simply put the logic of the Golden Rule states that if everyone treated everyone else the way they would want to be treated then the world would be a much better place. For more specific nuances please view the Monte Vista student handbook.

High School Standard Grading Policy:

Refer to the parent- student handbook for anything not addressed directly below.

- Homework & Projects – 45%
  - Much of the work for this course will have time set aside for it in class. Students who use the course calendar and budget their time carefully should find that the course does not create an undue amount of homework.
  - ***On-Task Behavior- When time is given in-class to work on assignments, the student is expected to be on-task. When students are off-task (e.g. playing games, messaging, working on other courses, etc.), the instructor has the discretion to deduct points from the assignment’s total point value, up to 50%.***

- o There will be weekly expected reading from the textbook and other provided sources; successful students will budget their time accordingly and prepared to do a small to medium amount of reading every night.
- o There will also be some projects scattered throughout the units that will take a little longer to complete but you will also receive some time to work on them in class.
- o ***This is a college-preparatory environment. Students are expected to turn-in work on-time, and will be held accountable when it is not. Assignments submitted beyond the posted deadline will be accepted for up-to half-credit until the end of the current unit. Any extension of a posted deadline must be granted by the instructor in written format prior to the posted deadline. No exceptions.***
- Tests – 45%
  - o Tests will require you to be familiar with the material we have studied for and each test will be cumulative from the entire unit.. Tests will come either be short answer paragraphs or in class essays. Some tests may be open notes at the discretion of the teacher.
  - o ***For tests missed because of emergency, sickness, or other personal misfortune. If a student misses a test they will not be allowed to make up that exam or quiz without a written explanation from their parent or guardian about why they missed that test.***
  - o ***For tests missed because of extra curricular or school activities. A calendar will be provided to all students at the beginning of the year that lists all test dates and it is the student's responsibility to preemptively make up tests that they will miss for school activities or extracurricular commitments.***
  - o Rationale- The course moves at a rigorous pace and assessments must be completed on time in order to protect the sanctity and integrity of the course.
- Participation – 10%
  - o ***Democracy belongs to those that show up! Your regular attendance in class is vital to your understanding of the material and the course. Ten percent of each quarter's grade will be divided by the number of class days in said quarter, for each absence or tardy in that quarter students will lose the available points for that day.***

Miscellaneous:

1. You can access your grades on Focus. (Parents – the grade you see in Focus during first two weeks of any quarter might not be indicative of your student's final grade.)
2. ALL work submitted to the instructor is graded with assessment and speed in mind. If you have a zero for an assignment a week after its due date it is because the teacher thinks you have not turned in your assignment.