

MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
SOSC 4421 Economics  
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 influence 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.

Curricular Mapping:

Previous social studies courses will provide the foundation for the course, especially U.S. History. This course is designed to provide students with a 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.

## Course Outline

- Unit 1: Introduction to Economics
- Unit 2: How Markets Work
- Unit 3: Business and Labor
- Unit 4: Money, Banking, and Finance
- Unit 5: Measuring & Monitoring Economic Performance
- Unit 6: The Role of Government in the Economy
- Unit 7: The Global Economy

## Grading:

Students and parents can access grades on Focus.

<u>Grade Book Categories</u>		<u>Semester Weighted Grading Configuration</u>	
Tests and Quizzes	60%	Quarter	40%
Homework	20%	Quarter	40%
In-class Activities	20%	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, 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.

- Tests & Quizzes – 60%
  - Tests will require you to be familiar with the material we have studied in class. There will be one test per unit, and tests will contain a variety of different types of questions, like short answer and multiple choice.
- Homework - 20%
  - Homework is never a group effort unless students are assigned to work with their classmates.
  - Homework assignments will be posted in Focus.
  - It is the student’s responsibility to find out his/her homework and what was covered in class if he/she was absent. For a planned absence, see the teacher

before you leave to discuss what you will miss, and when the work is due. Late work is not accepted if we have gone over the material in class (exception – excused absence from class). This is a college preparatory environment. Students are expected to turn in work on time.

- In-class Activities - 20%
  - A variety of different in-class activities will be assigned over the course of the semester, like group projects, video notes, forum responses, etc.
  - It is expected that students will participate actively in class discussion.

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.