

# AP Microeconomics Course Description

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**Instructor:** Mrs. Susanna McConnell

**email:** smcconnell@eanesisd.net

**Classroom:** 268

**tutoring:** Wednesday, Thursday @ 8a, or by apt.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this course is to allow students to deepen their understandings of economics by analyzing individual decisions using marginal analysis. Students will master the principles of microeconomics by examining relationships between the individual choices of consumers and producers, as well as the resulting effects on global markets. Moreover, students will explore governmental efforts to correct market failures to promote greater equity and efficiency.

**Expectations:** Because this is a college-level course, students should expect a rigorous and challenging curriculum, based on the AP syllabus. Since concepts become more complex throughout the semester, it is *imperative* that students complete specified readings and practice problems. These tasks will enable students to be active participants during discussions about real-world applications. If a student misunderstands any concept or assignment, it is his/her responsibility to seek assistance promptly during or after class to clarify any ambiguity. A proactive, engaged, and diligent student will excel in the class and on the AP exam.

Because the teacher strives for effective use of classroom learning, the use of **cellphones** will not be permitted during class, unless specified to enhance learning during specific activities. All due dates for major assignments for each unit will be placed at the front of the room on the board, "Important Due dates", on the class website calendar, and also in Google Classroom.

The teacher expects the class to be efficient, effective, energetic, empathetic, and engaged.

**Supplies:**

1. Headphones
2. IPAD or personal computer fully charged or with charger
3. Spiral/Paper for Practicing Graphs and Problems
4. Pen, pencil, dry erase marker and eraser
5. Textbook resource to *Krugman's Economics for AP*

**Assessments:** Students will demonstrate their knowledge of specific topics through AP practice multiple choice questions, free response questions, quizzes drawn from readings, classroom discourse, individual and large group presentations, and exams. Major exams in this course will be **comprehensive** and incorporate information from previous units to ensure students recall and build their foundational skills in the course.

To enhance their understandings of contemporary topics, students will read articles and case studies from multiple media sources and listen to specific podcasts: these exercises come from sources like *The Economist*, *NPR's Planet Money*, *Forbes*, and *Bloomberg*. The course will include a substantial group project incorporating the application of economic concepts to solve complex issues in our globalized society.

**Grading Policy:** The grading system of the class will be divided as:

| Category            | Description   | Percentage |
|---------------------|---|------------|
| Major               | Learning Checks (per unit), Major Exams, and Projects involving multiple days of research and extensive time for product development                | 70%        |
| Daily/Participation | Assignments completed in class in groups or individually that involve critical and creative thought; might involve work inside and outside of class | 20%        |
| Homework            | Practice Problems, Article Readings, and Blog Posts that are completed outside of class   | 10%        |

Under no circumstance will cheating be tolerated on any assignment. Plagiarism in any form will result in no credit and immediate contact to parents and administration.

**Retakes:** Students who receive a grade below a 70 on a test may retake the test. Within one week after grades are posted, the student must meet with the teacher to review missed concepts and retake the exam in the Testing Center.

**Make-up Work, Late work:** Students will be responsible for all material missed due to absences. They can find all assignments and notes in Google Classroom in Student Resources in a folder labelled, “AP Macroeconomics Student 2017.” This folder will contain all digital material from the course. Assignments for submission in and outside of class will also be posted in Google Classroom. Students who are absent have the time outlined in the Student Handbook to complete work.

Late work will not be accepted for full credit, and will only be accepted until 8 am the next day with a deduction of 20%. This system applies to both work completed in and outside of the classroom. Work submitted beyond this time will not receive credit.

**Incentives:** To better understand the concept and role of incentives in economics, the teacher will provide several opportunities to reward students for positive behavior or work. These incentives enable students to improve their grade on a daily assignment, exam, or to receive special privileges during class.

| AP Microeconomic Topics                            |  |
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| Basics of Economics (8-14%)                        | Factor Markets(10-18%)                             |
| The Nature and Function of Product Markets(55-70%) | Market Failure and the Role of Government (12-18%) |
|  | Economic Growth and Productivity (5-10%)           |