

Economics

Course Syllabus 2025-26

Instructor: Brandon Gierach
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Grade Level: 11 – 12

Course Length: 1 semester (2nd semester)

Credit: 0.5 credits

Prerequisites: none



Description:

The course will explore the fundamentals of economics. These will be examined by looking at both micro- and macro- economics. The course will analyze the interaction between individuals, businesses, and governments and their effect on economic activity.

Course Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Make informed economic decisions
- Evaluate trade-offs, scarcity, and opportunity costs
- Explain the difference between various economic systems
- Describe the role of individuals, resources, and supply and demand in economic decisions
- Compare and contrast various market structures
- Identify causes of market failures and economic disruption
- Analyze factors in economic growth, inflation, unemployment, and government spending
- Examine the effect of trade agreements and currency fluctuations on international trade

Course Outline:

Course Content

1. Economic Choices
2. Scarcity, Incentives, Trade-offs, and Opportunity Costs
3. Economic Systems
4. Movement of Economic Activities
5. Supply and Demand
6. Market Structures
7. Market Failures
8. Factors of Economic Growth
9. Inflation
10. Unemployment
11. Monetary Policy
12. International Trade

Course Materials:

Required textbook:

Clark, Anthony. *Economics Through Everyday Life*. Zephyros Press, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-1623156688
ISBN-10: 1623156688

Housel, Morgan. *Same As Ever*. Harriman House, 2023. ISBN-13: 978-0593332702 ISBN-10: 0593332709

Other needed course materials will be made available via the online Learning Manage System (LMS).

Evaluation & Grading Scale:

Assignments: Each graded activity in the course is assigned a certain number of points. The course percentage grade will be determined by comparing the points earned out of points possible and then converting to a letter grade based on the grading scale below. Late assignments will lose points for being late. A student's current grade in the course will be available as we progress .

Academic Honesty: All work submitted to meet course requirements is expected to be the student's own work. Students will be held to the academic honesty policy in effect at their school, which may include failing the course for violations of the policy.

Grading Scale:

98-100 A+	87-89 B+	77-79 C+	67-69 D+	
93-97 A	83-86 B	73-76 C	63-66 D	0-59 F
90-92 A-	80-82 B-	70+72 C-	60-62 D-	

Instructor Policies:

Expected of Students:

1. Check in on the course on a daily basis, Monday through Friday. Generally, students have been scheduled by their school to work on this course at a specific time each school day. Be faithful in using this time to work on this course. If you will be absent from class on a particular day, or if you miss class because of illness, be sure to let me know.
2. Expectations for this course are high, but reasonable. Everyone is very busy with his or her other courses, activities, and responsibilities, yet you are expected to complete all work on time. If you need an extension of time, please make the request via private email prior to the due date.
3. Communicate! If you have questions or concerns on a particular assignment or activity, please send me a private email or make a public posting in the Instructor's Office Forum. Good two-way communication is very important to having a successful experience!

AGVA Policies:

AGVA policies are listed in the ***Student Handbook***, available on the [AmazingGraceVA.org](https://www.amazinggraceva.org) website under [Resources, Handbooks](#). This includes policies on non-discrimination, anti-harassment, student expectations, attendance, academic honesty, student discipline, student grades, course add/drop, etc.

Please note the policy on **attendance** that states in part:

“Even if a student’s local school does not have school on a particular day (snow day, teacher’s conference, quarter break, choral fest, class trip, etc.) AGVA courses will continue to meet and students are expected to complete required work on time.”

If students are not full-time students at AGVA, they also fall under the policies of the school where they attend as a full-time student. When applicable, that school’s policies will also be applied to enrollment in AGVA courses.