



McLean High School Course Description and Expectations

Course: AP Macroeconomics/AP Microeconomics

Prerequisites: An interest in applied mathematics, the business world, and governmental policy would be well served in these courses. Prior knowledge of economics is not necessary; however, a solid background in Algebra/Algebra II is needed in order to help students in constructing and analyzing graphs.

Short Course Description: These courses are designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement exams in Macroeconomics and Microeconomics. The ultimate goal is to build economic literacy for students—to help them understand how economic systems function and what their roll in those systems might be.

Summer Assignment: No summer assignment will be given. Pre-reading is recommended, particularly the chapters dealing with Keynes, Ricardo, and monetary economics in the text *New Ideas from Dead Economists* by Todd Buchholz.

Work Load during the School Year: Students can expect to read approximately one(1) chapter (20-30 pages) per block. Typical assignments will include practice problems (multiple choice and free response) and current events analysis about once per week.

Special Course Information: These two(2) courses cannot be divided; this is a year-long curriculum which builds on concepts as the year progresses. Economics can be very difficult for students who are strictly linear thinkers. One must be willing to accept that economic problems are often extremely complex and do not have simple cause-effect relationships.

Available Support: I am available before and after school and can easily be reached at night via email to address student questions, and I use Blackboard extensively to make print and audio resources easily accessible. Numerous review books are available from a variety of publishers such as Princeton Review and Barron's.

I have read the course description and expectations above.

.....
Student signature

.....
date

I am aware my student is enrolling in this AP Course and I have read the course description and expectations.

.....
Parent signature

.....
date