

AP Macroeconomics Syllabus Cold Spring Harbor 2009/2010

Teacher: Mr. Pesca

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Periods 1,4,9

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Course Description

This course is an introduction to macroeconomics. This subdivision of economics deals with the economy as a whole: aggregate national income and output, government spending and taxation, money banking, monetary policy and international trade. Microeconomics focuses on individual economic entities. Macroeconomics deals with the overall level of output, its rate of growth and the level of prices in general.

Text

The textbook for this course will be Campbell R McConnell and Stanley L, Brue, Economics: Principles, Problems and Policies, 16th edition. The publisher maintains a website for the text (www.mhhe.com/economics/mcconnell). The website contains helpful information such as, answers to key questions, practice quizzes and tests.

Format of the Class

This is a college level course. As a result, it is imperative that the student completes all reading and homework when assigned. A considerable amount of instruction will be in the form of lecture and discussion. The student must keep up with the reading in order to effectively participate. The limited amount of time in class means the students must take it upon themselves to complete the homework assignments.

One of my main goals for this class is to make this course and its instruction as real world applicable as possible. While this is not a finance course, this field including the stock market and mortgages play an important role in the real world. There will be a continuing stock market challenge through a virtual stock exchange in team format.

If a student is experiencing difficulty with any concepts they may come to extra help at regularly scheduled times to be announced in class or by appointment.

Absences

The student is responsible for notes and assignments missed because of absences (excused or unexcused, extracurricular related or not). Students should acquire the phone numbers or email addresses of other students to help keep up. Work assigned before the absence is due the day they return. A high level of attendance is expected which can only help to ensure success of the student in this college level course.

Grading

Grading for this course will be calculated mathematically through a points system.

There are three major components for grades through the year, chapter exams, homework and quizzes, and projects/papers. Homework assignments and quizzes will be given throughout the year. There will be point penalties for late assignments.

Assignments

There will be daily reading assignments from the textbook as well as other relevant sources. Assignments and due dates of the assignments will be announced in class and the assignments due will regularly be posted in the classroom. Information about the stock market project can also be found on the school website.

Senior Research Paper

Each student will be required to complete a 4-6 page fully documented research paper which examines some aspect of global, national, state, or local issue and how economics plays an important role in that issue. The research paper is required to be supported by utilizing at least four sources, at least one of which needs to be a non-internet source. Any internet source must be from a legitimate database. The format of the research paper should be in the MLA writing style and the paper should contain internal citations as well as a works cited page. The assignment will be broken into three parts. The first portion will be a formal one page topic proposal which will be due by the end of October. The second portion of the assignment will be an annotated bibliography of the sources to be used in the paper and will be due at the end of November, after Thanksgiving break. The final portion of the assignment will be the completed paper and will be due before the end of the second quarter, the end of January.

Please read and sign acknowledging understanding of the syllabus.

Student's Name (Printed): _____ Class Period: _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Home Phone: _____

Parent's Work/Cell #: _____

Email: _____