

HONORS ECONOMICS BARWICK

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course of study takes the student on an intellectual journey to help him understand the complexity of America's economy. This course focuses on the basic issue of scarcity and how it affects consumer decision-making as well as choices made by countries. Students who complete the Honors Economics course are awarded an additional five points on their averages at the end of the semester. Because of the additional points, students will be required to move at a faster pace and complete more rigorous assignments. Students will have homework several times each week. Students will also be required to complete reading assignments outside of class and be prepared to discuss those passages in class. Numerous projects will also be completed during the semester.

END OF COURSE TEST:

It is very important that all students and parents understand that the State of Georgia requires all Economics students to take an Economics End of Course Test. This test will count 20% of the student's final average in the class. The student's semester class average will count 80% of the student's final grade. All Economics students will take the EOCT approximately three to four days before the end of the semester. Because the test is given at the end of the course and there will not be a lot of time remaining in the semester to improve the class average, it is **very important** that the student work as hard as possible in class on all class assignments throughout the semester.

COURSE OUTLINE:

In order to fully prepare the student for the EOCT, the content of the class will be divided into five areas. The following is a description of the areas:

I. Fundamental Economic Concepts: scarcity, supply, demand, factors of production, circular flow model, three basic economic questions, trade-offs and opportunity costs

II. Producers and Consumers: specialization, division of labor, investments, producers, wages, consumers, resources, savings and loan

III. Microeconomic Concepts: price floor, price ceiling, substitute, complementary, barter, monopoly, oligopoly, partnership, corporation, sole proprietorship, stock, collective bargaining, equilibrium price, and production possibilities curves

IV. Macroeconomic Concepts: Federal Reserve System, collateral, discount rate, reserve requirement, inflation, unemployment, gross domestic product, consumer price index, aggregate supply and demand

V. International Trade: exchange rates, types of economies, appreciate, depreciate, tariff

COURSE FORMAT:

I have a motto for my class. We “**work hard, have fun and love all**”. During this semester of Economics the student will be required to **work hard**. At least two to three days a week the student will be required to take notes. During the note taking process the student can participate by answering questions in class. When a student correctly answers questions in class, he will be rewarded with extra points that will be added to the next test grade. The maximum score that a student can receive on a test is a 100. If a student earns over a 100 with the additional points, some of those points will be banked until the next test. Good note taking skills are very important so that the student will have a clear understanding of what should be studied for the test.

The student will also **have fun**. In this course the students are asked to complete several projects. These projects give students an outlet for being creative while having fun with their peers. Also at the end of a unit, the class will participate in a summarizing activity that is sure to be lots of fun. The bottom line is that we are all here to have fun while learning about very important information.

Finally, the student will be asked to **love all**. This course is designed in such a way that students will be constantly interacting with one another. There is a tremendous amount of material that must be covered and students will sometimes be asked to work together to discover information. It is very important that each student is treated with respect and dignity.

BOOKS:

The textbook used in this class is called Contemporary Economics. Students will not be issued a book. Instead, students will be given a book to use in class.

Students will also be reading Naked Economics by Charles Wheelan. Copies will be issued to each student.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Notebook (3 ring binder with lots of paper)
2. Pen or pencil
3. Calculator

GRADING SCALE:

Tests and projects	40%
Daily Work and Homework	30%
Special Assignments (Quizzes, essays)	20%
Final Benchmark Exam	<u>10%</u>
	100%

NOTE TO THE PARENTS:

I am a firm believer that if a parent is involved in a student's education, the student has greater potential for success. Please feel free to call (225-5050) or email me (lbarwick@thomas.k12.ga.us) as needed. You may also sign up for messages using the **Remind 101** program. This program allows me to send out reminders concerning tests, projects or any other important information. Instructions for signing up on Remind 101 are attached. A final place where you can receive information is on my webpage. You can access the webpage by going to the Thomas County Schools website.

I will also contact you if I see that there is a problem, disciplinary or academic, that I believe you should be made aware of. Please remember that all students must pass Economics in order to graduate from Thomas County Central High School. I am here to assist you and your student in any way possible so that he or she will be successful.

_____ (Student Name)

PARENT SIGNATURE

DATE

CLASS RULES:

1. If a cell phone is seen or heard, it will be taken and given to an administrator. A parent or guardian must come to the school to collect it. A student can pay \$10.00 to have the cell phone returned.
2. If a young lady in class appears to be distracted by something that is in her purse or book bag, the purse or book bag will remain on the teacher's desk throughout the remainder of class. It will be returned at the end of the period.
3. Don't sit on the desks because the tops will easily break.
4. Don't play games or listen to music on the computer.
5. Don't sleep in class.
6. No headphones, IPODS, etc. will be allowed in class.
7. Cheating will not be tolerated. If a student is caught cheating on an assignment, a conference will be held between the teacher and the student. If necessary, a parent will be contacted and a referral will be sent to the office.
8. No gum or candy in class. (Unless given to the students by the teacher).
9. No drinks or food in class.
10. Do not write notes in class or the note will be read in front of the class.

*** Each student will be given 3 bathroom passes for the nine weeks. If a student has already used all three passes and would still like to go to the bathroom or to get water that is fine. The student will simply be asked to come after school and serve a 15 minute detention. ***

CONSEQUENCES:

1. A student can receive after school detention for breaking any of the 10 rules listed above.
2. If a student is assigned more than two after school detentions during a nine-week period, the parent will be contacted.
3. If the behavior continues, the student will be referred to an administrator.