
PETERS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: ACADEMIC ECONOMICS

Course Overview and Essential Skills

This course will provide a foundational understanding of both micro and macroeconomics. Students will learn the basics of economic thinking, supply and demand, and other economics concepts. By the end of the course, they will be able to analyze economic problems and make choices based on the consideration of costs and benefits.

Course Textbook and Required Materials

- Economics: Concepts and Choices (2013). ISBN # - 978-0-547-08294-3
- Online Text Access – classzone.com (code for student access is 73622221-20.)

Course Outline of Material Covered:

Unit or Topic	Concepts/Skills/Resources	Timeframe
Economics and Choice	The central problem of Economics; the economic way of thinking; various economic systems; how to make decisions based on costs and benefits; supply and demand simulation “The People’s Republic of Capitalism”, “Lego Movie” Articles and news clips from approved sources	5 weeks
Supply, Demand and Choice	The laws of supply and demand; the role of prices in our economy; the elasticity of supply and demand; the effect of price controls; rent control simulation Excerpt from “The Tipping Point” by Malcolm Gladwell The Hudsucker Proxy Segments from “Crash Course Economics” Articles and news clips from approved sources	5 weeks
Market Structures and Business Organizations	Types of markets; oligopolies and game theory simulation; business organizations; Starting Your Own Business activity; Smart Stocks investment activity Articles and news clips from approved sources Excerpts from “Amazon Rising”	3 weeks
Money, Banking and Finance	The concept of money; causes and effects of the Financial Crisis of 2008; savings and interest investigation; stock scenarios activity Articles and news clips from approved sources Segments from “Crash Course Economics” “Money” – Modern Marvels CNBC Originals – “House of Cards” (documentary on 2008 crisis) “Inside Job”	3 weeks
Measuring Economic Performance	How to determine the health of the US economy; the business cycle; the effect of unemployment and inflation on our economy; economic health investigation Articles and news clips from approved sources	2 weeks

**Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.*

Grading Scale

A = 100% - 90% **B** = 89.5% - 80% **C** = 79.5% - 70% **D** = 69.5% - 60% **F** = below 60%