

Economics: (One Semester Course)

2016-2017 School Year

Mr. Van Ells (Room 736)

jvanells@potsdam.k12.ny.us

Websites:

www.jvanells.info

www.teachtci.com

Course Structure:

Economics is the study of the choices and decisions people make about how to use the world's resources. Understanding economics will help you make informed decisions for yourself and assess the decisions made by others. Different tools will be used to learn about our government and economics. Here is a partial list of them:

1. Reading the textbook
2. Completing online interactive notebook
3. Completing online reading challenges
4. Writing Activities
5. Personal Finance Activities
6. Research and Presentation of an Economic Topic
7. Project Based Learning
8. Summative Assessments

Evaluation:

The grading in each block for this course is based on the following:

1. Projects, Presentations & Chapter Tests - 40%
2. Summative Assignments (Writing Activities, Reading Challenges and Other Assignments)- 40%
3. Formative Assignments (Interactive Notebook and Other Assignments) – 20%

Homework assignments in this course can be either Formative or Summative. Failure to complete any assignment could result in a disciplinary referral. Students are responsible for all coursework if they are absent. Failure to complete all required coursework could result in a grade of Incomplete. Late assignments from 1 to 7 calendar days from the due date will be penalized 10%. Late assignments from 8 to 14 calendar days from the due date will be penalized 20%. Assignments later than 14 calendar days will not be accepted and will receive 0 points.

Final Grade = 1st Block, 40% 2nd Block 40%, Final Exam 20%

Students and Parents who register may view grades online using SchoolTool

Academic Honesty Policy:

All writing that you submit for credit in this course will be your own work. Do not copy published or unpublished writing without providing a full citation for the work. If you have any question about proper documentation of sources, see me for guidance. No credit will be awarded for work that violates the standards of academic honesty.

Textbook:

Econ Alive! The Power to Choose, TCI Publishing, Pala Alto, CA, 2014

This is a unique program that offers an interactive learning environment that allows students to complete an interactive notebook, take chapter quizzes and complete other exercises online. Students will need access to a computer, tablet or smart phone.

Materials:

Students should bring a one inch loose leaf binder with a supply of paper to class each day to record information given in class. Bring 2 pens or pencils to class each day. Please have available colored pencils and a ruler when necessary. No assignments will be accepted on notebook paper torn from a spiral notebook. There is a large supply of lined paper available in my room for those who need it. (No Exceptions) Keep in mind that some assignments are required to be typed.

Course Outline:

The Economic Fundamentals

An Economic Way of Thinking (Chapter 1)

How can you think like an economist?

Economic Decision Making (Chapter 2)

Why can't you always get what you want?

Economic Systems

Who or what decides what you get?

Gains from Trade (Chapter 4)

How does trade make people better off?

How Markets Work

Demand and Supply (Chapter 5)

What are demand and supply, and what factors influence them?

Markets, Equilibrium, and Prices (Chapter 6)

How do you know when the price is "right"?

Market Structures and Market Failures (chapter 7)

What happens when markets do not work perfectly?

Economic Institutions and Organization

Money, Banking, Savings and Investing (Chapter 8)

How should you spend, save, and invest your money?

Entrepreneurs and Business Organizations (Chapter 9)

How do entrepreneurs use their resources to start businesses?

Human Capital and the Labor Market (Chapter 10)

Why is it important to develop your human capital?

Economics and the Public Sector

Government and the Economy (Chapter 11)

How should the U.S. government carry out its economic roles?

Taxes and Taxation (Chapter 12)

Who and what should be taxed?

Measuring and Managing the Economy Measuring the Economy (Chapter 13)

How do economists measure a nation's economic health?

Fiscal and Monetary Policy (Chapter 14)

How do policymakers use fiscal and monetary policy to stabilize the economy?

Globalization and the Global Economy

The United States and the Global Economy (Chapter 15)

How do countries conduct trade in the global economy?

The Cost and Benefits of Globalization (Chapter 16)

Do the benefits of globalization outweigh the costs?