

AP Microeconomics Scope & Sequence

Grading Period	Unit Title or Big Idea	AP Standards and Learning Targets	Assessment Evidence
Throughout the Semester	Microeconomic Issues in the Real World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Investigate issues within our global economic system at a small-scale. ● Recognize the multiple perspectives behind issues of importance. ● Analyze current trends in consumer and producer behavior globally. ● Apply economic concepts to the real-world through article analysis, blog posts, case studies, and small-group discussions. ● Discuss the implications of consumer and producer behavior on market systems. ● Communicate ideas on issues to a small and large group. ● Take action on issues of importance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Small Group Discussions ● Think, Pair, Share ● Stations Activities ● Online Blog Posts ● Socratic Seminar ● Full Group Discussions
First Grading Period, Unit 1, The Basics of Economics	<p>The Basics of Economics</p> <p>Why study economics? What is economics? How do institutions distribute scarce resources? How do we graphically show the interaction of buyers and sellers?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Define the science of economics. ● Distinguish between opportunity cost, scarcity, and trade offs. ● Distinguish between macroeconomics and microeconomics. ● List the three basic economic questions. ● Define comparative advantage and specialization and benefits of exchange. ● Using graphical and tabular analysis, show the benefit of employing comparative advantage. ● Use a production possibilities curve to demonstrate opportunity cost and growth. ● List the determinants of demand and supply. ● Recognize which factors will cause demand curves or supply curves to shift. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pitch of Economics Units ● The Economics of Olympics ● Marginal Analysis of Colleges Task ● Commanding Heights Video - Transitions from Command Economies to Market Economies Discussion ● Production Possibilities Curve Practice Problems

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use a circular flow model to model a market. ● Distinguish between changes in quantity demanded and a change in demand. ● Distinguish between changes in quantity supplied and a change in supply. ● Determine effects on price and quantity when equilibrium changes. ● Distinguish between a normal and inferior good. ● Distinguish between a substitute and a complementary good. Predict the effect of an effective price ceiling or floor in a market. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Specialization and Trade FRQ ● Demand and Supply Practice Headlines ● Video Choice Day: Unit 1 in the Real World ● Debate: Minimum Wage ● Unit 1, Exam: The Basics of Economics
First Grading Period, Unit 2, Consumer Choice and Elasticity	<p>Unit 2, Consumer Choice and Elasticity</p> <p>How does consumer behavior impact markets?</p> <p>How do producers respond to consumer behavior?</p> <p>How does government intervention in markets impact various stakeholders?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Calculate elasticity using the midpoint formula. ● Use demand and supply graphs to show the effect of differences in elasticity. ● Define the law of marginal utility. ● Use the income and the substitution effect to explain the down-sloping demand curve. ● Apply the utility-maximizing rule. ● Use the total revenue test to determine the elasticity.* ● Given a demand/supply graph, identify/calculate the area of consumer surplus/producer surplus. ● Identify/calculate the area of consumer/producer surplus when the government imposes a tariff and the incidence of a tax on buyers & sellers with the deadweight loss. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Calculating Elasticity, Practice Problems ● Simulation: Marginal Utility Task ● Small Group Presentation: Producer Responses to Elasticity ● Elasticity FRQ ● Economics in my Life Task ● Unit 2, Exam: Consumer Choice and Elasticity
First Grading Period/Second Grading Period, Unit 3, Producer Behavior and Costs	<p>Unit 3, Producer Behavior and Costs</p> <p>How does producer behavior impact market outcomes?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Define the law of diminishing marginal returns. ● Make a distinction between the short and the long run. ● Distinguish between short run costs and long run costs.* ● Identify where producers maximize profits, where marginal revenue is equal to marginal costs.* ● Distinguish economic profit from accounting profit. ● Identify per unit costs when given total costs and output. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Diminishing Returns Simulation Task ● Calculating Costs, Practice Problems ● Economies of Scale: Podcast ● Midterm

	<p>How do input costs impact producer decisions?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify per unit costs when given per unit costs output. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Economics in the News Task ● Discussion: Economics in the News ● Economics in the World Video: Project
<p>Second Grading Period, Unit 4 The Theory of the Firm</p>	<p>Unit 4, The Theory of the Firm</p> <p>How do the firm's decisions impact consumers?</p> <p>How do various market structures vary?</p> <p>What impact does market control have on various stakeholders (consumers, producers, and governments)?</p> <p>How does the government intervene in markets to distribute resources more equitably?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify the key characteristics of a perfectly competitive firm. In words and graphical analysis, show the short and long run equilibrium of the perfectly competitive firm (allocative/productive efficiency). ● Use the profit-maximizing rule ($MR=MC$) to determine output price for the PC firm. ● Identify the key characteristics of a monopolistically competitive firm. ● Explain the meaning of product differentiation and price discrimination in various markets.* ● In words or graphical analysis, show the equilibrium of the monopolistically competitive firm in the short and the long-run. ● Use the profit-maximizing rule ($MR=MC$) to determine output price for the MC firm in the short and long run (allocative/productive efficiency). ● Identify the key characteristics of a monopoly. ● In words and graphical analysis, show the profit scenario of a single price monopolist and a perfectly price-discriminating monopolist (allocative/productive efficiency). ● Use the profit-maximizing rule ($MR=MC$) to determine output price for the monopoly. ● Identify the government policies employed when a firm exercises monopoly power or is a natural monopoly. ● Identify the key characteristics of an oligopoly. ● Predict the behavior of oligopolistic firms using game theory and profit matrixes. ● Identify Nash equilibrium and the dominant strategy of an oligopoly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Comparing 4 Firms Overview Handout ● Perfectly Competitive Firms, Graphing Practice ● Monopoly Firms, Graphing Practice ● Podcast: Monopolies in the Real World ● Current Event Readings ● Product Differentiation Commercial, Small Group ● Price Discrimination Reading: What Supermarkets Don't Want You to Know ● Discussion: What Supermarkets Don't Want You to Know ● Game Theory Simulation: Cartels ● Oligopoly: Practice Problems ● Case Studies: Types of Firms ● FRQ: Theory of the Firm ● Unit 4, Exam ● Music Video, Theory of the Firm Project

<p>Second Grading Period, Unit 5 Factor Markets</p>	<p>Factor Markets</p> <p>How do input costs (from the factors of production) impact the final price in markets?</p> <p>How do labor markets vary across industries?</p> <p>Why do firms decide to hire workers at certain wage rates?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Define derived demand. ● Given a graph of a firm’s production schedule and a market wage, determine the quantity of labor a profit-maximizing firm would hire in a perfectly competitive labor market. ● Explain the meaning of the least-cost hiring rule.* ● Given a graph or firm’s production schedule, determine the market wage and the quantity of labor a profit-maximizing firm would hire in an imperfectly competitive market. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Group Task: Jigsaw for Factor Markets ● Derived Demand, Practice Problems ● Least Cost Hiring Practice Problems, FRQ ● Debate: Unions in Labor Markets
<p>Second Grading Period, Unit 6 Market Failure and Government Intervention</p>	<p>Market Failure and Government Intervention</p> <p>How do property rights impact consumer decisions?</p> <p>How can governments interact in markets to promote efficiency and equity in resource markets?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Explain the tragedy of the commons (the free rider problem), and the solution to the tragedy of the commons.* ● Define a public good. ● List the economic functions of the government. ● Explain negative and positive externalities and give examples of each. ● Identify possible remedies for market failure that might be employed to achieve a socially optimal allocation of resources. Explain the concept of income inequality (distribution of income) and how it connects to various systems.* ● Identify the methods of calculating the income equality using the Lorenz Curve and the GINI coefficient. ● Identify the two principles used to assess fairness of a tax (the benefits principle and ability to pay principle). ● List the effect of income and payroll taxes on the economy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tragedy of the Commons Simulation and Task ● Solutions to the Tragedy of the Commons Activity ● Graphing Practice, Negative and Positive Externalities ● Creating Equitable Market Systems Task ● Final Project: The Hidden Economist