

# Government/Economics

Econ

Teacher: Adam Underhill  
Email: [aunderhill@warrick.k12.ins.us](mailto:aunderhill@warrick.k12.ins.us)

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**Course Description:** This course is the study of our economic system through the use of analytical tools. These tools will help the student understand how the system works and the consequences of various solutions to economic problems. The overall objective is to teach the student how to apply these tools to analyze personal and national problems. As with all of economics the most basic problem is a problem of scarcity (or how do we allocate scarce resources to satisfy unlimited desires).

## Course Goals:

### Economics

- **Scarcity**—An understanding of the concept of scarcity and how it affects the decisions consumers make.
- **Economic systems and institutions**—An understanding of the various economic systems and institutions which exist in the world, as well as the advantages/disadvantages of each.
- **Markets**—A knowledge and understanding of markets, how they work and their effect on society.
- **Production, Distributions and Consumption**—An understanding of the means and methods by which products and services are made available to societies.

**Evaluation Methods:** Tests, Quizzes, Big Questions, Homework, Projects, Presentations, Writing Assignments, etc. The teacher reserves the right to implement the grading strategies and methods that he deems necessary to facilitate maximum learning for every student. Assessment will be given on a point by point basis with an equal distribution of points across all assignments.

## Classroom Rules:

1. *Always ask questions* – It is imperative to learning that students ask questions. Therefore, at logical times throughout each lesson, a student should ask any (and all) questions, pertaining to the content, which they have.
2. *Always read/follow directions* – One cannot be successful in life without being attentive to directions at all times. Students will be required to read and follow all directions given by the teacher in a timely manner.
3. *Show respect in all circumstances* – When students foster an environment of respect towards their peers, themselves and the classroom learning will be optimized and all students will benefit.

Failure to comply with the above rules will result in disciplinary measures ranging from verbal warnings to disciplinary referrals for more serious offenses. The teacher reserves

the right to add additional rules in the case of a habitually unruly class or extraordinary situation.

**Course Materials:**

- Three ring binder no less than 1 ½ inch
- Loose-leaf 8 ½ x 11 inch notebook paper
- Pens
- One set of colored pencils
- One highlighter

**Late Work Policy:** For each day that an assignment is late the student will be deducted one letter grade on that assignment. For example, if an assignment is worth 100 points and due on Monday and the student turns it in at the beginning of class Wednesday the most the student could receive on the assignment is 80 points (if they turned it in at the end of class Wednesday the most they could receive would be 70 points). After five days no late work will be accepted.

**Make-up Work Policy:** If a student has an excused absence the teacher will put together any work (to be graded) for the day and provide it to the student at the first possible opportunity. The student has the same number of days to turn in missed work as they have days that are excused. In the event of an unexcused absence the student has one day from the day they return to school to turn in any make up work.

**Grading Scale:**

100-92 A

83-91 B

74-82 C

65-74 D

Below 65 F

**Modifications/Changes to the Syllabus:** This syllabus represents the general guidelines for this course however the teacher reserves the right to modify this document as he sees fit.

I very much look forward to teaching all of you this school year. You're going to learn a great deal and you'll probably think the content is difficult but I believe you will find that with hard work and perseverance you will be able to master it. I am confident that you will find me an accessible teacher who is very willing to go above and beyond for those students who are putting in the effort in this class. Feel free to email me with questions and I will address them promptly.

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Adam Underhill  
Castle High School