



J. F. Oberlin University

ACADEMIC COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE NAME:

Economy and Finance

MEETING TIMES:

45 Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday (days may vary based on activity schedule)

Periods: 1 – 4 (periods and times may vary based on activity schedule)

DESCRIPTION:

This course will cover an introduction to microeconomic and macroeconomic principals. In addition, the course will cover a basic overview of personal finance with a focus on savings and investment strategies. The principals of supply and demand curves will be studied. We will discuss the reasoning and rationale that drives people to make choices in the marketplace as well as the short-term and long-term financial implications of those decisions. We will review commonly used economic measures including GPD, PPP, and COGS. Tools and strategies for financial planning will be examined. Basic money management and investment techniques will be compared and analyzed. The course meets for a minimum of 45 hours per two-week period. Students receive 4 Oberlin University credits and a Certificate of Completion for passing with a minimum grade of a D.

COURSE LEVELS:

Classes are taught and conducted in English. No Japanese language level is required.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/ OUTCOMES:

By the end of the session, students should be able to understand:

- 1) How to read and describe a supply and demand graph
- 2) Understand the basic differences between microeconomics and macroeconomics
- 3) How to create a financial planning tool for their short-term and long-term goals
- 4) Able to understand and explain the exponential growth of money using compounding interest

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture, participatory (dialogical, reciprocal learning), inquiry (research & inquiry, cooperative group, engage by generating questions), critical thinking and constructive thinking (analyzing and examining media, multiple alternative culture), creative future thinking (action agenda, root cause, exchange ideas).

TEXTBOOK(S) AND/OR CLASS MATERIALS:

The instructor will provide class materials.

GRADING, CERTIFICATE, GRADING PLAN & EVALUATION:

All students will get a grade for this academic course. You will also get a Certificate of Completion at the end of the course. Students who do not pass with a letter grade of D or above will not be awarded a Certificate of Completion.

Grading Scale:

90-100 = A 80-89 = B 79-70 = C 60-69 = D 50 and below = F

Breakdown:

- Class Participation: 25%
- Attendance: 25%
- Assignments: 20%
- Final Project: 30%

COURSE POLICIES:

It is required for students to attend all classes and come to class on time. Students should refrain from using cell phones while in class and eating during class times.

STUDENT CONDUCT:

Students are expected to conduct themselves well in the class. Disciplinary action may be taken for but not limited to dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism.

COURSE CONTENTS

Daily Contents

- Introduction: structure, pedagogy, assignment and grading, forming groups.
- Introduction to macroeconomics
- Basic economic terms and thought experiments
- The Producer and The Consumer
- Game theory
- Competition and the markets – monopolies and oligopolies
- What is a central bank?
- Introduction to microeconomics
- Measuring supply and demand with math and graphs
- Substitute goods and price elasticity
- Introduction to finance
- Personal financial planning tools
- Exponential growth and exponential debt
- Investing: comparing real estate, stocks, and bonds
- Stock market simulation
- Student presentations