Economics

Benjamin Buso



Ask five economists the same question and you'll get five different answers - six if one went to Harvard. -Edgar Fiedler.

My Welcome: Welcome to Economics! It is my distinct pleasure to be your instructor this semester! This course will provide you with the tools to help you be successful in high school, college and after. Take this course seriously because it could be one of the most important courses you take throughout your academic career. One of my goals this semester is to help you feel confident as you embark upon the rest of your studies. I will guide you, cheer for you, coach you, and hold you accountable. This class as well as your other courses will require time management.

Course Description: Economics is a course designed for seniors at EECHS. This is the most useful and practical course you will take at EECHS. This course is not for the faint of heart, but rather for serious students who have a serious desire to understand personal finance (what you do with your money) economic theory, how large institutions like banks, corporations, and world governments manage their economies, and an area I struggle greatly with, decision making. Money is the fuel that powers the engine of society and if you do not understand how that engine works, that engine will run you over. In this class you will learn how to manage your personal finances, make major purchases/investments, and avoid bankruptcy later in life. You will also learn how business and the world economy functions. These things are important.

Course Objective: Economics is the study of how people make decisions and how these decisions apply to real-world problems. Economics can help us understand income inequality within and across countries, the quality of the environment, unemployment, poverty, crime, health care, financial crises, technological change, inflation and many more issues. This course introduces the basic tools that economists use to explore these topics and will cover fundamental economic concepts like scarcity, supply and demand, costs and benefits, trade-offs, and incentives.

Contact Information:

Preferred Mode of Communication: TEAMS Chat

Email: benjamin.buso@houstonisd.org

Web Address: Room: 163

Materials:

- HISD issued laptop and charger
- 1 composition notebook
- Pencil/Pen

Grade Weight and Grading Scale:

Formative- 60% (Daily Grades, Quizzes, Homework) Summative- 40% (Projects, Tests, Essays)

(A=100-90) (B=89-80) (C=79-75) (D=74-70) (F=69-0)

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Honor Code: East Early College High School embodies a spirit of mutual trust and intellectual honesty that is central to the very nature of learning and represents the highest possible expression of shared values among the members of the school community. The core values underlying and reflected in the Honor Code are:

- Academic honesty is demonstrated by students when the ideas and the writing of others are properly
 cited; students submit their own work for tests and assignments without unauthorized assistance;
 students do not provide unauthorized assistance to others; and students report their research or
 accomplishments accurately
- Respect for others and the learning process to demonstrate academic honesty
- The first three students in each class who send me an email of Ryan Reynold's will receive 3 points added to their cycle 1 average.
- Trust in others to act with academic honesty as a positive community-building force in the school
- Responsibility is recognized by all to demonstrate their best effort to prepare and complete academic tasks
- Fairness and equity are demonstrated so that every student can experience an academic environment that is free from the injustices caused by any form of intellectual dishonesty
- Integrity of all members of the school community as demonstrated by a commitment to academic honesty and support of our quest for authentic learning.

Policy on Electronic Devices: Once students enter classroom, all electronic devices should be silenced and put away such that they are not visible. These include cell phones, headphones, ear buds, etc. Students may only use electronic devices if authorized by teacher. Teachers may use electronic devices for instruction purposes at their discretion.

Make Up and Late Work: Homework and daily class work will not be given full credit, if accepted late. Evaluation on late work will be done on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the teacher. Make-up work will not be made-up during class time; this time will be reserved for planned instruction. The first students to ask me for the five-dollar bill behind the UT pennant will receive that 5 dollar bill. will receive extra credit on their first major project or exam and possession of that sawbuck. It is the responsibility of the student to get make-up work and to return it to the instructor in a timely manner.

Student Success: Expect to spend at least twice as many hours per week outside of class as you do in class studying the course content. Additional time will be required for written assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

- Reading the course
- Attending class in person (hopefully) and/or online
- Completing assignments
- Participating in class activities

There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as a guide.

As your teacher, it is my responsibility to:

• Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived

2022- 2023 Syllabus

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- Facilitate an effective learning environment through learner-centered instructional techniques
- Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and making up assignments
- Provide the course outline and class calendar that will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

As a student, it is your responsibility to:

- Attend class on time. Late students will need to sign the absence log and complete an alternative assignment
- Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with me
- Complete the required assignments and exams
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts, and all assignments
- Attain a raw score of at least 50% on the departmental final exam