



Mr. Cunningham  
IB Economics  
Douglas County High School  
2017-2018



## I. Purpose and objectives

This course is a study of the interaction of people with the resources at their disposal. The course will examine how resources are allocated on various levels from the individual to the national and international levels and the role that governments play.

A successful economics student should emerge with a working understanding of economic theory and be able to analyze the real-world implications of those theories.

Economics is truly a Social Science in that mathematical models play a great part in the study and explanation of economic ideas; however economics is a discipline that seeks to understand and predict human behavior therefore it is also very much a social study.

Students should, therefore, demonstrate an understanding of how economic theory has influenced societal decisions throughout history by citing examples, and be able to analyze economic activity at the micro, macro, and international levels.

## II. Grading:

Grades will be comprised of Tests, Quizzes, Projects, and participation grades including homework. In the senior year, there will also be IB Papers 1, 2, and 3 (Paper 3 for HL students only), and an internal assessment (IA).

**Grading will be based on county-decided percentages.**

<u>Assessments</u>	<u>Percentages for each assessment category*</u>
<u>Quizzes, Homework, etc...</u>	<u>30 %</u>
<u>Exams</u>	<u>50 %</u>
<u>Final Exam or EOCT</u>	<u>20 %</u>
<u>Internal Assessment (Seniors)</u>	<u>Will be included in one or more of the other categories</u>
<u>“Graphathon” (Seniors)</u>	<u>Will be included in one or more of the other categories</u>
<u>“Countries Project” (Seniors)</u>	<u>Will be included in one or more of the other categories</u>

\*Some assignments may be weighted differently for various reasons, but these are the overall guidelines.

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### III. Course Content

For juniors, the course will set the foundation upon which the senior year will be based. Proper economic vocabulary is essential for success in the many written assignments (especially in the senior year); therefore, the vocabulary and economic concepts presented in the junior year are essential.

- I. Fundamentals
- II. Microeconomics
- III. Macroeconomics
- IV. International Economics
- V. Economics of Developing Nations
- (VI.) (Personal Finance)

For seniors, the course will build on the foundation set last year. Therefore, I expect all returning students to be prepared from day one. The following topics have been/will be covered in IB Economics.

#### Junior Year vs. Senior Year

-The Junior year will focus more on the concepts of Economics. Vocabulary is the primary focus of the junior year. Students will need to learn and develop proficient economic vocabulary in order to succeed in the senior year. Lecture and practice problems will be the main tools using in learning the information. Students need to repeatedly learn and use the economic terms so that they become second nature in the senior year.

-The senior year will consist of more individual research, writing, and analysis than the junior year economics course. While there will be lecture, there will also be class time assigned to individual/group work and discussion. Please be prepared every day with your book and any additional items (electronic or otherwise) that you need to do research. You may not always be able to go to the media center.

-The class time for research and individual work is of paramount importance for success in this class. Disruptions, overall loudness, and lack of progress make the classroom environment uncomfortable. Thus, if these problems occur fewer class periods will be devoted to individual work and discussions.

-Additionally do not disrupt, get up without permission, be late to class, or speak out of turn.

-Senior Year of IB can be stressful, thus, I want to help you minimize stress through time management, and a solid work ethic.

#### HL vs. SL

Some students will take the Higher Level (HL) Economics Papers during the IB exams in May, while others will take the Standard Level (SL). If Economics is not your third HL course then you will need to determine if foreign language is an option for you. This means that you may need to have your schedule changed to reflect an HL foreign language. We will need to talk about this on an individual level for any student considering Economics as their third HL course.

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*Parent initials*

#### IV. Academic Honesty

In accordance with county policy and IB policy, students are expected to complete their own work. Plagiarism will not be tolerated, nor will any form of academic dishonesty. Violation of this policy will result in a grade of zero being assessed for that work, as well as an administrative disciplinary referral, and a referral to the IB office.

Any form of academic dishonesty as defined in the Douglas County School Handbook and/or IB policies will be enforced. Any dishonesty, including but not limited to plagiarism, collusion, outside sources during assessments, etc., will be given a grade of a Zero (0). The Zero will remain and no extra credit will add any points or remove the Zero. This zero will also be exempt from any “drop the lowest” decision. (i.e. If you get a zero for cheating, its there for the rest of the year.)

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#### V. Policies

##### Textbook

*IB Course Companion* can be checkout of the library and must be returned at the end of the year.

##### Lost Book Policy

Board Policy Descriptive Code: IFAD

The student will be charged full replacement cost for any textbook lost, regardless of condition. The amount to be charged for a textbook damaged by a student will be determined by the principal.

##### Make-Up Work

It is the responsibility of each student to complete all work missed due to an absence from class. **Make up work for excused absence** - 1 day for each day absent. If the assignment was assigned before the absence, then the student will be responsible to email any assignment that can be emailed on, or before the due date by the end of the school day. Other assignments will be expected to be turned in on the day of return. Make-up quizzes and tests will be scheduled following the absence. (Note- students may be expected to take an assessment during the return class period, or may be expected to schedule a time). After this make-up time, any missing assignment will be given a grade of Zero (0). Additional time may be given if communication is made from the student to the teacher. At the end of a progress period (9 weeks) all missing work will be given a grade of a Zero (0), and the work will not be allowed to be made up. **Make-up work for unexcused absence** - may not be allowed to be made up and a grade of a zero (0) will stand.

There will be no make-up for presentations that are not completed on a scheduled time (unless in a dire emergency as determined by me).

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## Late Work

Assignments are expected to be completed and turned in on time, (before class begins on the due date of an assignment). Work turned in late will suffer a 10% penalty to the final grade for that assignment, with additional 10% for each day late. No work will be accepted if more than five (5) days late unless accompanied by an excused absence form, and only if the assignment was not one that could be emailed. All assignments are to be completely ready to be turned in before class begins. Any assignment that is late, whether it is due to it not being printed, stapled, student tardiness to class, etc..., is late and will be penalized. Assignments turned in during the same day or even the same class period after being collected will be considered late.

An Assignment that was supposed to be typed and was turned in hand-written will also receive a 10% penalty because it is assumed that the student could type the assignment and turn it in late. Computer/Technology problems are not an excuse for late work. If it is important make back-ups.

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## VI. Misc.

### Required Materials

- Pen, blue or black ink only - for things turned in.
- Three highlighters of different colors.
- Paper.
- 3-ring binder notebook: You will keep all daily and homework assignments here and turn the notebook in when required. Also, completed unit tests will also be kept here once graded and returned. This notebook will serve as a portfolio of your work, and will be of use to you in future classes as well as this one and will be used for any discrepancy regarding graded material.
- A flash drive will probably come in handy.
- **A ruler**
- **Colored Pencils**

### Classroom Rules

1. Tardiness: Will not be tolerated. Chronic tardiness will result in an administrative referral. Be seated and prepared to begin class when the bell rings.
2. Class Disruption: Zero level tolerance. There will be plenty of opportunity for each student to participate fully, to ask questions, engage in discussion and debate during the course of this class. However, all such activity will be done in an orderly and respectful manner and as directed by the instructor.
3. Be Prepared to Work: Bring all required materials to class each day and be ready to discuss assigned readings and to otherwise participate fully in class.
4. No Electronic devices: You may not use or have out an mp3 player/recorder, etc...
5. Cell phones - we will follow the DCHS cell phone color code rules.
6. Food and Drink - Drinks allowed; no food.
7. ...

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## VII. Reading Assignments

Reading assignments may be handed out or given an online link. However, students are required to have reading assignments available each class period.

## VIII. Tutoring

Tutoring is by appointment only.

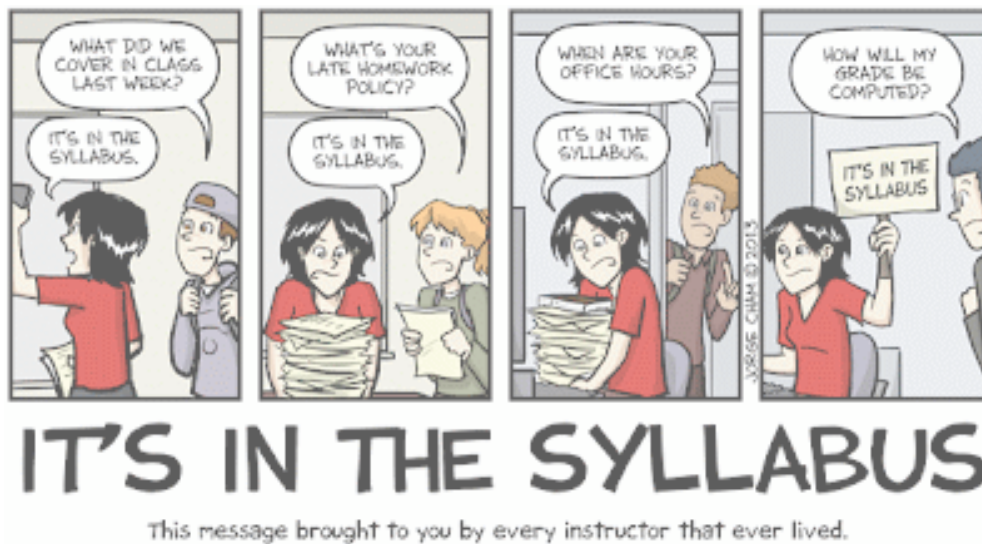
## IX. Communication

I can be reached at [John.Cunningham@douglas.k12.ga.us](mailto:John.Cunningham@douglas.k12.ga.us)

The phone to the office is 770-651-6500.

My website also has important information about all of my classes. It can be found at [jcunningham.org](http://jcunningham.org)

*Please scan, photograph, or make a copy of this syllabus for your reference.*



Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature acknowledges receipt and understudying of the syllabus, acknowledgement that it may be changed, and that a photograph, scan, or copy has been made for reference.*

***\*\*Syllabus and/or outline is subject to change***