

Mr. Cunningham  
IB Economics  
Douglas County High School  
2012-2013

### **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 economic student should emerge with a working understanding of economic theory, and the real-world implications and applications of 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.

### **Grading:**

Grades will be comprised of Tests, Quizzes, Projects, and participation grades including homework. There will also be an End of Course Test (EOCT) for this class, IB Papers 1, 2, and 3 (Paper 3 for HL students only), and an internal assessment.

Internal Assessment	300
Exams	100 pts each
Quizzes/HW/ additional assignments	10 pts each TBD
EOCT	20% of final Grade

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.

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

### **Junior Year vs. 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, 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.

### **Textbook**

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

### **Academic Honesty**

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 it's there for the rest of the year.)

### **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.

I can be reached at 657-4History. This number will ring to my cell phone and can also receive a text. Please include your name in a text.