

U.S. and Global Economics is a wide-ranging course that provides an introduction to key economic principles. Students gain an understanding of choices they must make as producers, consumers, investors, and taxpayers. They have ample opportunity to develop their points of view and apply what they learn to the promotion of civic action. Topics include an examination of markets from both historical and current perspectives; the basics of supply and demand; the theories of early economic philosophers such as Adam Smith and David Ricardo; theories of value; the concept of money and how it evolved; the role of banks, investment houses, and the Federal Reserve; Keynesian economics; the productivity, wages, investment, and growth involved in capitalism; unemployment, inflations, and the national debt; and a survey of markets in areas such as China, Europe, and the Middle East.

U.S. and Global Economics is designed to fall in the fourth year of social studies instruction. Students perfect their analytic writing through a series of analytic assignments and written lesson tests. They also apply basic mathematics to economic concepts. Students read extensive selections from crucial primary documents and apply those readings to the course content.

The content is based on standards from the National Council for History Education (1997), the National Center for History in the Schools (1996), and the National Council for Social Studies (1994) and is aligned to state standards.

Length: One semester

UNIT 1: THE GAME OF ECONOMICS

- Lesson 1: What Is Economics Anyway?
- Lesson 2: Different Ways to Play
- Lesson 3: Dollars and Sense
- Lesson 4: Technology and Economics
- Lesson 5: The Game of Economics Wrap-Up
- Lesson 6: Diagnostic

UNIT 2: THE PLAYERS

- Lesson 1: Consumers and Producers
- Lesson 2: Consumer Choice
- Lesson 3: The Business of Business
- Lesson 4: Business Models and Model Businesses
- Lesson 5: The Players Wrap-Up
- Lesson 6: Diagnostic

UNIT 3: THE PRICE IS RIGHT

- Lesson 1: Supply and Demand: It's the Law
- Lesson 2: Get a Job
- Lesson 3: Find a Place to Live
- Lesson 4: The Ups and Downs of the Economy
- Lesson 5: The Price Is Right Wrap-Up
- Lesson 6: Diagnostic

UNIT 4: MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

- Lesson 1: Money in the Bank
- Lesson 2: The Stock Market
- Lesson 3: More Markets
- Lesson 4: Financing a Business

- Lesson 5: Money, Money, Money
- Lesson 6: Diagnostic

UNIT 5: THE GOVERNMENT GETS INVOLVED

- Lesson 1: Taxes and Tariffs
- Lesson 2: The Government Is a Consumer
- Lesson 3: The Government Is a Referee
- Lesson 4: The Government Is a Police Officer
- Lesson 5: The Government Gets Involved Wrap-Up
- Lesson 6: Diagnostic

UNIT 6: THE GLOBAL GAME BOARD

- Lesson 1: It's a Small World
- Lesson 2: International Organizations
- Lesson 3: The Challenges of Globalization
- Lesson 4: The Global Game Board Wrap-Up
- Lesson 5: Diagnostic

UNIT 7: PLAYING THE GAME YOURSELF: PERSONAL FINANCE

- Lesson 1: Making Choices
- Lesson 2: Planning Ahead
- Lesson 3: Give Me Some Credit
- Lesson 4: The Responsible Consumer
- Lesson 5: Playing the Game Yourself: Personal Finance Wrap-Up
- Lesson 6: Diagnostic

UNIT 8: U.S. AND GLOBAL ECONOMICS REVIEW AND EXAM

- Lesson 1: U.S. and Global Economics