AP MACROECONOMICS

FAQs:

Who can take AP Macroeconomics?
All qualified seniors are welcome to sign up for this course.

What does this course cover?
This is a second semester course which focuses on the field of economics that studies the behavior of the aggregate economy. Macroeconomics examines economy-wide phenomena such as changes in unemployment and stabilization policies, national income, analysis of fiscal and monetary policies, measuring economic performance such as in gross domestic product, inflation and price levels, foreign exchange markets and international trade and finance.

What are the prerequisites and admissions criteria for this course?
There is no prerequisite or application. Recommended GPA and Counselor recommendation for the student are the primary factors considered. Students can appeal to instructor for admission.

Is it a difficult course?
Yes. This is a course which requires students to master concepts in a sequential manner and be able to apply each of those concepts throughout the course. It is like building a pyramid in that if the base is not solid, students cannot complete the pyramid. Students need to know and remember concepts from Module 1 and 2 and be able to apply them in Modules 20 or 33 or 45. A lack of mastery in any module can negatively impact success. The essay questions on the AP exam [1/3 total score] will have multiple points addressing different concepts which build on each other. If the first concept is incorrectly answered, potentially all of the rest of the question will be wrong. Students are second semester seniors with many activities and they must possess the self-discipline to stay on top of the material by doing all practice questions even though these are not collected.

What Social Studies requirements does this course fulfill?
AP Macroeconomics fulfills the semester requirement of Economics which is taken by seniors in the spring semester of their senior year. (unless enrolled in AP Comparative Government)

Can I take AP Macroeconomics and AP Government as a senior?
Yes. Students can enroll in both AP Macro and the year-long course, AP Government and Politics: United States [fall semester] and Comparative [spring semester]. This means that students will be taking both AP Comparative Government and AP Macroeconomics in the spring.

Will I receive college credit for this course?
Many colleges will give students credit for a passing score of 3, 4 or 5 which will give them 3 units of college credit.

What is the average passage rate on the AP exam for this course?
Students in AP Macroeconomics in the last 5 years have averaged a passage rate of 70 -89%.

Is there a summer assignment?
No, there is no summer assignment for this course.

How much homework should I expect in this course?
Students at the beginning of the semester are given a Semester Schedule Overview. We cover about one module each class. Each module presents an economic concept or application/graph. Generally, students should consider having 15-20 pages of reading per week in addition to mastering the concept/graph through practice questions on own.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to email me at bsussman@bishopodowd.org