

**URBANDALE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK OUTLINE**

SUBJECT: Social Studies
COURSE TITLE: Economics
GRADE LEVEL: 12
PREREQUISITES: Senior Status

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Economics class provides an introduction to the basic principles of macroeconomics and microeconomics. These theories are emphasized and highlighted in relation to the U.S. economy. Additionally, international finance is studied with respect of how the U.S. fits globally into world economies. Lastly, personal finance topics such as, but not limited to, savings and investing, insurance, and taxes are emphasized in order to help students prepare for their next step in life.

UCSD CONTENT STANDARDS:

In order that students achieve the maximum benefit from their talents and abilities, the students of Urbandale Community School District's Economics program should be able to...

Content Standard I. Make connections among personal behaviors, group behaviors, and social issues to inform opinions and decisions.

Benchmark: Tell the influences on individual and group behavior and group decision-making. Evaluate current social issues to determine how the individual is able to formulate opinions and responds to those issues.
Explain how social status, social groups, social change, and social institutions influence individual and group behaviors.
Describe the process of how humans develop, learn, adapt to their environment and internalize their culture.

Content Standard II. Analyze relationships between economic systems and their interdependence in the modern world.

Benchmarks: Recognize the function of common financial instruments.
Identify the role of scarcity and economic trade-offs and how economic conditions impact people's lives.
Describe the functions of economic institutions.
Distinguish how governments throughout the world influence economic behavior.
Identify how universal economic concepts present themselves in various types of economies throughout the world.
Examine the local, state, regional, national, and international factors that create patterns of interdependence in the global economy.
Summarize the impact of advancing technologies on the global economy.

Content Standard III. Analyze the interrelationship of people, places and environments to



understand societies.

Benchmarks: Indicate how human factors and the distribution of resources affect the development of society and the movement of populations.
Relate how culture affects the interaction of human populations through time and space.
Analyze how cultural factors influence the design of human communities.

Content Standard IV. Investigate historical interactions to determine the development and evolution of societies.

Benchmarks: Describe historical patterns, periods of time, and the relationships among these elements.
Interpret the effect of economic needs and wants on individual and group decisions.
Analyze the role of innovation on the development and interaction of societies.

Content Standard V. Apply knowledge of democratic principles and various political systems through life long civic action.

Benchmarks: Explain the rights and responsibilities of each citizen and demonstrate the value of lifelong civic action.
Assess the role of the United States in current world affairs.

Content Standard VI. Evaluate and synthesize information to communicate an understanding of knowledge relative to social science content.

Benchmarks: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social studies.
Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media in order to address questions or solve a problem.
Write informative/explanatory texts, focused on discipline-specific content.
Conduct research projects and gather relevant information from multiple sources.



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CONTENT STANDARDS AND COURSE BENCHMARKS WITH INDICATORS FOR ECONOMICS:

Standard I: Make connections among personal behaviors, group behaviors, and social issues to inform opinions and decisions.

Benchmark: Tell the influences on individual and group behavior and group decision-making.

Indicators: Identify the components of social structure and how social structure affects the individual in society.
Analyze that people might ignore evidence that challenges their beliefs and more readily accept evidence that supports them.

Benchmark: Evaluate current social issues to determine how the individual is able to formulate opinions and responds to those issues.

Indicators: Identify that differences in the behavior of individuals arise from the interaction of experience.
Differentiate that conflict between people or groups may arise from competition over ideas, resources, power, and/or status.
Recognize that personal values influence the types of conclusions people make.

Benchmark: Explain how social status, social groups, social change, and social institutions influence individual and group behaviors.

Indicators: Relate how gender, age, health, and socioeconomic status affect social inequality.

Benchmark: Describe the process of how humans develop, learn, adapt to their environment, and internalize their culture.

Indicators: Explain how culture and personal experience interact in shaping human behavior.
Demonstrate that peoples' values and behavior are shaped by their culture.

Standard II. Analyze relationships between economic systems and their interdependence in the modern world.



Benchmark: Recognize the function of common financial instruments.

- Indicators: Express the cost of borrowing money over long periods of time.
Identify the concept of insurance.
Relate how credit card usage impacts credit score.
Appraise different financial investments, such as mutual funds, stocks and bonds.

Benchmark: Identify the role of scarcity and economic trade-offs and how economic conditions impact people's lives.

- Indicators: Identify the concepts of marginal benefit and marginal cost in connection to economic actions.
Explain how increases and decreases in productivity are influenced by positive and negative incentives.
Examine production possibilities curves.
Predict the impact of increases in wages or a change in government policy (new taxes, interest rate, subsidies) on consumers, producers, workers, savers and investors.
Analyze and apply the role of business plans.
Identify long-term unintended consequences of economic choices made by individuals, businesses, and governments.
Recognize the unemployment rate.

Benchmark: Describe the functions of economic institutions.

- Indicators: Model the basic functions of money.
Recognize the composition of the money supply.
Relate how banks and other financial institutions affect the economy.
Describe how government policies affect economic institutions.

Benchmark: Distinguish how governments throughout the world influence economic behavior.

- Indicators: Identify government regulation of industries.
Describe the economic trade-offs of government assistance programs.
Recognize the impact of the federal budget on the economy at the individual, household, and business levels.
Evaluate the role of the Federal Reserve.

Benchmark: Identify how universal economic concepts present themselves in various types of economies throughout the world.

- Indicators: Compare and contrast the law of supply and demand affects the price of products.
Assess the factors that influence Gross Domestic Product.
Identify how economic self-interest influences economic decisions.



Benchmark: Examine the local, state, regional, national, and international factors that create patterns of interdependence in the global economy.

Indicators: Recognize the costs and benefits of free trade among countries.
Identify the role of exchange rates between countries and their effect on purchasing power.

Benchmark: Summarize the impact of advancing technologies on the global economy.

Indicators: Relate the impact of green technologies in the global economy.

Standard III. Analyze the interrelationship of people, places and environments to understand societies.

Benchmark: Indicate how human factors and the distribution of resources affect the development of society and the movement of populations.

Indicators: Examine population stresses on economic systems over natural resources.

Benchmark: Relate how culture affects the interaction of human populations through time and space.

Indicators: Recognize how technology and human mobility have changed various cultural landscapes.

Benchmark: Analyze how cultural factors influence the design of human communities.

Indicators: Infer how the impact of changing global patterns of trade and commerce on the local community and predict the future impact of these patterns.
Distinguish that people create places which reflect culture, human needs, government policy, and current values and ideals as they design and build places.

Standard IV. Investigate historical interactions to determine the development and evolution of societies.

Benchmark: Describe historical patterns, periods of time, and the relationships among these elements.

Indicators: Discover significant historical periods and patterns of change within and across cultures, such as the development of ancient cultures and civilizations, the rise of nation states, and social, economic, and political revolutions.

Benchmark: Interpret the effect of economic needs and wants on individual and group decisions.



Indicators: Identify how economic issues have influenced society in the past.
Describe connections between the cultural achievements of early civilizations and the development of political and economic institutions.
Explain that the introduction of new products and production methods by entrepreneurs has impacted economic growth, competition, technological progress, and job opportunities.
Relate the historical relationship between economic growth, higher production levels, new technologies, and standard of living.

Benchmark: Analyze the role of innovation on the development and interaction of societies.

Indicators: Question the historical impact of the interaction and interdependence of science, technology, and society in a variety of cultural settings.

Standard V. Apply knowledge of democratic principles and various political systems through life long civic action.

Benchmark: Explain the rights and responsibilities of each citizen and demonstrate the value of lifelong civic action.

Indicators: Identify the rights, roles, and status of the individual in relation to the general welfare.

Benchmark: Assess the role of the United States in current world affairs.

Indicators: Discuss conditions, actions and motivations that contribute to conflict and cooperation within and among nations.
Identify the significance of foreign policies and events in the United States' relations with the world.

Standard VI. Evaluate and synthesize information to communicate an understanding of knowledge relative to social science content.

Benchmark: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social studies.

Indicators: Recognize the point of view of sources.
Paraphrase the key ideas of sources.

Benchmark: Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media in order to address questions or solve a problem.

Indicators: Apply a variety of sources to content reading.
Assess how a variety of sources can be used to solve problems.



Benchmark: Write informative/explanatory texts, focused on discipline-specific content.

Indicators: Construct responses to various content topics.

Benchmark: Conduct research projects and gather relevant information from multiple sources.

Indicators: Summarize information about a topic.
Apply information to a specific question.
Analyze information to explain content topics.

