AOF Business Economics

Semester Planning Table

Use this table to map this course against your instructional calendar and to make note of key lesson attributes.

| Lesson Title | # of Class Periods | Summary of Lesson Assessments | Summary of Advance Prep |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lesson 1: Course Introduction | 2 | N/A | Make sure you have an up-to-date video player such as Windows Media Player or Apple’s QuickTime Player installed on your computer. You will need it to show the culminating project video in the first class period.  Determine how you would like students to set up notebooks for this course. We recommend a three-ring binder, spiral-bound notebook, or computer-based folder.  Review the Summary of Annual Course Updates (included in the Course Planning Tools section of the course materials), which describes significant changes to the course since the previous year.  This course requires a specific set of computer-related equipment. These requirements are listed in Required Equipment for This Course (available in the Course Planning Tools section of the course materials). Consider reviewing this list with your school’s IT administrator before you begin. |
| Lesson 2: Introduction to Business Economics | 3 | Venn diagram comparing macroeconomics with microeconomics [individual work] | N/A |
| Lesson 3: Scarcity | 4 | Short-answer quiz on key economic concepts [individual work] | N/A |
| Lesson 4: Utility, Diminishing Returns, and Comparative Advantage | 4 | Short memo summarizing cost-benefit analysis results [individual work] | N/A |
| Lesson 5: Factors of Production | 3 | Activity identifying the factors of production in chocolate manufacturing [group work] | N/A |
| Lesson 6: Supply and Demand | 6 | Test on supply and demand concepts [individual work] | N/A |
| Lesson 7: Entrepreneurship in a Free-Market Economy | 4 | Poster explaining the path of a business from idea to successful company [group work] | In Class Period 3, students will need access to computers for Internet research (one to two computers per group). |
| Lesson 8: Equilibrium and Pricing | 5 | Short answers explaining a company’s profit-maximizing production schedule [individual work] | Prior to Class Period 2, arrange tables and chairs to simulate a trading pit and prepare cards as described in Teacher Resource 8.1. |
| Lesson 9: Competition and the Marketplace | 8 | Short elevator pitch on the relationships between competitive advantage, demand, prices, and profit [group work]  Short team presentation explaining the current fiscal situation and predicting profits for the coming year [group work] | In Class Periods 5 and 8, either you or an invited guest(s) will act as the CEO to whom student groups are pitching their ideas and presentations. |
| Lesson 10: Economic Systems | 4 | Short-answer test covering key terms and characteristics of the three economic systems [individual work] | N/A |
| Lesson 11: The American Economy | 6 | A persuasive essay arguing for one change students would make to improve the US economy [individual work] | In Class Period 6, students will need computer access to complete final drafts of their persuasive essays, with one student per station. If computers are not available, then this assignment can be completed as homework |
| Lesson 12: Currency Systems | 5 | Written recommendations to a fictitious company on the best strategies for overseas expansion based on currency exchange factors [individual work] | N/A |
| Lesson 13: International Trade | 7 | A set of business strategy recommendations to a fictitious company experiencing increasing competition from producers in other countries [individual work] | N/A |
| Lesson 14: Learning from Industry Experts | 5 | Letter of inquiry [individual work] | Arrange for a guest or guests to speak during Class Period 2 (and Class Period 3 if needed) about how they use economics in their work. Consider hosting a videoconference if guest speakers are unable to attend class in person.  Arrange for computers with Internet access for research during Class Period 4. One per student is recommended. |
| Lesson 15: Project Presentation and Course Closure | 5 | Culminating project presentation [group work]  **Note:** For students taking part in NAFTrack Certification, this lesson is where they will upload their culminating project work sample and where you administer the end-of-course exam. | Prepare for the presentation event as described in Teacher Resource 15.1 |