

Welcome Advanced Placement Economics and Government students,

Congratulations on taking the AP challenge. The AP courses are equivalent to college level introductory courses in Macroeconomics and Political Science. Many colleges will grant you college credit if you successfully pass the AP tests in May with a score of 3, 4, or 5. It is an inexpensive way to earn college credit and get a head start on meeting your university graduation requirements. Even if you aren't successful in passing the spring tests, the academically challenging AP courses are a great way to prepare you for the rigors of college work.

In order to be successful in the Macro economic and Government courses please do the following:

- 1. Complete your textbook reading on time.** Your college classes will expect you to read a large amount of material in a relatively short period of time. Most of your university classes will not include reading guides, nor award points for completing textbook assignments. You will simply be expected to be current on your reading. So get in the habit now of completing your reading for the Macroeconomics and Political Science courses. We will do one to two chapters per week (see reading schedule). I will give you reading guides and award 10 points for each guide turned in on time. I will not accept late reading guides unless you have an excused absence.
- 2. Stay focused on classroom lectures and discussion.** AP students have lots of demands on their time. However, use each class period to take notes, ask questions, and participate in class discussions. Please do not multitask during the class. Avoid doing homework for other classes, sleeping, or becoming distracted with electronic devices.
- 3. Use a variety of outside materials to help you prepare for the course tests.** A good investment is to buy an AP Prep book. These books condense the main ideas of the course and they provide practice multiple choice and free response questions for each section of the course. They are also useful in preparation for the AP test in May. In addition, we have a classroom web page that includes: PowerPoint presentations, web links to practice quizzes for each chapter of the text, videos, and a variety of academic activities.
- 4. Let me know if you need extra help.** Some concepts and chapters will be more difficult than others. I will be glad to make time at lunch or afterschool if you need additional help. You may also e-mail me if you have a question about an assignment or talk to me in person if something comes up that is hindering your success in the class. I'm looking forward to a good year together.

Mr. Forrest

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