

Economics

A / T / M

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# The ACT Senior Secondary System

The ACT senior secondary system recognises a range of university, vocational or life skills pathways.

The system is based on the premise that teachers are experts in their area: they know their students and community and are thus best placed to develop curriculum and assess students according to their needs and interests. Students have ownership of their learning and are respected as young adults who have a voice.

A defining feature of the system is school-based curriculum and continuous assessment. School-based curriculum provides flexibility for teachers to address students’ needs and interests. College teachers have an opportunity to develop courses for implementation across ACT schools. Based on the courses that have been accredited by the BSSS, college teachers are responsible for developing programs of learning. A program of learning is developed by individual colleges to implement the courses and units they are delivering.

Teachers must deliver all content descriptions; however, they do have flexibility to emphasise some content descriptions over others. It is at the discretion of the teacher to select the texts or materials to demonstrate the content descriptions. Teachers can choose to deliver course units in any order and teach additional (not listed) content provided it meets the specific unit goals.

School-based continuous assessment means that students are continually assessed throughout years 11 and 12, with both years contributing equally to senior secondary certification. Teachers and students are positioned to have ownership of senior secondary assessment. The system allows teachers to learn from each other and to refine their judgement and develop expertise.

Senior secondary teachers have the flexibility to assess students in a variety of ways. For example: multimedia presentation, inquiry-based project, test, essay, performance and/or practical demonstration may all have their place. College teachers are responsible for developing assessment instruments with task specific rubrics and providing feedback to students.

The integrity of the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate is upheld by a robust, collaborative, and rigorous structured consensus-based peer reviewed moderation process. System moderation involves all year 11 and 12 teachers from public, non-government and international colleges delivering the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate.

Only students who desire a pathway to university are required to sit a general aptitude test, referred to as the ACT Scaling Test (AST), which moderates student scores across courses and colleges. Students are required to use critical and creative thinking skills across a range of disciplines to solve problems. They are also required to interpret a stimulus and write an extended response.

Senior secondary curriculum makes provision for student-centred teaching approaches, integrated and project-based learning inquiry, formative assessment, and teacher autonomy. ACT Senior Secondary Curriculum makes provision for diverse learners and students with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities, so that all students can achieve an ACT Senior Secondary Certificate.

The ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS) leads senior secondary education. It is responsible for quality assurance in senior secondary curriculum, assessment, and certification. The Board consists of nominees from colleges, professional bodies, universities, industry, parent/carer organisations and unions. The Office of the Board of Senior Secondary Studies (OBSSS) consists of professional and administrative staff who support the Board in achieving its objectives and functions.

# ACT Senior Secondary Certificate

Courses of study for the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate:

* provide a variety of pathways, to meet different learning needs and encourage students to complete their secondary education
* enable students to develop the essential capabilities for twenty-first century learners
* empower students as active participants in their own learning
* engage students in contemporary issues relevant to their lives
* foster students’ intellectual, social, and ethical development
* nurture students’ wellbeing, and physical and spiritual development
* enable effective and respectful participation in a diverse society.

Each course of study:

* comprises an integrated and interconnected set of knowledge, skills, behaviours, and dispositions that students develop and use in their learning across the curriculum
* is based on a model of learning that integrates intended student outcomes, pedagogy, and assessment
* outlines teaching strategies which are grounded in learning principles and encompass quality teaching
* promotes intellectual quality, establishes a rich learning environment, and generates relevant connections between learning and life experiences
* provides formal assessment and certification of students’ achievements.

## Underpinning beliefs

* All students are able to learn.
* Learning is a partnership between students and teachers.
* Teachers are responsible for advancing student learning.



# Learning Principles

* 1. Learning builds on existing knowledge, understandings, and skills.

(Prior knowledge)

* 1. When learning is organised around major concepts, principles, and significant real-world issues, within and across disciplines, it helps students make connections and build knowledge structures.

(Deep knowledge and connectedness)

* 1. Learning is facilitated when students actively monitor their own learning and consciously develop ways of organising and applying knowledge within and across contexts.

(Metacognition)

* 1. Learners’ sense of self and motivation to learn affects learning.

(Self-concept)

* 1. Learning needs to take place in a context of high expectations.

(High expectations)

* 1. Learners learn in different ways and at different rates.

(Individual differences)

* 1. Different cultural environments, including the use of language, shape learners’ understandings and the way they learn.

(Socio-cultural effects)

* 1. Learning is a social and collaborative function as well as an individual one.

(Collaborative learning)

* 1. Learning is strengthened when learning outcomes and criteria for judging learning are made explicit and when students receive frequent feedback on their progress.

(Explicit expectations and feedback)

# General Capabilities

All courses of study for the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate should enable students to develop essential capabilities for twenty-first century learners. These ‘capabilities’ comprise an integrated and interconnected set of knowledge, skills, behaviours, and dispositions that students develop and use in their learning across the curriculum.

The capabilities include:

* literacy
* numeracy
* information and communication technology (ICT)
* critical and creative thinking
* personal and social
* ethical understanding
* intercultural understanding

Courses of study for the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate should be both relevant to the lives of students and incorporate the contemporary issues they face. Hence, courses address the following three priorities. These priorities are:

* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures
* Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia
* Sustainability

Elaboration of these General Capabilities and priorities is available on the ACARA website at [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au).

### Literacy

Students develop literacy capability as they learn how to build knowledge in relation to economic information, concepts, and ideas. Students progressively learn to use a wide range of informational, academic, and persuasive texts in multiple modes.

Students learn to write using the generic expectations of Economics writing including terminology, structures and the provision and integration of a range of verbal and numerical evidence. The develop topic specific vocabulary to critically analyse arguments about economic processes, models, theories, and predictions.

They recognise how language, models, data, and images can be used to make and manipulate meaning and evaluate texts for shades of meaning and opinion. Students also participate in debates and discussions and develop a considered point of view when communicating conclusions and preferred ethical, social, and sustainable futures to a range of audiences.

### Numeracy

Students develop numeracy capability as they apply numeracy skills in relation to historical, geographical, civic, and economic inquiries. Students count and measure data and information, construct and interpret tables, models, and graphs, and calculate and interpret statistics in their investigations.

Students learn to analyse numerical data to make meaning of the past and to test relationships in patterns and between variables in local, national, global, and developing economies over time, and to draw conclusions. They make predictions and forecast outcomes based on civic, economic, and business data and environmental and historical information and represent their findings in numerical and graphical form. They appreciate the ways numeracy knowledge and skills are used in society and apply these to hypothetical and/or real-life experiences.

### Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Capability

Students develop ICT capability when they locate, process, analyse, evaluate, and communicate economic information using digital technologies. Students access and use digital technologies, such as spreadsheets, as an investigative and creative tool. They seek a range of digital sources of information to resolve inquiry questions or challenges of economic relevance, being aware of intellectual property. They critically analyse evidence and trends and critique source reliability. Using digital technologies, students present and represent their learning; and collaborate, discuss, and debate to co-construct their knowledge. They plan, organise, create, display, and communicate data and information digitally using multimodal elements for a variety of reasons and audiences.

Students enhance their understanding of ICT by exploring the increasing use of technology and the effects of technologies on people, places and civic and economic activity over time and place. They learn about and have opportunities to use social media to collaborate, communicate, and share information, and build consensus on issues of social, civic, economic, and environmental significance, whilst using an awareness of personal security protocols and ethical responsibilities.

### Critical and Creative Thinking

Students develop critical and creative thinking as they investigate economic concepts and ideas. Students apply critical thinking by learning to develop and clarify investigative questions, and to question sources and assess reliability when selecting information from sources. Students learn discipline-specific ways of thinking, including interpreting an argument using evidence, interpreting, and analysing economic data and/or information, and systems thinking to inform predictions and propose solutions. They learn to think logically when evaluating and using evidence, testing explanations, analysing arguments, and making decisions, and when thinking deeply about questions that do not have straightforward answers.

Students learn the value and process of developing creative questions and the importance of speculation. They apply concepts and skills to new contexts and learn to develop new interpretations to explain aspects of the economy that are contested or not well understood. They are encouraged to be curious and imaginative in investigations, and to consider multiple perspectives about issues and events. They imagine alternative futures in response to social, environmental, civic, and economic challenges that require prediction, problem solving and innovative solutions, proposing appropriate and alternative courses of action and considering the effects on their own lives and the lives of others. When collaborating, students develop enterprising behaviours and capabilities and learn to apply decision-making processes including negotiation and conflict-resolution.

### Personal and Social Capability

Students’ personal and social capability is enhanced as they gain understanding about people, places, processes, and phenomena. Through economic inquiry, collaboration and reflective practice, students develop an appreciation of the insights and perspectives of others, past and present’. Inquiry-based learning assists students to develop their capacity for self-management, directing their own learning and providing opportunities to express and reflect on their opinions, beliefs, values, and questions appropriately.

As students work independently and collaboratively, they are encouraged to develop personal and interpersonal skills, behaviours and dispositions that enable communication, empathy, teamwork, negotiation, and conflict resolution to maintain positive relationships. They learn and apply enterprising behaviours and capabilities such as leadership, resilience, goal setting and advocacy skills and informed, responsible decision-making. In turn, students develop the capacity to achieve desired outcomes peacefully and to make a contribution to their communities and society more broadly.

### Ethical Understanding

Students’ capacity for ethical understanding is enhanced by the unique contexts offered through economic inquiry. Students investigate the ways that diverse values and principles have influenced human activity and recognise that examining the nature of evidence deepens their understanding of ethical issues. Students learn about ethical procedures for investigating and working with people and places, including with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Students critically explore ethical behaviour of people of different times and places that may be the result of differing standards and expectations and changing societal attitudes. They evaluate their findings about consumer and producer choices, and about current economic issues against the criteria of environmental protection, economic prosperity, and social advancement, raising ethical questions about human rights and citizenship. Students discuss and apply ethical concepts such as equality, respect, and fairness, and examine shared beliefs and values which support Australian democracy and citizenship.

As students develop informed, ethical values and attitudes as they explore different perspectives, ambiguities and ethical considerations related to economic, social and sustainability issues, they become aware of their own roles, rights, and responsibilities as participants in their social, economic, and natural world. They consider the consequences of consumer and producer decisions, for individuals, society and other forms of life that share the world.

### Intercultural Understanding

Students develop intercultural understanding as they learn about the diversity of the world’s places, peoples and their lives, cultural practices, values, beliefs, and ways of knowing. Students learn the importance of understanding their own and others' histories, recognising the significance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ histories and cultures and the contribution of Australian migrants. They have opportunities to learn about the historic benefits and challenges of interacting with other countries and cultural groups over time, and come to understand the nature, causes and consequences of cultural interdependence, dispossession, and conflict. They learn of Australia’s economic and political relationship with other countries and the role of intercultural understanding for the present and future.

As students investigate the interconnections between people and the significance that places hold, they learn how various cultural identities, including their own, are shaped. Students come to see the critical role of shared beliefs and values in an evolving Australian identity. They reflect on their own intercultural experiences and explore how people interact across economic and cultural boundaries, considering how factors such as group membership, traditions, wealth, customs, and religious and cultural practices impact on economic life. They recognise similarities as well as differences within and across cultural groups, recognising the importance of practising empathy and learning to challenge stereotypical or prejudiced representations of social, economic, and cultural groups where they exist. They demonstrate respect for cultural diversity and the human rights of all people and learn to facilitate dialogue to understand different perspectives.

# Cross-Curriculum Priorities

### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures priority provides opportunities for all students to deepen their knowledge of Australia by engaging with the world’s oldest continuous living cultures. Students will understand that contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are strong, resilient, rich, and diverse. Students will understand that Identities and Cultures have been, and are, a source of strength and resilience for Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples against the historic and contemporary impacts of colonisation. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Identities are represented as central to the priority and are approached through knowledge and understanding of the interconnected elements of Country/Place, Culture and People. Students examine the economic phenomena that impact on the lives Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities, and their adaptation to those conditions.

### Asia and Australia’s Engagement with Asia

The Asia and Australia’s Engagement with Asia priority provides a regional context for learning in all areas of the curriculum. It reflects Australia’s extensive engagement with Asia in social, cultural, political, and economic spheres.

Many Asian nations are growing rapidly and are regionally and globally influential. Immigrants from all these countries have historically contributed to Australia’s development and will continue to do so in the future. An understanding of Asia underpins the capacity of Australian students to be active and informed citizens working together to build harmonious local, regional, and global communities, and build Australia’s social, intellectual, and creative capital. It also builds understanding of the diversity of cultures and peoples living in Australia, fosters social inclusion and cohesion and is vital to the prosperity of Australia.

This priority will ensure that students learn about and recognise the diversity within and between the countries of the Asia region. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of Asian societies, cultures, beliefs and environments, and the connections between the peoples of Asia, Australia, and the rest of the world. Asia literacy provides students with the skills to communicate and engage with the peoples of Asia so they can effectively live, work and learn in the region.

### Sustainability

Sustainability addresses the ongoing capacity of Earth to maintain all life.

Sustainable patterns of living meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Actions to improve sustainability are individual and collective endeavours shared across local and global communities. They necessitate a renewed and balanced approach to the way humans interact with each other and the environment.

Education for sustainability develops the knowledge, skills, values, and world views necessary for people to act in ways that contribute to more sustainable patterns of living. It enables individuals and communities to reflect on ways of interpreting and engaging with the world. Sustainability education is futures-oriented, focusing on protecting environments and creating a more ecologically and socially just world through informed action. Actions that support more sustainable patterns of living require consideration of environmental, social, cultural, and economic systems and their interdependence.

**Economics**

**A/T/M**

# Rationale

In *Economics,* students study the allocation of limited resources to a satisfy unlimited wants and needs. In doing so they address the economic problem of scarcity: what to produce, how much to produce and for whom to produce. They use a range of approaches and perspectives on economics to investigate these fundamental problems to form conclusions and make predictions. Students develop their knowledge and understanding of the history and development of economic theories and concepts, the application of theories in real world contexts, and the roles of stakeholders in addressing economic scarcity, inefficiencies, and inequalities. They develop an understanding of the significance of economics to interpreting their day to day lives and choices, and their subsequent impact. Students develop the skills to apply ethical, critical, and creative thinking to problem solving in economics. They apply disciplinary methodologies to research, analyse and communicate predictions and solutions. They develop skills to communicate and collaborate to make predictions and draw balanced conclusions. The study of *Economics* enables students to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills to enhance the well-being of all citizens locally, nationally, and globally, and in developing societies. The study of economics provides a continuity with many pathways into tertiary and industry studies.

# Goals

This course should enable students to:

* explain commerce concepts, theories, processes, and structures and apply to case studies
* critically analyse applications and examples of commerce ideas in policies, organisations, and people’s lives
* critically analyse commerce at a local, national, and global level
* evaluate the effectiveness of applications of commerce ideas for the generation of wealth and the alleviation of poverty
* evaluate the influence of historical, political, and cultural contexts on commerce concepts, theories, and their application
* critically analyse ethical arguments in commerce
* critically analyse the sustainability of commerce solutions and decisions
* critically analyse data using financial literacy to solve problems in commerce
* apply commerce skills to practical problems
* create innovative solutions to solve problems in commerce
* synthesise perspectives, ideas, evidence, and conclusions to develop convincing arguments, judgements, and recommendations
* communicate accurately in a range of modes and mediums for specific purposes and audiences
* develop collaborative work skills for commerce contexts
* reflect on learning and skills to develop strategies for improvement.

# Unit Titles

* Microeconomic Foundations
* Debates in Microeconomics
* Macroeconomic Foundations
* Debates in Macroeconomics
* Independent Study

# Organisation of Content

### Microeconomic Foundations

In this unit, students investigate the nature and purpose of a range of economic theories and concepts related to microeconomics to better understand human behaviour. In investigating scenarios in local, national, global economies, and developing societies, they evaluate theories, models, and numerical analyses. Students evaluate explanations of microeconomic phenomena provided by economists to draw conclusions about the nature and actions of economic agents.

### Debates in Microeconomics

In this unit, students analyse complex scenarios in microeconomics to understand choices of policy makers. They will engage with debate in the discipline on explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas and the range of possible solutions to problems facing people. Students collaborate to make predictions and propose solutions to problems facing policy makers and citizens.

### Macroeconomic Foundations

In this unit, students investigate the nature and purpose of a range of economic theories and concepts related to macroeconomics. They evaluate theories, models, and numerical analyses through investigating scenarios in local, national, global economies and developing societies to understand how policy makers foster prosperity. Students evaluate explanations of macroeconomic phenomena provided by economists to draw conclusions about the effectiveness of decision making.

### Debates in Macroeconomics

In this unit, students critically analyse in-depth scenarios in macroeconomics to understand the functional role of economics in bettering lives. They will engage with debate in the discipline around explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas and the range of possible solutions to problems facing people. Students make predictions and propose solutions to problems facing policy makers and citizens.

### Independent Study

An Independent Study unit has an important place in senior secondary courses. It is a valuable pedagogical approach that empowers students to make decisions about their own learning. An Independent Study unit can be proposed by an individual student for their own independent study and negotiated with their teacher. The program of learning for an Independent Study unit must meet the unit goals and content descriptions as they appear in the course.

Independent Study units are only available to individual students in Year 12. A student can only study a maximum of one Independent Study unit in each course. Students must have studied at least three standard 1.0 units from this course. An Independent Study unit requires the principal’s written approval. Principal approval can also be sought by a student in Year 12 to enrol concurrently in an Independent Study unit and their third or fourth 1.0 unit in this course of study.

# Assessment

The identification of criteria within the achievement standards and assessment task types and weightings provides a common and agreed basis for the collection of evidence of student achievement.

**Assessment Criteria** (the dimensions of quality that teachers look for in evaluating student work) provide a common and agreed basis for judgement of performance against unit and course goals, within and across colleges. Over a course, teachers must use all these criteria to assess students’ performance but are not required to use all criteria on each task. Assessment criteria are to be used holistically on a given task and in determining the unit grade.

**Assessment Tasks** elicit responses that demonstrate the degree to which students have achieved the goals of a unit based on the assessment criteria. The Common Curriculum Elements (CCE) is a guide to developing assessment tasks that promote a range of thinking skills (see Appendix C). It is highly desirable that assessment tasks engage students in demonstrating higher order thinking.

**Rubrics** are constructed for individual tasks, informing the assessment criteria relevant for a particular task, and can be used to assess a continuum that indicates levels of student performance against each criterion.

## Assessment Criteria

Students will be assessed on the degree to which they demonstrate:

* knowledge and understanding
* skills

## Assessment Task Types

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| Task types for assessing knowledge, understanding and skills |
| Tasks may include the following:* in-class essay/report
* case study in an examination or take-home format
* examination using a mix of questions and response types
* collaborative projects
* market day
* policy debates in oral or written form
* research assignment, essay, report
* data collection and analysis, investigation
* inquiry based task
* business, marketing, or financial plan
* oral presentation, seminar
* round table policy discussion role play
* presentation, podcast, vodcast
* simulation, individually or collaboratively
* interview response/viva voce
* portfolio of practical exercises
* problem solving scenario individually or collaboratively
 |
|
| Weighting: No task to be weighted more than 40% in a 1.0 unit, or 60% in a 0.5 unit |

### Additional Assessment Information

* For a standard unit (1.0), students must complete a minimum of three assessment tasks and a maximum of five.
* For a half standard unit (0.5), students must complete a minimum of two and a maximum of three assessment tasks.
* Assessment tasks for a standard (1.0) or half-standard (0.5) unit must be informed by the Achievement Standards.
* Students must experience a variety of task types and different modes of communication to demonstrate the Achievement Standards.
* Each assessment item must enable students to demonstrate higher order thinking.
* For tasks completed in unsupervised conditions, schools need to have mechanisms to uphold academic integrity, for example: student declaration, plagiarism software, oral defence, interview, or other validation tasks.
* Students are required to create a variety of disciplinary relevant texts in a course of study. Duration or length of student responses should be determined by the nature of the task and requirements of the Achievement Standards.

# Achievement Standards

Years 11 and 12 Achievement Standards are written for A/T courses. A single Achievement Standard is written for M courses.

A Year 12 student in any unit is assessed using the Year 12 Achievement Standards. A Year 11 student in any unit is assessed using the Year 11 Achievement Standards. Year 12 Achievement Standards reflect higher expectations of student achievement compared to the Year 11 Achievement Standards. Years 11 and 12 Achievement Standards are differentiated by cognitive demand, the number of dimensions and the depth of inquiry.

An Achievement Standard cannot be used as a rubric for an individual assessment task. Assessment is the responsibility of the college. Student tasks may be assessed using rubrics or marking schemes devised by the college. A teacher may use the Achievement Standards to inform development of rubrics. The verbs used in Achievement Standards may be reflected in the rubric. In the context of combined Years 11 and 12 classes, it is best practice to have a distinct rubric for Years 11 and 12. These rubrics should be available for students prior to completion of an assessment task so that success criteria are clear.

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| **Achievement Standards for Commerce A Course - Year 11** |
|  | *A student who achieves an* ***A*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***B*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***C*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***D*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves an* ***E*** *grade typically* |
| **Knowledge and Understanding** | analyses case studies or examples by selecting relevant commerce concepts and theories and applying them accurately | explains case studies or examples using relevant commerce concepts and theories | describes case studies or examples and describes relevant commerce concepts and theories | describes relevant commerce case studies or examples and includes relevant simple commerce concepts | identifies case studies and expresses ideas about commerce |
| analyses the ethics and sustainability of commerce practices and examples to reach reasonable conclusions | explains the ethics and sustainability of commerce practices and examples coherently | describes ideas about the ethics and sustainability of commerce practices and examples accurately | identifies ethical and sustainable ideas in relevant case studies | identifies some general ideas about sustainability and ethics in expressing ideas about commerce |
| creates plausible solutions to identified problems by using commerce concepts and theories  | creates possible solutions to identified problems by using research | explains possible solutions to identified problems derived from research | describes possible solutions to identified problems provided from research | identifies possible solutions to problems |
| communicates own ideas about commerce using well-reasoned arguments to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology | communicates ideas using reasoned arguments about commerce to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology | communicates relevant ideas to justify conclusions and recommendations about commerce using appropriate terminology | communicates ideas to justify conclusions and recommendations about commerce using appropriate simple terminology | communicates ideas and recommendations about commerce |
| **Skills** | applies research methods using a wide range of relevant commerce sources and systematic referencing | applies research methods using reliable general sources and systematic referencing |  uses relevant information from research in ideas and attempts systematic referencing | describes information relevant to the question from research with minimal referencing | identifies information related to a given question to with minimal referencing |
| uses familiar mathematical methods to analyse evidence and/or graphic methods coherently represent evidence and ideas | uses familiar mathematical methods to acquire and organise evidence and/or graphic methods to represent evidence accurately | uses familiar mathematical methods to acquire data and/or graphic methods to explain and represent evidence | uses familiar mathematical and/or graphic methods to describe evidence | identifies evidence from mathematical and/or graphic data in sharing ideas |
| reflects coherently on own learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and effective strategies to improve | reflects on own learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and plausible strategies to improve | reflects on learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and some strategies to improve | reflects on learning and work habits and notes better habits | reflects on learning and work habits |
| reflects coherently on own learning about commerce concepts and links to their world | reflects on own learning about commerce concepts and links to their world | reflects on learning about commerce concepts and links to their world | reflects on commerce concepts and identifies links to the world | reflects on commerce concepts and the nature of the world |

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| **Achievement Standards for Commerce T Course - Year 11** |
|  | *A student who achieves an* ***A*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***B*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***C*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***D*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves an* ***E*** *grade typically* |
| **Knowledge and Understanding**  | analyses data, trends, case studies or examples from relevant local, national, and global contexts by selecting relevant commerce concepts and theories and applying them accurately | explains data, trends, case studies or examples from relevant local, national, and global contexts by applying relevant commerce concepts and theories | describes data, trends, case studies or examples from relevant local, national, and global contexts and describes relevant commerce concepts and theories | describes some data, case studies or examples from relevant local, national, and global contexts and describes some relevant simple commerce concepts | identifies data from commerce case studies in expressing ideas about commerce |
| analyses the universality, sustainability and ethics of commerce ideas and enterprises to reach logical conclusions | explains the relevant universality, sustainability and ethics of commerce ideas and enterprises to reach reasonable conclusions | describes the sustainability and ethics of commerce ideas and enterprises to reach a conclusion | identifies the sustainable and ethical features of commerce ideas and enterprises | identifies ideas about sustainability and ethics in expressing ideas about commerce |
| creates well-founded solutions to identified problems using reliable research and commerce concepts and theories accurately | creates plausible solutions to identified problems informed by research using commerce concepts and theories | creates plausible solutions to identified problems individually and collaboratively and explains relevant commerce concepts and theories | describes possible solutions to identified problems individually and collaboratively using research | identifies possible solutions to problems in expressing simple ideas about commerce |
| communicates complex commerce ideas using logical and reasoned arguments to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology | communicates commerce ideas using logical and reasoned arguments to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology | communicates commerce ideas to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology | communicates commerce ideas to justify conclusions and recommendations using some appropriate terminology | communicates simple commerce ideas and recommendations |
| **Skills** | applies research methods using a wide range of relevant, commerce sources and accurate, systematic referencing | applies commerce research methods using reliable general sources and systematic referencing | applies research methods using general sources and systematic referencing | describes information derived from minimal sources with minimal referencing | identifies information related to the question with minimal referencing |
| selects mathematical methods to analyse evidence and/or graphic methods to represent evidence coherently | uses mathematical methods to acquire and organise evidence and/or graphic to explain evidence and ideas | describes evidence and ideas accurately using mathematical and/or graphic methods | describes evidence using mathematical or graphic methods | identifies evidence from graphic and/ formats and/or by using mathematical |
| reflects coherently on own learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and effective strategies to improve | reflects coherently on own learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and plausible strategies to improve | reflects on learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and some strategies to improve | reflects on learning and work habits and notes better habits | reflects on learning and work habits |
| reflects coherently on own learning about commerce concepts and links to their world | reflects on own learning about commerce concepts and links to their world | reflects on learning about commerce concepts and links to their world | reflects on commerce concepts and identifies features and links to their world | reflects on commerce concepts and the nature of the world |

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| **Achievement Standards for Commerce A Course - Year 12** |
|  | *A student who achieves an* ***A*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***B*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***C*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***D*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves an* ***E*** *grade typically* |
| **Knowledge and Understanding** | analyses data, trends, case studies or examples by selecting relevant commerce concepts and theories and applying them accurately and contextually | explains data, trends, case studies or examples and explains connection to commerce concepts and theories accurately | describes data or trends, case studies or examples and describes relevant commerce concepts and theories | describes data and case studies or examples and includes simple, relevant commerce concepts | identifies commerce data from case studies of commerce contexts in expressing ideas about commerce |
| analyses the sustainability and ethics of commerce ideas and enterprises to reach logical conclusions | explains the relevant sustainability and ethics of commerce ideas and enterprises to reach reasonable conclusions | describes relevant ideas about the sustainability and ethics of commerce ideas and enterprises accurately | identifies the relevant sustainable and ethical ideas in commerce case studies | identifies general ideas about ethics and sustainability in expressing ideas about commerce |
| creates well-founded solutions to identified problems using commerce concepts and theories accurately | creates plausible solutions to identified problems using commerce concepts and theories | creates possible solutions to identified problems using research | describes possible solutions to identified problems based on minimal research | identifies possible solutions to problems |
| communicates complex commerce ideas using logical and reasoned arguments to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology | communicates commerce ideas using logical and reasoned arguments to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology | communicates commerce ideas to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology | communicates commerce ideas to justify conclusions and recommendations using some appropriate terminology | communicates commerce ideas and recommendations |
| **Skills** | applies research methods using a wide range of relevant commerce sources and systematic referencing | applies research methods using relevant commerce sources and systematic referencing | applies research methods using reliable general sources and systematic referencing | describes information related to a given question using minimal sources with minimal referencing | identifies information related to a given question to with minimal referencing |
| selects mathematical methods to analyse evidence and/or graphic methods to represent evidence and ideas coherently | uses familiar mathematical methods to organise data and/or graphic methods explain evidence and ideas coherently | uses simple mathematical methods to acquire evidence and/or describes evidence accurately using mathematical or graphic methods | uses simple mathematical and/or graphic methods as directed to describe evidence and ideas | uses simple mathematical or graphic methods to identify evidence |
| reflects coherently on own learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and effective strategies to improve | reflects coherently on own learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and plausible strategies to improve | reflects on learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and some strategies to improve | reflects on learning and work habits and notes better habits | reflects on learning and work habits |
| reflects coherently on own learning about commerce concepts and links to their world | reflects on own learning about commerce concepts and links to their world | reflects on learning about commerce concepts and links to their world | reflects on commerce concepts and identifies links to the world | reflects on commerce concepts and the nature of the world |

|  |
| --- |
| **Achievement Standards for Commerce T Course - Year 12** |
|  | *A student who achieves an* ***A*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***B*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***C*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***D*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves an* ***E*** *grade typically* |
| **Knowledge and Understanding** | critically analyses data, trends, case studies or examples from relevant local, national, and global contexts by selecting relevant commerce concepts and theories and applying them accurately | analyses data, trends, case studies or examples from relevant local, national, and global contexts by selecting relevant commerce concepts and theories and applying them accurately | explains data, trends, case studies or examples from relevant local, national, and global contexts and by applying commerce concepts and theories | describes data, simple trends and case studies or examples from relevant local national and global contexts and describes relevant simple commerce concepts and theories | identifies data from a case study and related commerce ideas in expressing ideas about commerce |
| critically analyses the universality, sustainability and ethics of commerce ideas and enterprises to reach well-researched and logical conclusions | analyses the universality, sustainability and ethics of commerce ideas and enterprises to reach logical conclusions | explains the relevant universality, sustainability and ethics of commerce ideas and enterprises to reach reasonable conclusions | describes the sustainable and ethical features of commerce ideas and enterprises | identifies sustainable and ethical features in expressing ideas about commerce |
| creates insightful solutions to identified problems, informed by critical research using selected commerce concepts and theories accurately | creates well-founded solutions to identified problems, informed by research using selected commerce concepts and theories accurately | creates plausible solutions to identified problems, informed by research using commerce concepts and theories | describes possible solutions to identified problems, using research | identifies possible solutions to problems in expressing ideas about commerce |
| communicates complex commerce ideas using well-informed logical and reasoned arguments to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology in speaking and writing | communicates commerce ideas using well-informed logical and reasoned arguments to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology | communicates commerce ideas to justify conclusions and recommendations using appropriate terminology | communicates simple commerce ideas to justify conclusions and recommendations using some simple terminology | communicates commerce ideas and recommendations |
| **Skills** | applies research methods using a wide range of relevant, rigorous commerce sources critically, and employs accurate systematic referencing | applies research methods using relevant commerce sources and systematic referencing | applies research methods using reliable general sources and systematic referencing | describes information related to a question and derived from minimal sources with minimal referencing | identifies information using research related to the question with minimal referencing |
| selects mathematical methods to analyse evidence accurately and/or graphic methods to represent evidence coherently | selects mathematical methods to analyse evidence and/or graphic methods to represent evidence clearly | uses mathematical methods to acquire and organise evidence and/or graphic method to explain evidence | describes evidence using mathematical and/or graphic methods | uses mathematical and/or graphic methods to identify evidence |
| reflects insightfully and coherently on own learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and effective strategies to improve | reflects coherently on own learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and plausible strategies to improve | reflects on learning habits, individual and collaborative work habits, and some strategies to improve | reflects on learning and work habits and notes better habits | reflects on learning and work habits |
| reflects insightfully and coherently on own learning about commerce concepts and links their world | reflects on own learning about commerce concepts and understanding and links to their world | reflects on learning about commerce concepts and links to their world | reflects on commerce concepts and identifies features of the world | reflects on commerce concepts and the nature of the world |

|  |
| --- |
| **Achievement Standards for Commerce M Course - Years 11 and 12** |
|  | *A student who achieves an* ***A*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***B*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***C*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves a* ***D*** *grade typically* | *A student who achieves an* ***E*** *grade typically* |
| **Knowledge and understanding** | describes commerce ideas with independence | describes commerce ideas with occasional assistance | recounts commerce ideas with assistance | identifies commerce ideas with continuous guidance | identifies commerce ideas with direct instruction |
| describes case studies or examples of commerce ideas with independence | describes case studies of commerce ideas with occasional assistance | recounts case studies of commerce ideas with assistance | identifies case studies of commerce ideas with continuous guidance | identifies some examples of commerce in people’s lives with direct instruction  |
| describe ethical or sustainable commerce practices with independence | describe ethical or sustainable commerce practices with occasional assistance | recounts ethical or sustainable commerce practices with assistance | identifies ethical or sustainable commerce practices with continuous guidance | identifies ethical or sustainable commerce practices with direct instruction |
| **Skills** | identifies commerce data in graphic representations with independence | describes commerce data in graphic representations with occasional assistance | recounts commerce data in graphic representations with assistance | identifies commerce data in graphic representations with continuous guidance | identifies commerce data in graphic representations with direct instruction |
| uses familiar mathematical methods with independence | uses familiar mathematical methods with occasional assistance | follows familiar mathematical methods with assistance | follows familiar mathematical methods with continuous guidance | follows mathematical methods with direct instruction |
| applies concepts and principles for decision making and problem-solving with independence | applies concepts and practices for decision making and problem-solving with occasional assistance | applies concepts and principles for decision making and problem-solving with assistance | applies concepts and principles for decision making and problem-solving with continuous guidance | applies concepts and models with direct instruction |
| communicates ideas using appropriate evidence, terminology, and accurate referencing with independence | communicates ideas using appropriate evidence, terminology, and accurate referencing with occasional assistance | communicates ideas using appropriate evidence, terminology, and accurate referencing with assistance | communicates ideas using appropriate evidence, terminology, and accurate referencing with continuous guidance | communicates ideas using appropriate evidence, terminology, and accurate referencing with direct instruction |
| plans and undertakes independent or collaborative commerce inquiries with independence | plans and undertakes independent or collaborative commerce inquiries with occasional assistance | undertakes guided independent or collaborative commerce inquiries with assistance | undertakes guided independent or collaborative commerce inquiries with continuous guidance | undertakes simple independent or collaborative research on a topic with direct instruction |
| reflects on own learning to identify strengths with independence | reflects on own learning to identify strengths with occasional assistance | undertakes guided reflection on own learning to identify successes with assistance | undertakes guided reflection on own learning to identify successes with continuous assistance | undertakes reflection on own learning with direct instruction |

# Microeconomic Foundations Value: 1.0

Microeconomic Foundations a Value 0.5

Microeconomic Foundations b Value 0.5

## Unit Description

In this unit, students investigate the nature and purpose of a range of economic theories and concepts related to microeconomics to better understand human behaviour. In investigating scenarios in local, national, global economies, and developing societies, they evaluate theories, models, and numerical analyses. Students evaluate explanations of microeconomic phenomena provided by economists to draw conclusions about the nature and actions of economic agents.

## Specific Unit Goals

This unit should enable students to:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A Course | T Course | M Course |
| * analyse microeconomic concepts, theories, and models
 | * evaluate microeconomic concepts, theories, and models
 | * describe microeconomic ideas
 |
| * apply theories and data to critically analyse scenarios in microeconomics
 | * synthesise theories and data to critically analyse scenarios in microeconomics
 | * describe microeconomic scenarios
 |
| * analyse problems in local, national, global economies and developing societies
 | * critically analyse problems in local, national, global economies and developing societies
 | * describe how microeconomics affects their life
 |

## Content Descriptions

All knowledge, understanding and skills below must be delivered:

| A Course | T Course | M Course |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Knowledge and Understanding |
| * analyse microeconomic concepts, theories, and models to better understand human behaviour, for example, supply and demand, elasticity, market failure, price controls, labour market, wages, taxes, subsidies, theory of the firm, monopolies, and oligopolies
 | * evaluate microeconomic concepts, theories, and models to better understand human behaviour, for example, supply and demand, elasticity, market failure, price controls, labour market, wages, taxes, subsidies, theory of the firm, monopolies, and oligopolies
 | * describe microeconomic ideas
 |
| * apply theories and data to critically analyse scenarios in microeconomics to understand daily interactions with the economy, for example, role of the ACCC, Minimum Wage and the Fair Work Commission, the role of sin taxes in addressing negative externalities, price controls on oil prices
 | * synthesise theories and data to critically analyse scenarios in microeconomics to understand daily interactions with the economy, for example, role of the ACCC, Minimum Wage and the Fair Work Commission, the role of sin taxes in addressing negative externalities, price controls on oil prices
 | * describe microeconomic scenarios
 |
| * analyse problems in local, national, global economies and developing societies, for example, relative wage conditions in developing economies, elasticity and pricing in rural and regional economies, roles of resource supply in colonisation
 | * critically analyse problems in local, national, global economies and developing societies, for example, relative wage conditions in developing economies, elasticity and pricing in rural and regional economies, roles of resource supply in colonisation
 | * describe how microeconomics affects their life
 |
| Contexts |
| * analyse contextual and sustainability issues related to issues in microeconomics, for example, negative externalities of production, green/fair trade accreditation schemes, the green economy, consumer carbon offsets
 | * critically analyse contextual and sustainability issues related to issues in microeconomics, for example, negative externalities of production, green/fair trade accreditation schemes, the green economy, consumer carbon offsets
 | * describe sustainable practices in microeconomics
 |
| Skills |
| * apply knowledge, understanding and mathematical skills to construct, interpret, and/or represent and support macroeconomic ideas, for example, graphs, data interpretation, statistical analysis
 | * synthesise knowledge, understanding and mathematical skills to construct, interpret, and/or represent and support macroeconomic ideas, for example, graphs, data interpretation, statistical analysis
 | * use mathematical methods to identify microeconomic data in graphic representations
 |
| * analyse ethical implications arising from microeconomic analysis of scenarios
 | * critically analyse ethical implications arising from microeconomic analysis of scenarios
 | * describe ethical practices in microeconomics
 |
| * apply research methods using relevant economics’ sources critically, and employs academic integrity
 | * apply research methods using relevant economics’ sources critically, and employs academic integrity
 | * identify reliable sources of information for microeconomics and use with academic integrity
 |
| * apply skills, knowledge and understanding to communicate complex Economics ideas using well-informed, logical arguments, conclusions, and recommendations
 | * synthesise skills, knowledge and understanding to communicate complex Economics ideas using well-informed, logical arguments, conclusions, and recommendations
 | * communicates ideas using evidence and terminology, with referencing
 |
| Reflection |
| * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 | * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 | * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 |
| * reflect on their own place in relation to microeconomics concepts and on links to their world
 | * reflect on their own place in relation to microeconomics concepts and on links to their world
 |  |

## A guide to reading and implementing content descriptions

Content descriptions specify the knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to learn and that teachers are expected to teach. Teachers are required to develop a program of learning that allows students to demonstrate all the content descriptions. The lens which the teacher uses to demonstrate the content descriptions may be either guided through provision of electives within each unit or determined by the teacher when developing their program of learning.

A program of learningis what a college provides to implement the course for a subject. It is at the discretion of the teacher to emphasise some content descriptions over others. The teacher may teach additional (not listed) content provided it meets the specific unit goals. This will be informed by the student needs and interests.

## Assessment

Refer to pages 10-12.

# Debates in Microeconomics Value: 1.0

Debates in Microeconomics a Value 0.5

Debates in Microeconomics b Value 0.5

## Unit Description

In this unit, students analyse complex scenarios in microeconomics to understand choices of policy makers. They will engage with debate in the discipline on explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas and the range of possible solutions to problems facing people. Students collaborate to make predictions and propose solutions to problems facing policy makers and citizens.

## Specific Unit Goals

This unit should enable students to:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A Course | T Course | M Course |
| * analyse scenarios in microeconomics
 | * critically analyse complex scenarios in microeconomics
 | * describe microeconomic issues
 |
| * analyse debates in the discipline around explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas and the range of possible solutions to problems facing people
 | * evaluate debates in the discipline around explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas and the range of possible solutions to problems facing people
 |  |
| * analyse microeconomic ideas and research data to make predictions and propose solutions to and problems facing policy makers and citizens
 | * critically analyse microeconomic ideas and research data to make predictions and propose solutions to and problems facing policy makers and citizens
 | * describe microeconomic challenges in their own life
 |

## Content Descriptions

All knowledge, understanding and skills below must be delivered:

| A Course | T Course | M Course |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Knowledge and Understanding |
| * analyse scenarios in microeconomics to understand choices of policy makers, for example, natural disasters and produce supply, de Beers and the diamond market, Finland and Universal Basic Income, Essential Work Wages and COVID, free public transport
 | * critically analyse complex scenarios in microeconomics to understand choices of policy makers, for example, natural disasters and produce supply, de Beers and the diamond market, Finland and Universal Basic Income, Essential Work Wages and COVID, free public transport
 | * describe microeconomic issues
 |
| * analyse debates in the discipline around explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas and the range of possible solutions to problems facing people in living their daily economic lives, for example, RAT versus PCR Subsidies, Digital Disruptions to Traditional Markets, Government use of Behavioural Economics, stick versus carrot, tariffs versus subsidies
 | * evaluate debates in the discipline around explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas and the range of possible solutions to problems facing people in living their daily economic lives, for example, RAT versus PCR Subsidies, Digital Disruptions to Traditional Markets, Government use of Behavioural Economics, stick versus carrot, tariffs versus subsidies
 |  |
| * analyse microeconomic ideas and research data to propose solutions to make predictions and problems facing policy makers and citizens, for example, electric car subsidies, counterfeit First Nations Art, Gender Pay Gap, Nudge Economics, taxing empty homes
 | * critically analyse microeconomic ideas and research data to propose solutions to make predictions and problems facing policy makers and citizens, for example, electric car subsidies, counterfeit First Nations Art, Gender Pay Gap, Nudge Economics, taxing empty homes
 | * describe microeconomic challenges in their own life
 |
| Contexts |
| * analyse contextual and sustainability issues related to debates in microeconomics, for example, loss of bees and pollination services, protection of fish breeding/spawning grounds, protection of forests and reafforestation and pricing, solar panel subsidies
 | * critically analyse contextual and sustainability issues related to debates in microeconomics, for example, loss of bees and pollination services, protection of fish breeding/spawning grounds, protection of forests and reafforestation and pricing, solar panel subsidies
 | * describe sustainable practices in microeconomics
 |
| Skills |
| * apply knowledge, understanding and mathematical skills to construct, interpret, and/or represent and support macroeconomic ideas, for example, graphs, data interpretation, statistical analysis
 | * synthesise knowledge, understanding and mathematical skills to construct, interpret, and/or represent and support macroeconomic ideas, for example, graphs, data interpretation, statistical analysis
 | * use mathematical methods to identify microeconomic data in graphic representations
 |
| * analyse ethical implications arising from microeconomic analysis of scenarios
 | * critically analyse ethical implications arising from microeconomic analysis of scenarios
 | * describe ethical practices in microeconomics
 |
| * apply research methods using relevant economics sources critically, and employs academic integrity
 | * apply research methods using relevant economics sources critically, and employs academic integrity
 | * identify reliable sources of information for microeconomics and use with academic integrity
 |
| * apply skills, knowledge and understanding to communicate complex economics ideas using well-informed, logical arguments, conclusions, and recommendations
 | * synthesise skills, knowledge and understanding to communicate complex economics ideas using well-informed, logical arguments, conclusions, and recommendations
 | * communicates ideas using evidence and terminology, with referencing
 |
| Reflection |
| * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 | * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 | * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 |
| * reflect on their own place in relation to microeconomics concepts and on links to their world
 | * reflect on their own place in relation to microeconomics concepts and on links to their world
 |  |

## A guide to reading and implementing content descriptions

Content descriptions specify the knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to learn and that teachers are expected to teach. Teachers are required to develop a program of learning that allows students to demonstrate all the content descriptions. The lens which the teacher uses to demonstrate the content descriptions may be either guided through provision of electives within each unit or determined by the teacher when developing their program of learning.

A program of learningis what a college provides to implement the course for a subject. It is at the discretion of the teacher to emphasise some content descriptions over others. The teacher may teach additional (not listed) content provided it meets the specific unit goals. This will be informed by the student needs and interests.

## Assessment

Refer to pages 10-12.

# Macroeconomic Foundations Value: 1.0

Macroeconomic Foundations a Value 0.5

Macroeconomic Foundations b Value 0.5

## Unit Description

In this unit, students investigate the nature and purpose of a range of economic theories and concepts related to macroeconomics. They evaluate theories, models, and numerical analyses through investigating scenarios in local, national, global economies and developing societies to understand how policy makers foster prosperity. Students evaluate explanations of macroeconomic phenomena provided by economists to draw conclusions about the effectiveness of decision making.

## Specific Unit Goals

This unit should enable students to:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A Course | T Course | M Course |
| * analyse macroeconomic concepts, theories, and models to understand how policy makers foster prosperity
 | * evaluate macroeconomic concepts, theories, and models to understand how policy makers foster prosperity
 | * describe macroeconomic ideas
 |
| * apply theories and data to analyse scenarios in macroeconomics
 | * synthesise theories and data to critically analyse scenarios in macroeconomics
 | * describe macroeconomic scenarios
 |
| * analyse problems in local, national, or global economies or developing societies
 | * critically analyse problems in local, national, and global economies and developing societies
 | * describe how macroeconomics affects their life
 |

## Content Descriptions

All knowledge, understanding and skills below must be delivered:

| A Course | T Course | M Course |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Knowledge and Understanding |
| * analyse macroeconomic concepts, theories, and models to understand how policy makers foster prosperity, for example, economic growth, Classical versus Keynesian economics, aggregate supply, and demand
 | * evaluate macroeconomic concepts, theories, and models to understand how policy makers foster prosperity, for example, economic growth, Classical versus Keynesian economics, aggregate supply, and demand
 | * describe macroeconomic ideas
 |
| * apply theories and data to analyse scenarios in macroeconomics for example, fiscal versus monetary policy, trickledown economics, full employment, Global Financial Crisis, Reserve Bank Reforms - Wright Review
 | * synthesise theories and data to critically analyse scenarios in macroeconomics, for example, fiscal versus monetary policy, trickledown economics, full employment, Global Financial Crisis, Reserve Bank Reforms - Wright Review
 | * describe macroeconomic scenarios
 |
| * analyse problems in local, national, or global economies or developing societies, for example, stagflation, balance of payments in developing societies, protectionism versus free trade, The Great Depression
 | * critically analyse problems in local, national, and global economies, and developing societies, for example, stagflation, balance of payments in developing societies, protectionism versus free trade, The Great Depression
 | * describe how macroeconomics affects their life
 |
| Contexts |
| * analyse contextual sustainability issues related to macroeconomics, for example, emissions trading schemes, Green GDP, Environmental regulations
 | * critically analyse contextual and sustainability issues related to macroeconomics, for example, emissions trading schemes, Green GDP, Environmental regulations
 | * describe sustainable practices in macroeconomics
 |
| Skills |
| * apply knowledge, understanding and mathematical skills to construct, interpret, and/or represent and support macroeconomic ideas, for example, graphs, data interpretation, statistical analysis
 | * synthesise knowledge, understanding and mathematical skills to construct, interpret, and/or represent and support macroeconomic ideas, for example, graphs, data interpretation, statistical analysis
 | * use mathematical methods to identify macroeconomic data in graphic representations
 |
| * analyse ethical implications arising from macroeconomic analysis of scenarios
 | * critically analyse ethical implications arising from macroeconomic analysis of scenarios
 | * describe ethical practices in macroeconomics
 |
| * apply research methods using relevant economics sources, and employs academic integrity
 | * apply research methods using relevant economics sources critically, and employs academic integrity
 | * identify reliable sources of information for macroeconomics and use with academic integrity
 |
| * applies skills, knowledge and understanding to communicate economics ideas using well-informed, logical arguments, conclusions, and recommendations
 | * synthesise skills, knowledge and understanding to communicate complex economics ideas using well-informed, logical arguments, conclusions, and recommendations
 | * communicates ideas using evidence and terminology, with referencing
 |
| Reflection |
| * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 | * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 | * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 |
| * reflect on their own place in relation to macroeconomics concepts and on links to their world
 | * reflect on their own place in relation to macroeconomics concepts and on links to their world
 |  |

## A guide to reading and implementing content descriptions

Content descriptions specify the knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to learn and that teachers are expected to teach. Teachers are required to develop a program of learning that allows students to demonstrate all the content descriptions. The lens which the teacher uses to demonstrate the content descriptions may be either guided through provision of electives within each unit or determined by the teacher when developing their program of learning.

A program of learningis what a college provides to implement the course for a subject. It is at the discretion of the teacher to emphasise some content descriptions over others. The teacher may teach additional (not listed) content provided it meets the specific unit goals. This will be informed by the student needs and interests.

## Assessment

Refer to pages 10-12.

# Debates in Macroeconomics Value: 1.0

Debates in Macroeconomics a Value 0.5

Debates in Macroeconomics b Value 0.5

## Unit Description

In this unit, students critically analyse in-depth scenarios in macroeconomics to understand the functional role of economics in bettering lives. They will engage with debate in the discipline around explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas and the range of possible solutions to problems facing people. Students make predictions and propose solutions to problems facing policy makers and citizens.

## Specific Unit Goals

This unit should enable students to:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A Course | T Course | M Course |
| * analyse contemporary debates in macroeconomics
 | * critically analyse contemporary debates in macroeconomics
 | * describe macroeconomic issues
 |
| * analyse debates in the discipline around explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas
 | * evaluate debates in the discipline around explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas and the range of possible solutions to problems facing people
 |  |
| * analyse macroeconomic ideas and research data to propose solutions to contemporary problems facing policy makers and citizens
 | * critically analyse macroeconomic ideas and research data to make predictions and propose solutions to contemporary problems facing policy makers and citizens
 | * describe macroeconomic challenges in their own life
 |

## Content Descriptions

All knowledge, understanding and skills below must be delivered:

| A Course | T Course | M Course |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Knowledge and Understanding |
| * analyse current debates in macroeconomics to understand the functional role of economics in bettering lives for example, inflation, unemployment, the role of government intervention, energy supply chains
 | * critically analyse current debates in macroeconomics to understand the functional role of economics in bettering lives, for example, inflation, unemployment, the role of government intervention, energy supply chains
 | * describe macroeconomic issues
 |
| * analyse debates in the discipline around explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas , for example, growing income inequality, Brexit, Australia’s diversity of trade partners, Housing Affordability
 | * evaluate debates in the discipline around explanations for contemporary economic dilemmas and the range of possible solutions to problems facing people, for example, growing income inequality, Brexit, Australia’s diversity of trade partners, Housing Affordability
 |  |
| * analyse macroeconomic ideas and research data to propose solutions to contemporary problems facing policy makers and citizens, for example, carbon border taxes and free riders, Quantitative Easing and M2 money supply to address COVID Crisis, Balance of Payments and the Sri Lankan Economic Crisis
 | * critically analyse macroeconomic ideas and research to make predictions and propose solutions to contemporary problems facing policy makers and citizens, for example, carbon border taxes and free riders, Quantitative Easing and M2 money supply to address COVID Crisis, Balance of Payments and the Sri Lankan Economic Crisis
 | * describe macroeconomic challenges in their own life
 |
| Contexts |
| * analyse contextual sustainability issues related to debates in macroeconomics, for example, transition of renewable energy, sunken costs, and climate change
 | * critically analyse contextual and sustainability issues related to debates in macroeconomics, for example, transition of renewable energy, sunken costs, and climate change
 | * describe sustainable practices in macroeconomics
 |
| Skills |
| * apply knowledge, understanding and mathematical skills to construct, interpret, and/or represent and support macroeconomic ideas, for example, graphs, data interpretation, statistical analysis
 | * synthesise knowledge, understanding and mathematical skills to construct, interpret, and/or represent and support macroeconomic ideas, for example, graphs, data interpretation, statistical analysis
 | * use mathematical methods to identify macroeconomic data in graphic representations
 |
| * analyse ethical implications arising from macroeconomic analysis of scenarios
 | * critically analyse ethical implications arising from macroeconomic analysis of scenarios
 | * describe ethical practices in macroeconomics
 |
| * apply research methods using relevant economics sources critically, and employs academic integrity
 | * apply research methods using relevant economics sources critically, and employs academic integrity
 | * identify reliable sources of information for macroeconomics and use with academic integrity
 |
| * apply skills, knowledge and understanding to communicate complex economics ideas using well-informed, logical arguments, conclusions and recommendations and predictions
 | * synthesise skills, knowledge and understanding to communicate complex economics ideas using well-informed, logical arguments, conclusions and recommendations and predictions
 | * communicates ideas using evidence and terminology, with referencing
 |
| Reflection |
| * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 | * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 | * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 |
| * reflect on their own place in relation to macroeconomics concepts and on links to their world
 | * reflect on their own place in relation to macroeconomics concepts and on links to their world
 |  |

## A guide to reading and implementing content descriptions

Content descriptions specify the knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to learn and that teachers are expected to teach. Teachers are required to develop a program of learning that allows students to demonstrate all the content descriptions. The lens which the teacher uses to demonstrate the content descriptions may be either guided through provision of electives within each unit or determined by the teacher when developing their program of learning.

A program of learningis what a college provides to implement the course for a subject. It is at the discretion of the teacher to emphasise some content descriptions over others. The teacher may teach additional (not listed) content provided it meets the specific unit goals. This will be informed by the student needs and interests.

## Assessment

Refer to pages 10-12.

# Independent Study Value: 1.0

Independent Study a Value 0.5

Independent Study b Value 0.5

## Prerequisites

Independent Study units are only available to individual students in Year 12. A student can only study a maximum of one Independent Study unit in each course. Students must have studied at least three standard 1.0 units from this course. An Independent Study unit requires the principal’s written approval. Principal approval can also be sought by a student in Year 12 to enrol concurrently in an Independent Study unit and their third or fourth 1.0 unit in this course of study.

## Unit Description

An Independent Study unit has an important place in senior secondary courses. It is a valuable pedagogical approach that empowers students to make decisions about their own learning. An Independent Study unit can be proposed by an individual student for their own independent study and negotiated with their teacher. The program of learning for an Independent Study unit must meet the unit goals and content descriptions as they appear in the course.

## Specific Unit Goals

This unit should enable students to:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A Course | T Course | M Course |
| * analyse a scenario/s in the chosen area of study in Economics
 | * critically analyse a scenario/s in the chosen area of study in Economics
 | * describe economic scenarios
 |
| * analyse debates in the discipline related to the chosen area of study
 | * evaluate debates in the discipline related to the chosen area of study
 |  |
| * analyse economic ideas and research data to make predictions and propose solutions in the in chosen area of study
 | * critically analyse economic ideas and research data to make predictions and propose solutions in the in chosen area of study
 | * describe economic ideas
 |

## Content Descriptions

All knowledge, understanding and skills below must be delivered:

| A Course | T Course | M Course |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Knowledge and Understanding |
| * analyse a scenario/s in the chosen area of study in Economics
 | * critically analyse a scenario/s in the chosen area of study in Economics
 | * describe economic scenarios
 |
| * analyse debates in the discipline related to the chosen area of study
 | * evaluate debates in the discipline related to the chosen area of study
 |  |
| * analyse economic ideas and research data to make predictions and propose solutions in the chosen area of study
 | * critically analyse economic ideas and research data to make predictions and propose solutions in the chosen area of study
 | * describe economic ideas
 |
| Contexts |
| * analyse contextual and sustainability issues related to the chosen area of study
 | * critically analyse contextual and sustainability issues related to the chosen area of study
 | * describe sustainable practices in the area of study
 |
| Skills |
| * apply knowledge, understanding and mathematical skills to construct, interpret, and/or represent and support macroeconomic ideas, for example, graphs, data interpretation, statistical analysis
 | * synthesise knowledge, understanding and mathematical skills to construct, interpret, and/or represent and support macroeconomic ideas, for example, graphs, data interpretation, statistical analysis
 | * use mathematical methods to identify data in graphic representations
 |
| * analyse ethical implications arising from analysis in the chosen area of study
 | * critically analyse ethical implications arising from analysis in the chosen area of study
 | * describe ethical practices in the chosen area of study
 |
| * apply research methods using relevant economics sources critically, and employs academic integrity
 | * apply research methods using relevant economics sources critically, and employs academic integrity
 | * identify reliable sources of information for the chosen area of study and use with academic integrity
 |
| * apply skills, knowledge and understanding to communicate complex economics ideas using well-informed, logical arguments, conclusions, and recommendations
 | * synthesise skills, knowledge and understanding to communicate complex economics ideas using well-informed, logical arguments, conclusions, and recommendations
 | * communicates ideas using evidence and terminology, with referencing
 |
| Reflection |
| * reflect on own learning to consider improvements
 | * reflect on own learning to consider improvements
 | * reflect on own individual and collaborative learning to consider improvements
 |
| * reflect on their own place in relation to economics concepts and on links to their world
 | * reflect on their own place in relation to economics concepts and on links to their world
 |  |

## A guide to reading and implementing content descriptions

Content descriptions specify the knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to learn and that teachers are expected to teach. Teachers are required to develop a program of learning that allows students to demonstrate all the content descriptions. The lens which the teacher uses to demonstrate the content descriptions may be either guided through provision of electives within each unit or determined by the teacher when developing their program of learning.

A program of learningis what a college provides to implement the course for a subject. It is at the discretion of the teacher to emphasise some content descriptions over others. The teacher may teach additional (not listed) content provided it meets the specific unit goals. This will be informed by the student needs and interests.

## Assessment

Refer to pages 10-12.

# Appendix A – Implementation Guidelines

## Available course patterns

A standard 1.0 value unit is delivered over at least 55 hours. To be awarded a course, students must complete at least the minimum units over the whole minor or major course.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course | Number of standard units to meet course requirements |
| Minor | Minimum of 2 units |
| Major | Minimum of 3.5 units |

Units in this course can be delivered in any order.

### Prerequisites for the course or units within the course

Students must have studied at least three standard 1.0 units from this course in order to access the Independent Study unit. An Independent Study unit requires the principal’s written approval. Principal approval can also be sought by a student in Year 12 to enrol concurrently in an Independent Study unit and their third or fourth 1.0 unit in this course of study.

### Arrangements for students continuing study in this course

Students who studied the previous course may undertake any units in this course provided there is no duplication of content.

## Duplication of Content Rules

Students cannot be given credit towards the requirements for a Senior Secondary Certificate for a unit that significantly duplicates content in a unit studied in another course. The responsibility for preventing undesirable overlap of content studied by a student, rests with the principal and the teacher delivering the course. Students will only be given credit for covering the content once.

## Guidelines for Delivery

### Program of Learning

A program of learning is what a school provides to implement the course for a subject. This meets the requirements for context, scope and sequence set out in the Board endorsed course. Students follow programs of learning in a college as part of their senior secondary studies. The detail, design, and layout of a program of learning are a college decision.

The program of learning must be documented to show the planned learning activities and experiences that meet the needs of particular groups of students, taking into account their interests, prior knowledge, abilities, and backgrounds. The program of learning is a record of the learning experiences that enable students to achieve the knowledge, understanding and skills of the content descriptions. There is no requirement to submit a program of learning to the OBSSS for approval. The Principal will need to sign off at the end of Year 12 that courses have been delivered as accredited.

### Content Descriptions

Are all content descriptions of equal importance? No. It depends on the focus of study. Teachers can customise their program of learning to meet their own students’ needs, adding additional content descriptions if desired or emphasising some over others. A teacher must balance student needs with their responsibility to teach all content descriptions. It is mandatory that teachers address all content descriptions and that students engage with all content descriptions.

### Half standard 0.5 units

Half standard units appear on the course adoption form but are not explicitly documented in courses. It is at the discretion of the college principal to split a standard 1.0 unit into two half standard 0.5 units. Colleges are required to adopt the half standard 0.5 units. However, colleges are not required to submit explicit documentation outlining their half standard 0.5 units to the BSSS. Colleges must assess students using the half standard 0.5 assessment task weightings outlined in the framework. It is the responsibility of the college principal to ensure that all content is delivered in units approved by the Board.

## Moderation

Moderation is a system designed and implemented to:

* provide comparability in the system of school-based assessment
* form the basis for valid and reliable assessment in senior secondary schools
* involve the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies and colleges in cooperation and partnership
* maintain the quality of school-based assessment and the credibility, validity, and acceptability of Board certificates.

Moderation commences within individual colleges. Teachers develop assessment programs and instruments, apply assessment criteria, and allocate Unit Grades, according to the relevant Framework. Teachers within course teaching groups conduct consensus discussions to moderate marking or grading of individual assessment instruments and Unit Grade decisions.

### The Moderation Model

Moderation within the ACT encompasses structured, consensus-based peer review of Unit Grades for all accredited courses over two Moderation Days. In addition to Moderation Days, there is statistical moderation of course scores, including small group procedures, for T courses.

### Moderation by Structured, Consensus-based Peer Review

Consensus-based peer review involves the review of student work against system wide criteria and standards and the validation of Unit Grades. This is done by matching student performance with the criteria and standards outlined in the Achievement Standards, as stated in the Framework. Advice is then given to colleges to assist teachers with, or confirm, their judgments. In addition, feedback is given on the construction of assessment instruments.

### Preparation for Structured, Consensus-based Peer Review

Each year, teachers of Year 11 are asked to retain originals or copies of student work completed in Semester 2. Similarly, teachers of a Year 12 class should retain originals or copies of student work completed in Semester 1. Assessment and other documentation required by the Office of the Board of Senior Secondary Studies should also be kept. Year 11 work from Semester 2 of the previous year is presented for review at Moderation Day 1 in March, and Year 12 work from Semester 1 is presented for review at Moderation Day 2 in August.

In the lead up to Moderation Day, a College Course Presentation (comprised of a document folder and a set of student portfolios) is prepared for each A, T and M course/units offered by the school and is sent into the Office of the Board of Senior Secondary Studies.

### The College Course Presentation

The package of materials (College Course Presentation) presented by a college for review on Moderation Days in each course area will comprise the following:

* a folder containing supporting documentation as requested by the Office of the Board through memoranda to colleges, including marking schemes and rubrics for each assessment item
* a set of student portfolios containing marked and/or graded written and non-written assessment responses and completed criteria and standards feedback forms. Evidence of all assessment responses on which the Unit Grade decision has been made is to be included in the student review portfolios.

Specific requirements for subject areas and types of evidence to be presented for each Moderation Day will be outlined by the Board Secretariat through the *Requirements for Moderation Memoranda* and Information Papers.

### Visual evidence for judgements made about practical performances

It is a requirement that schools’ judgements of standards to practical performances (A/T/M) be supported by visual evidence (still photos or video).

The photographic evidence submitted must be drawn from practical skills performed as part of the assessment process.

Teachers should consult the BSSS website for current information regarding all moderation requirements including subject specific and photographic evidence.

# Appendix B – Course Developers

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | College |
| Winfred Hanson | Canberra Girls Grammar School |
| Sargam Malhotra | Narrabundah College |
| Jason Paris | St John Paul II College/ Daramalan College |
| Dr Timo Henckel | Australian National University |

# Appendix C – Common Curriculum Elements

Common curriculum elements assist in the development of high-quality assessment tasks by encouraging breadth and depth and discrimination in levels of achievement.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Organisers | Elements | Examples |
| create, compose, and apply | apply | ideas and procedures in unfamiliar situations, content, and processes in non-routine settings |
| compose | oral, written, and multimodal texts, music, visual images, responses to complex topics, new outcomes |
| represent | images, symbols, or signs |
| create | creative thinking to identify areas for change, growth, and innovation, recognise opportunities, experiment to achieve innovative solutions, construct objects, imagine alternatives |
| manipulate | images, text, data, points of view |
| analyse, synthesise, and evaluate | justify | arguments, points of view, phenomena, choices |
| hypothesise | statement/theory that can be tested by data |
| extrapolate | trends, cause/effect, impact of a decision |
| predict | data, trends, inferences |
| evaluate | text, images, points of view, solutions, phenomenon, graphics |
| test | validity of assumptions, ideas, procedures, strategies |
| argue | trends, cause/effect, strengths and weaknesses |
| reflect | on strengths and weaknesses |
| synthesise | data and knowledge, points of view from several sources |
| analyse | text, images, graphs, data, points of view |
| examine | data, visual images, arguments, points of view |
| investigate | issues, problems |
| organise, sequence, and explain | sequence | text, data, relationships, arguments, patterns |
| visualise | trends, futures, patterns, cause and effect |
| compare/contrast | data, visual images, arguments, points of view |
| discuss | issues, data, relationships, choices/options |
| interpret | symbols, text, images, graphs |
| explain | explicit/implicit assumptions, bias, themes/arguments, cause/effect, strengths/weaknesses |
| translate | data, visual images, arguments, points of view |
| assess | probabilities, choices/options |
| select | main points, words, ideas in text |
| identify, summarise and plan | reproduce | information, data, words, images, graphics |
| respond | data, visual images, arguments, points of view |
| relate | events, processes, situations |
| demonstrate | probabilities, choices/options |
| describe | data, visual images, arguments, points of view |
| plan | strategies, ideas in text, arguments |
| classify | information, data, words, images |
| identify | spatial relationships, patterns, interrelationships |
| summarise | main points, words, ideas in text, review, draft and edit |

# Appendix D – Glossary of Verbs

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Verbs | Definition |
| Analyse | Consider in detail for the purpose of finding meaning or relationships, and identifying patterns, similarities and differences |
| Apply | Use, utilise or employ in a particular situation |
| Argue | Give reasons for or against something |
| Assess | Make a Judgement about the value of |
| Classify | Arrange into named categories in order to sort, group or identify |
| Compare | Estimate, measure or note how things are similar or dissimilar |
| Compose | The activity that occurs when students produce written, spoken, or visual texts |
| Contrast | Compare in such a way as to emphasise differences |
| Create | Bring into existence, to originate |
| Critically analyse | Analysis that engages with criticism and existing debate on the issue |
| Demonstrate | Give a practical exhibition an explanation |
| Describe | Give an account of characteristics or features |
| Discuss | Talk or write about a topic, taking into account different issues or ideas |
| Evaluate | Examine and judge the merit or significance of something |
| Examine | Determine the nature or condition of |
| Explain | Provide additional information that demonstrates understanding of reasoning and /or application |
| Extrapolate | Infer from what is known |
| Hypothesise | Put forward a supposition or conjecture to account for certain facts and used as a basis for further investigation by which it may be proved or disproved |
| Identify | Recognise and name |
| Interpret | Draw meaning from |
| Investigate | Planning, inquiry into and drawing conclusions about |
| Justify | Show how argument or conclusion is right or reasonable |
| Manipulate | Adapt or change |
| Plan | Strategize, develop a series of steps, processes |
| Predict | Suggest what might happen in the future or as a consequence of something |
| Reflect | The thought process by which students develop an understanding and appreciation of their own learning. This process draws on both cognitive and affective experience |
| Relate | Tell or report about happenings, events, or circumstances |
| Represent | Use words, images, symbols, or signs to convey meaning |
| Reproduce | Copy or make close imitation |
| Respond | React to a person or text |
| Select | Choose in preference to another or others |
| Sequence | Arrange in order |
| Summarise | Give a brief statement of the main points |
| Synthesise | Combine elements (information/ideas/components) into a coherent whole |
| Test | Examine qualities or abilities |
| Translate | Express in another language or form, or in simpler terms |
| Visualise | The ability to decode, interpret, create, question, challenge and evaluate texts that communicate with visual images as well as, or rather than, words |

# Appendix E – Glossary for ACT Senior Secondary Curriculum

Courses will detail what teachers are expected to teach and students are expected to learn for year 11 and 12. They will describe the knowledge, understanding and skills that students will be expected to develop for each learning area across the years of schooling.

**Learning areas** are broad areas of the curriculum, including English, mathematics, science, the arts, languages, health, and physical education.

A **subject** is a discrete area of study that is part of a learning area. There may be one or more subjects in a single learning area.

**Frameworks** are system documents for Years 11 and 12 which provide the basis for the development and accreditation of any course within a designated learning area. In addition, frameworks provide a common basis for assessment, moderation, and reporting of student outcomes in courses based on the framework.

The **course** sets out the requirements for the implementation of a subject. Key elements of a course include the rationale, goals, content descriptions, assessment, and achievement standards as designated by the framework.

BSSS courses will be organised into units. A unit is a distinct focus of study within a course. A standard 1.0 unit is delivered for a minimum of 55 hours generally over one semester.

**Core** units are foundational units that provide students with the breadth of the subject.

**Additional** units are avenues of learning that cannot be provided for within the four core 1.0 standard units by an adjustment to the program of learning.

An **Independent Study unit** is a pedagogical approach that empowers students to make decisions about their own learning. Independent Study units can be proposed by a student and negotiated with their teacher but must meet the specific unit goals and content descriptions as they appear in the course.

An **elective** is a lens for demonstrating the content descriptions within a standard 1.0 or half standard 0.5 unit.

A **lens** is a particular focus or viewpoint within a broader study.

**Content descriptions** refer to the subject-based knowledge, understanding and skills to be taught and learned.

A **program of learning** is what a college develops to implement the course for a subject and to ensure that the content descriptions are taught and learned.

**Achievement standards** provide an indication of typical performance at five different levels (corresponding to grades A to E) following completion of study of senior secondary course content for units in a subject.

ACT senior secondary system **curriculum** comprises all BSSS approved courses of study.

# Appendix F – Course Adoption

**Conditions of Adoption**

The course and units of this course are consistent with the philosophy and goals of the college and the adopting college has the human and physical resources to implement the course.

**Adoption Process**

Course adoption must be initiated electronically by an email from the principal or their nominated delegate to bssscertification@ed.act.edu.au. A nominated delegate must CC the principal.

The email will include the **Conditions of Adoption** statement above, and the table below adding the **College** name, and circling the **Classification/s** required.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| College: |  |
| Course Title: | Economics |
| Classification/s: | A T M |
| Accredited From: | 2023 |
| Framework: | Commerce |