## Unit 1: Elements of the Economy

### Theme 1 Scarcity and Opportunity Cost

Students ponder the question “if goods and services have improved most people's lives over time, why doesn't everyone have everything they need and want?”

Students will learn that goods and services are limited, as are all resources. At the same time, people’s wants are virtually unlimited.

Students explore the following topics:
- Economics and choices
- People's needs and wants
- Consumers and self-interest
- Production of goods and services

### Reading Objectives:
- Define economics
- Explain why scarcity forces decisions
- Identify opportunity costs
- Evaluate the economic soundness of a decision
- Distinguish between needs and wants
- Evaluate how needs and wants affect the choices that people make.
- Describe the benefits of voluntary exchange and specialization.
- Distinguish between self-interest and selfishness.
- Identify how self-interest helps you and others.
- Separate income into two categories: consumption and savings.
- Explain how a business acting in its self-interest benefits others.
- Identify the four key resources available to produce goods and services
- Explain how businesses contribute to the flow of the economy.
- List the six core principles of economics
- Differentiate between incentives and disincentives
- Apply each of the six core principles of economics to a life choice
- Evaluate the benefits and costs of decisions by using economic reasoning.
- Analyze the trade-offs in a typical day and identify ways to lower the opportunity costs.
- Categorize items as needs or wants.
- Analyze the resources needed to provide a specific product.
- Evaluate the impact that the product has on people around the world.”
- Determine what part of the circular flow model an action represents.
- Determine what economic principle an action represents.
- Define key terms related to scarcity and opportunity cost.
- Categorize items as needs or wants.

### Michigan Economics Standards

1.1.1 Scarcity, Choice, Opportunity Costs, Incentives – using examples, explain how scarcity, choice, opportunity costs, and incentives affect decisions made by households, businesses, and governments.

4.1.2 Buying Goods And Services – describe the factors that consumers may consider when purchasing a good or service, including the costs, benefits, and the role of government in obtaining the information.
### Topic Descriptions

**Unit 1: Elements of the Economy**

**Theme 2 Allocation and Decision Making: Is There a Best Choice?**

Students discover that sound decision making is based on weighing the marginal costs and marginal benefits. To get the most value out of the resources available, choose only those actions that promise marginal benefits that are equal to or greater than marginal costs. Individuals, businesses, and countries will be more prosperous when their choices reflect the implications of thinking on the margin and using comparative advantage to specialize.

Students explore the following topics:
- Tools for allocating resources
- Consumers and marginal thinking
- Comparative advantage and specialization for individuals
- Economic systems: How nations allocate resources

### Key Learning Objectives

#### Reading Objectives
- List the steps in the PACED model for decision making
- Identify decisions that the PACED model can be used for
- Explain how a budget can help with decision making
- Explain the differences across free market, command, traditional, and mixed economies
- Analyze how economic systems impact the economic choices of its consumers and businesses
- Apply marginal thinking to a daily choice
- Identify diminishing marginal utility to a choice
- Identify the best use of time, talent, or treasure using comparative advantage
- Analyze the comparative advantage and show that specializing can lead to more trade
- Apply the PACED model to decide on an optimal career path after high school.
- Create an annual budget for a household to achieve short-, medium-, and long-term goals.
- Evaluate trade-offs at the margin when deciding how to grow a business.
- Design an advertisement that will lure customers to buy a product based on marginal thinking.
- Analyze how to allocate time and talent (i.e., labor) based on comparative advantage.
- Define key terms related to allocation and decision making.
- As consumers, evaluate marginal costs and marginal benefits of economic decisions.
- As workers, evaluate how opportunity cost is affected by allocation of talent and time based on trade and comparative advantage.

### Michigan Economics Standards

1.1.1 Scarcity, Choice, Opportunity Costs, Incentives – using examples, explain how scarcity, choice, opportunity costs, and incentives affect decisions made by households, businesses, and governments.

1.1.3 Marginal Analysis – weigh marginal benefits and marginal costs in decision making.

4.1.1 Earning Income – conduct research regarding potential income and employ-ee benefit packages, non-income factors that may influence career choice, benefits and costs of obtaining the necessary education or technical skills, taxes a person is likely to pay, and other possible sources of income.

4.1.2 Buying Goods And Services – describe the factors that consumers may con-sider when purchasing a good or service, including the costs, benefits, and the role of government in obtaining the information.

4.1.3 Saving – identify the incentives people have to set aside income for future consumption, and evaluate the impact of time, interest rates, and inflation upon the value of savings.
# Topic Descriptions

## Unit 1: Elements of the Economy
### Theme 3 Business Decisions

Students discover that a businesses’ success stems from continually satisfying their own consumers. Businesses are rewarded for doing so through a steady stream of profits. These profits allow them to produce more or invest their profits. Economic reasoning and marginal analysis help business owners make sound production and investment choices. Students explore the following topics:
- Why be in business?
- Business behavior
- What to sell?
- Economic goals in the market economy.

## Key Learning Objectives

### Reading Objectives:
- Use the profit equation to calculate profits.
- Identify factors that affect revenue and cost and explain how businesses respond to changes.
- List strategies for increasing profit.
- Explain how producers use marginal analysis to make sound choices.
- Interpret price signals from the perspectives of the producer and the consumer.
- Associate different price signals with different market conditions.
- Use economic profit to determine best production alternatives.
- Calculate profit margin and explain its importance.
- Connect the promise of profits to rewards associated with ethical behavior.
- Explain how businesses benefit from specialization and trade.
- Analyze opportunity costs to determine comparative advantage.
- List ways that trade benefits the consumer.
- List seven goals of the market economy.
- Explain how the goals in a market economy relate to consumers, businesses, and government.

### Hands-On Objectives:
- Examine how changes in revenue and costs affect profits and analyze how a business can respond to increased competition.
- Create a pitch to lenders…
- Analyze price signals reflecting changes in consumer demand…
- Analyze the impact of laws, regulations, and subsidies on business decisions and consumer demand.
- Make connections among different economic goals in a market economy…
- Define key terms related to businesses and free enterprise.
- Analyze how businesses respond to incentives.
- Explain how producers use marginal analysis.
- Explain how businesses use price signals and profit margins to make decisions.
- Explain how businesses stay competitive.
- Explain why businesses specialize and how they benefit from specialization and trade.

## Michigan Economics Standards

1.1.1 Scarcity, Choice, Opportunity Costs, Incentives – using examples, explain how scarcity, choice, opportunity costs, and incentives affect decisions made by households, businesses, and governments.
1.1.3 Marginal Analysis – weigh marginal benefits and marginal costs in decision making.
1.2.1 Institutions – describe the roles of various economic institutions and purposes they serve in a market economy.
### Unit 1: Elements of the Economy

#### 1.4 Entrepreneurship and Business

Students discover that the entrepreneurial path requires continual decision making around how to make effective use of scarce resources. Discovering the right price is one of many decisions an entrepreneur is going to have to make to begin and grow a startup. Entrepreneurs must make continuous decisions about whether to stay on the current path and persevere or pivot and turn in another direction where the opportunity cost is lower.

Students explore the following topics:
- Recipe for a successful business startup
- Information-based decisions
- Single business life cycle
- Business ownership

#### Key Learning Objectives

**Reading Objectives:**
- Recognize the basis of entrepreneurship is adding value, filling a need, or solving a problem.
- Identify the key characteristics of entrepreneurs.
- Recognize the three factors that influence entrepreneurial success.
- Recognize the types of information-based decisions entrepreneurs make to launch and improve a business.
- Explain why a new, innovative product or service generates a higher price and profit.
- Describe the effect of competition on price as new sellers enter the market.
- Identify the stages of a single business life cycle.
- Explain the effect innovation has as a disruptor in a business’s life cycle.
- Identify the short-term negative effects of innovation.
- Recognize the importance of small businesses in the U.S. economy.
- Identify the three major types of business organization.
- Compare advantages and disadvantages of types of business organization.
- Define a stockholder and bondholder.
- Identify the ways in which stockholders can realize capital gains, dividends, and capital losses.

**Hands on Objectives:**
- Identify the ways in which bondholders are repaid, how they earn interest income, and the risks they face.
- Analyze how changes in the production of goods and services affects the markets for labor and goods and services as well as the household consumer.
- Evaluate how innovations in automated processes can lead to creative destruction and then examine how the labor market might adjust to such innovations.
- Determine the best business structure for a company and explain the risks and rewards of that choice.
- Participate in a competitive simulation where groups invest in stocks and bonds to see who invests most wisely.
- Define key terms related to businesses and free enterprise.

#### Michigan Economics Standards

1.1.2 Entrepreneurship – analyze the risks and rewards of entrepreneurship and associate the functions of entrepreneurs with alleviating problems associated with scarcity.
### Unit 1 Project: Budget Economics

Students conduct research about possible future income and expenses to create a working budget and then analyze the economics of the budget. Students will identify the impact of scarcity on personal finances and reflect on the opportunity costs of their choices.

#### Objectives:
- Use a budgeting process to create a future budget
- Analyze the economics of a personal budget

#### Economics Standards
1.1.1 Scarcity, Choice, Opportunity Costs, Incentives – using examples, explain how scarcity, choice, opportunity costs, and incentives affect decisions made by households, businesses, and governments.
4.1.1 Earning Income – conduct research regarding potential income and employee benefit packages, non-income factors that may influence career choice, benefits and costs of obtaining the necessary education or technical skills, taxes a person is likely to pay, and other possible sources of income.
4.1.2 Buying Goods And Services – describe the factors that consumers may consider when purchasing a good or service, including the costs, benefits, and the role of government in obtaining the information.
4.1.3 Saving – identify the incentives people have to set aside income for future consumption, and evaluate the impact of time, interest rates, and inflation upon the value of savings.

### Unit 1 Case Study: Scarcity and Business Decisions

Students consider a personal example and then a business example of the challenges created by scarcity when a group has to work together to determine how to make the best use of time, talent, and treasure.

#### Objectives:
- Use economic reasoning to analyze opportunity costs and make budget decisions
- Practice nominal group technique to make a group decision
- Explain why scarcity matters

#### Economics Standards
1.1 Scarcity, Choice, Opportunity Costs, Incentives – using examples, explain how scarcity, choice, opportunity costs, and incentives affect decisions made by households, businesses, and governments.
### Unit 2: Markets

#### 2.1 Consumers Rule

Students learn about the economic term demand and investigate how economic demand explains how consumers influence the market, letting producers know what they want and are willing to buy. Students explore the following topics:
- Price-Allocation System
- Law of Demand
- The Demand Curve
- Consumer Demand Changes

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic Descriptions</th>
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<tbody>
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<td><strong>Reading Objectives:</strong></td>
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<td>1.1.3 Marginal Analysis – weigh marginal benefits and marginal costs in decision making.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Explain how the price consumers are willing to pay and producers’ costs create a price-allocation system in market economies.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.3.1 Supply And Demand – use the laws of supply and demand to explain house-hold and business behavior.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Identify the conditions that would allow for both buyers and sellers to benefit from an exchange.</td>
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<td>1.3.2 Price, Equilibrium, Elasticity, and Incentives – analyze how prices change through the interaction of buyers and sellers in a market, including the role of supply, demand, equilibrium, and elasticity, and explain how incentives (monetary and non-monetary) affect choices of households and economic organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Identify the effect of diminishing marginal utility on the price consumers are willing to pay for a good or service.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Summarize the law of demand.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Use the law of demand to predict changes in price and quantity demanded.</td>
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<td>• Use the substitution and income effects to explain the law of demand.</td>
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<td>• Differentiate between quantity demanded and demand.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Explain how to graph a demand curve.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Discuss market demand and demand elasticity.</td>
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<td>• Identify the factors that shift demand.</td>
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<td>• Evaluate how a change in a demand shifter will impact consumer demand.</td>
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<td><strong>Hands On Objectives:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Compete with other businesses to stimulate demand, knowing that consumers face diminishing marginal utility.</td>
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<td>• Graph demand curves.</td>
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<td>• Hypothesize whether consumer demand is likely to be inelastic or elastic when the prices for a variety of goods and services change and then analyze the reasons why.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop a concept map that shows the connections among the key concepts related to how consumers affect what is available in the market.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Define key terms related to consumer behavior.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Analyze the factors related to consumer behavior.</td>
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## Topic Descriptions

**Unit 2: Markets**

### 2.2 Producers Provide

*How do producers and consumers negotiate price with each other?*

Students learn about the economic term supply as they examine the effect producers have in the market. Students explore the following topics:

- Supply Boot Camp
- Supply Shifters
- Market-Clearing Price
- Competition and Market Structure

### Reading Objectives:

- Summarize the law of supply.
- Use the law of supply to predict market prices.
- Explain how to graph a supply curve.
- Differentiate between quantity supplied and supply.
- Evaluate the change in supply resulting from a change in a supply shifter.
- Identify the six key shifters in supply.
- Explain elasticity of supply.
- Explain market equilibrium.
- Define surplus and shortage.
- Explain how a market reaches equilibrium.
- Describe the characteristics of the four market structures.
- Recognize the traits that determine market structure.
- Evaluate the benefits and costs of alternative market structures.
- Define price controls, price ceilings, and price floors.
- Differentiate price ceilings from price floors.
- Evaluate the benefits of price ceilings and price floors.

### Hands-On Objectives:

- Evaluate the optimal goods to supply ratio.
- Predict how supply curves will shift given changes in various costs and policies.
- Determine how a business owner would change supply in response to a change in the price consumers are willing and able to pay for their goods.
- Understand the role sellers and buyers play in determining the market-clearing price of a good.
- Evaluate the impact of firms operating in different market structures.
- Examine various policy options available to a city council debating how to revitalize downtown areas.
- Construct a concept map.
- Explain demand, supply, and market equilibrium.
- Define key terms related to how producers and consumers negotiate price with each other.
- Analyze the factors that affect how producers and consumers negotiate price with each other.

### Michigan Economics Standards

1.1.3 Marginal Analysis – weigh marginal benefits and marginal costs in decision making.

1.2.2 Market Structures – identify the characteristics of perfect competition, monopolistic competition, oligopoly, and monopoly market structures.

1.3.1 Supply And Demand – use the laws of supply and demand to explain household and business behavior.

1.3.2 Price, Equilibrium, Elasticity, and Incentives – analyze how prices change through the interaction of buyers and sellers in a market, including the role of supply, demand, equilibrium, and elasticity, and explain how incentives (monetary and non-monetary) affect choices of households and economic organizations.

1.4.6 Price Controls – analyze the impact of price ceilings and price floors on the quantity of a good or service supplied and demanded in a market.

3.1.3 Comparing Economic Systems – compare and contrast the characteristics, advantages, and disadvantages of traditional, command, market, and mixed economic systems.
### Topic Descriptions

#### Unit 2: Markets

#### 2.3 Economic Growth

*What makes economic growth possible?*

Students explore how consumers and business owners need each other as they focus on economic growth and what makes growth possible. They learn about the specific foundational elements needed in a society to allow for economic growth and general wealth, including the following:

- Rule of law and property rights
- Competition drives growth
- Human and physical capital and financial markets
- Entrepreneurship and technological advances

### Key Learning Objectives

**Reading Objectives:**

- Describe how the rule of law supports economic growth
- Explain how fair courts support rule of law and property rights
- Recognize three ways in which private property supports economic growth
- List the benefits brought about by competition
- Define creative destruction and explain how it contributes to economic growth
- Describe how free trade opens opportunities for economic growth
- Identify types of capital that businesses use to produce goods and services
- Explain how economic growth is influenced by investments in human and physical capital
- Describe the role of financial markets in a growing economy
- Assess the role of entrepreneurship in economic growth and prosperity
- Describe how technological innovation increases productivity
- Explain how technology advancement stimulates economic growth
- Describe how limited government helps people prosper
- Identify how the government determines what to tax
- Recognize the different types of taxes

**Hands-On Objectives:**

- Analyze the importance of establishing property rights.
- Predict results of boundary disputes
- Analyze the impact of competition in specific industries
- Identify the country of origin for common items and analyze the comparative advantage of making the product there
- Analyze how improvements in human and physical capital contribute to productivity
- Determine what human capital is needed for success in a specific career choice
- Analyze how innovation causes creative destruction
- Determine the most effective tax policy to achieve specific national goals.
- Construct a concept map

### Michigan Economics Standards

2.2.1 Government Involvement in the Economy – evaluate the three macroeconomic goals of an economic system (stable prices, low unemployment, and economic growth).

2.2.2 Government Revenue and Services – evaluate the ways in which the federal government generates revenue on consumption, income, and wealth, and uses that revenue to supply government services and public goods, and protect property rights.
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<td><strong>Reading Objectives:</strong></td>
<td>1.2.2 Market Structures – identify the characteristics of perfect competition, monopolistic competition, oligopoly, and monopoly market structures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Economic Systems and Structures</td>
<td>- Differentiate between a command economy, a free market economy, and a mixed economy.</td>
<td>2.2.3 Fiscal Policy and its Consequences – analyze the consequences (intended and unintended) of using various tax and spending policies to achieve macroeconomic goals of stable prices, low unemployment, and economic growth.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>What happens when government expands its influence in market decisions?</em></td>
<td>- Evaluate efficiency, growth, and prosperity possibilities in each system.</td>
<td>3.1.3 Comparing Economic Systems – compare and contrast the characteristics, advantages, and disadvantages of traditional, command, market, and mixed economic systems.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Students take a deeper look at how different economic systems influence their daily lives. They will consider the question, &quot;What happens when government expands its influence in market decisions?&quot; as they learn about the following topics:</strong></td>
<td>- Compare and contrast how the government and market makes decisions about resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Economic systems and the market</td>
<td>- Analyze the incentives and interactions of voters, politicians, and bureaucrats.</td>
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<td>- Government versus market-based decisions</td>
<td>- Describe economic freedom.</td>
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<td>- Government and growth</td>
<td>- Recognize factors that influence a country’s level of economic freedom.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Economic freedom</td>
<td><strong>Hands-On Objectives:</strong></td>
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<td>- Hypothesize why there are no pure market economies in the world today.</td>
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<td>- Evaluate how limited government intervention in a market economy can have a positive effect.</td>
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<td>- Create and perform an advertisement for an event based on the principles of a command or market economy.</td>
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<td>- Analyze how market economies have come to exist within North Korea’s command economy.</td>
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<td>- Analyze how scarcity and competition influence decision making in the government…</td>
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<td>- Explore the level of economic freedom in various countries and make recommendations on how to increase it.</td>
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<td>- Define key terms related to economic systems and structures.</td>
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<td>- Compare economic systems and structures and evaluate how limited government intervention affects market outcomes.</td>
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**Unit 2 Project- Supply and Demand**
Students will research a “superfood” that has experienced recent dramatic growth in the market. They will analyze the factors affecting supply and demand and write a blog post analyzing the economics of their selected products.

**Objectives:**
- Explain the interaction of supply and demand in the market
- Analyze how a market reacts to changes in supply and demand
- Use graphs to illustrate changes in supply and demand

**Case Study- Government and the Market**
Students consider the personal and business consequences of making hasty decisions rather than using critical thinking, based on data and other factual information. Students apply the RED model to a price ceiling situation.

**Objectives:**
- Use the RED model to make an economic decision
- Explain why consumers and business owners need each other

<p>| 1.3.1 Supply And Demand – use the laws of supply and demand to explain household and business behavior. |
| 1.1.1 Scarcity, Choice, Opportunity Costs, Incentives – using examples, explain how scarcity, choice, opportunity costs, and incentives affect decisions made by households, businesses, and governments. |</p>
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<td><strong>Reading Objectives:</strong></td>
<td>1.2.1 Institutions – describe the roles of various economic institutions and purposes they serve in a market economy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Government's Role in a Flourishing Market Economy</td>
<td>- List the three roles of a limited government&lt;br&gt; - Recognize the characteristics of a public good&lt;br&gt; - Identify situations when government should address market failure&lt;br&gt; - Describe the roles individuals living in households and operating businesses play in capital markets&lt;br&gt; - Identify ways businesses can raise funds for capital investments&lt;br&gt; - Explain how the flow of household savings to business investment leads to economic growth and prosperity&lt;br&gt; - Identify the forms of money in the United States’ money supply&lt;br&gt; - Recognize the three functions of stable money&lt;br&gt; - Recognize the equation of exchange&lt;br&gt; - Explain how the fractional reserve banking system works to create money and boost investment&lt;br&gt; - Provide an example of government failure, including the concentrated benefits and dispersed costs&lt;br&gt; - Recognize the three types of government failure&lt;br&gt; - Identify government’s basic use of monetary, fiscal, and trade policy in a free enterprise economy</td>
<td>1.4.1 Public Policy and the Market – analyze the impact of a change in public policy on consumers, producers, workers, savers, and investors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How can limited government help consumers and businesses prosper?</td>
<td><strong>Hands-On Objectives:</strong></td>
<td>1.4.2 Government and Consumers – analyze the role of government in protecting consumers and enforcing contracts (including property rights), and explain how this role influences the incentives (or disincentives) for people to produce and exchange goods and services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students will learn more about the government's role in the economy. They will consider the question, “How can limited government help consumers and businesses prosper?” as they learn about the following topics:</td>
<td>- Compare and contrast public and private goods&lt;br&gt; - Evaluate a variety of goods and services and determine which should be provided as a public good&lt;br&gt; - Formulate strategies for personal saving that can maximize lifetime consumption&lt;br&gt; - Analyze how the fractional reserve system helps to increase the money supply in the economy&lt;br&gt; - Analyze the effects of price floors&lt;br&gt; - Evaluate the incentives politicians face when determining how to respond to demands to cut spending&lt;br&gt; - Construct a concept map linking ideas related to government role in a flourishing market economy&lt;br&gt; - Define key terms related to government role in a flourishing market economy&lt;br&gt; - Analyze how limited government can help consumers and businesses prosper</td>
<td>2.2.3 Fiscal Policy and its Consequences – analyze the consequences (intended and unintended) of using various tax and spending policies to achieve macroeconomic goals of stable prices, low unemployment, and economic growth.</td>
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## Unit 3: National Economy

### 3.2 The Role of the Federal Government

**What are the effects of fiscal policies?**

Students examine the effects of fiscal policies (spending and taxing) as they learn more about the role the government plays in the economy. Students will look at the following topics as they frame an answer to the essential question, "What are the effects of fiscal policies?"

- Introduction to macroeconomics
- Business cycles and unemployment
- Fiscal policies
- Taxes, spending, deficits, and debt

### Reading Objectives:

- Identify the characteristics of a healthy, growing economy
- Describe the process for the government’s economic problem solving
- Recognize how GDP is calculated and used to measure the overall health of the economy
- Label and describe the components of the business cycle
- Define unemployment and identify the types of unemployment
- Recognize strategies for dealing with personal unemployment
- Define fiscal policies and apply them to economic failures
- Recognize why the federal government uses fiscal policies
- Recognize intended and unintended consequences of fiscal policies
- Describe key changes in the government’s power to tax
- Identify examples of goods and services the government provides using tax money
- Recognize positive and negative impacts of taxes and government spending
- Explain the two perspectives on deficit-spending and the national debt’s growing share of GDP

### Hands-On Objectives:

- Differentiate between nominal and real GDP and interpret what changes in each measure imply about the U.S. economy
- Analyze the factors influencing changes in the labor force participation rate over time
- Formulate strategies for dealing with the four different types of unemployment that a person may face in his or her lifetime
- Analyze the factors that affect the degree to which fiscal policy can help economies recover from downturns
- Debate the pros and cons of government involvement in the economy
- Analyze the impact of budget deficits on students’ personal futures and determine the best way for the U.S. to finance future changes to fiscal policy
- Construct a concept map linking ideas related to the effects of fiscal policies
- Define key terms related to the effects of fiscal policies

### Michigan Economics Standards

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<td>1.4.1 Public Policy and the Market – analyze the impact of a change in public policy on consumers, producers, workers, savers, and investors.</td>
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<td>3.2 The Role of the Federal Government</td>
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<td>1.4.2 Government and Consumers – analyze the role of government in protecting consumers and enforcing contracts (including property rights), and explain how this role influences the incentives (or disincentives) for people to produce and exchange goods and services.</td>
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<td>What are the effects of fiscal policies?</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.4.4 Market Failure – explain the role for government in addressing both negative and positive externalities.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.4.5 Consequences of Governmental Policy – assess the incentives for political leaders to implement policies that disperse costs widely over large groups of people and benefit small and politically powerful groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.1.2 Economic Indicators – using a number of indicators, such as gross domestic product (GDP), per capita GDP, unemployment rates, and consumer price index, analyze the current and future state of an economy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.2.1 Government Involvement in the Economy – evaluate the three macroeconomic goals of an economic system (stable prices, low unemployment, and economic growth).</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>2.2.2 Government Revenue and Services – evaluate the ways in which the federal government generates revenue on consumption, income, and wealth, and uses that revenue to supply government services and public goods, and protect property rights.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.2.3 Fiscal Policy and its Consequences – analyze the consequences (intended and unintended) of using various tax and spending policies to achieve macroeconomic goals of stable prices, low unemployment, and economic growth.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Unit 3: National Economy

#### 3.3 The Role of Money and Banking

*What are the effects of monetary policies?*

Students examine monetary policies. They will take a closer look at the importance of money, how it changes value over time, and the availability of it through credit. As they frame an answer to the question, "What are the effects of monetary policies?" These are the topics they will investigate:

- Money in a modern economy
- Interest rates
- Inflation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic Descriptions</th>
<th>Key Learning Objectives</th>
<th>Michigan Economics Standards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading Objectives:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hands-On Objectives:</strong></td>
<td>1.2.1 Institutions – describe the roles of various economic institutions and purposes they serve in a market economy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.2.4 Federal Reserve and Monetary Policy – explain the roles and responsibilities of the Federal Reserve system and compare and contrast the consequences (intended and unintended) of different monetary policy actions of the Federal Reserve Board as a means to achieve macroeconomic goals of stable prices, low unemployment, and economic growth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Describe the history and mission of the Federal Reserve System</strong></td>
<td><strong>Examine how frequent banking panics led to the creation of the Federal Reserve System</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recognize the structure of the Federal Reserve System</strong></td>
<td><strong>Examine the methods used by the Federal Reserve to influence the availability of money and credit</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Describe the tools of monetary policy and how they help the Federal Reserve System accomplish its goals</strong></td>
<td><strong>Examine the effects of changes in interest rates on the economic behavior of consumers and businesses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Describe how monetary policies use interest rates to influence behaviors in savers and borrowers</strong></td>
<td><strong>‘Analyze the impact of compounding interest on students’ ability to save for the future</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Distinguish between real interest rate and nominal interest rate</strong></td>
<td><strong>Examine the impact of inflation on household budgets and determine strategies for adjusting to inflation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Identify factors leading to higher or lower interest rates for borrowing and lending</strong></td>
<td><strong>Examine the causes of stagflation and the limitations of fiscal and monetary policy to deal with it</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Define inflation, and describe its effect on purchasing power</strong></td>
<td><strong>Construct a concept map linking ideas related to the effects of monetary policies</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recognize the effects of inflation in the macro-economy</strong></td>
<td><strong>Define key terms related to the effects of monetary policies</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Explain the intended and possible unintended consequences of monetary policy to manage inflation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Analyze the reasons for and effects of monetary policies</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Unit 3: National Economy

#### 3.4 National Economic Indicators

*How do you measure the success of the economy?*

Students learn more about national economic indicators, exploring the macroeconomic data that policy makers collect, monitor, analyze, and use to make forecasts in order to make policy choices. They will examine the effects of policy decisions and economic freedom on business and household affairs. Students will explore the following topics as they frame an answer to the essential question, "How do you measure the success of the economy?"

- Macroeconomic indicators
- Everyday economist: how can I know how we are doing?
- "No policy" option: economic freedom

#### Reading Objectives:

- Recognize key economic indicators, and what they indicate
- Describe key price indexes, and explain how they differ
- Describe how you can use a price index to make informed choices
- Identify the fiscal and monetary policies that may be used in response a recession
- Identify the fiscal and monetary policies that may be used in response to an inflation
- Define economic freedom
- Analyze how economic freedom influences other measures of well-being
- Evaluate how economic freedom impacts your life

#### Hands-On Objectives:

- Compare endowments of human capital in the U.S. with those in a developing country
- Analyze the factors affecting productivity and per capita income in different countries
- Calculate the CPI for four cities and the overall CPI rate for the economy
- Recognize the effects of tariffs
- Examine problems associated with recessions and inflation and determine the most effective policy option(s) to remedy them
- Analyze the impact of market freedom on a network of food banks
- Construct a concept map linking ideas related to measures of economic well-being
- Define key terms related to measures of the success of the economy
- Analyze what different economic measures indicate about the success of the economy

#### Economics Standards

2.2.1 Government Involvement in the Economy – evaluate the three macroeconomic goals of an economic system (stable prices, low unemployment, and economic growth).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit 3 Project: Surviving Unemployment</th>
<th>Objectives:</th>
<th>4.1.6 Protecting and Insuring – assess the financial risk of lost income, assets, health, or identity, and determine if a person should accept the risk exposure, reduce risk, or transfer the risk to others by paying a fee now to avoid the possibility of a larger loss later.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students research unemployment benefits and analyze the impact of unemployment on a household. Then they develop an unemployment survival guide to share information and strategies for avoiding and coping with unemployment.</td>
<td>• Explain what unemployment insurance is and how it works  • Describe the four types of unemployment  • Identify strategies an individual can use to prepare for periods of unemployment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 3 Case Study: Government Referee</td>
<td>Objectives:</td>
<td>1.1.1 Scarcity, Choice, Opportunity Costs, Incentives – using examples, explain how scarcity, choice, opportunity costs, and incentives affect decisions made by households, businesses, and governments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students consider personal and business situations that require a third party to intercede. Students then brainstorm and research possible solutions to a conflict between business owners and homeowners and present their ideas in a written argument.</td>
<td>• Analyze the role government plays in market situations  • Write an argument supporting a position related to government intervention</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Unit 4: International Trade

### 4.1 International Trade

Do the benefits of international trade outweigh the costs?

Some people want free and open trade of goods, services, and resources sold internationally with limited government interference. On the other hand, some people feel we'd be better off if the government closed the borders and made the country more self-sufficient. Students learn about each of the two perspectives to make an informed decision about these opposing approaches to trade.

### Reading Objectives:
- Identify the positive and negative attributes of a closed economy
- Identify the positive and negative attributes of an open economy
- Describe how international trade looks in a closed economy versus an open one
- Analyze and evaluate open and closed economies and decide which model will lead to the best market outcomes and quality of life

### Hands-On Objectives:
- Gather evidence about a debate topic and evaluate the credibility of sources
- Develop clear arguments that include a claim, warrants, and impact
- Present a clear position in an argument that appeals to listeners and addresses opposing viewpoints
- Analyze and evaluate the benefits of international trade
- Identify the positive and negative attributes of a closed economy
- Identify the positive and negative attributes of an open economy
- Describe how international trade looks in a closed economy versus an open one
- Describe how government policy changes in international trade can have intended and unintended consequences for the citizens of a country
- Using economic reasoning, compare and contrast the overall impact of a closed versus an open economy
- Analyze and evaluate open and closed economies and decide which model will lead to the best market outcomes and quality of life

### Michigan Economics Standards

3.1.3 Comparing Economic Systems – compare and contrast the characteristics, advantages, and disadvantages of traditional, command, market, and mixed economic systems.
# Unit 4: International Trade

## 4.2 Trade Policies: Beyond Free Trade

*Do the benefits of trade barriers outweigh the costs?*

Trade barriers, by design, slow or prevent trade with another country by adding a limitation on the free trade between the buyers and sellers. These take different forms and lead to different outcomes—both intended and unintended. Students examine the benefits and costs of building trade barriers between international borders as they form an answer to the question, "Do the benefits of trade barriers outweigh the costs?"

### Reading Objectives:
- Describe at least three trade policy tools
- Identify the two choices the U.S. can make to encourage free trade
- Recognize the role of NAFTA, EU, and WTO in international trade
- Use economic reasoning to compare and contrast the outcomes of trade barriers versus free trade
- Analyze and evaluate trade barriers and free trade and decide which model will lead to the best market outcomes and quality of life
- Evaluate government and market solutions for handling problems in the market economy

### Hands-On Objectives
- Gather evidence about a debate topic and evaluate the credibility of sources
- Develop clear arguments that include a claim, warrants, and impact
- Present a clear position in an argument that appeals to listeners and addresses opposing viewpoints
- Analyze and discuss the benefits and costs of trade barriers
- Describe at least three trade policy tools
- Identify the two choices the U.S. can make to encourage free trade
- Recognize the role of NAFTA, EU, and WTO in international trade
- Use economic reasoning to compare and contrast the outcomes of trade barriers versus free trade
- Analyze and evaluate trade barriers and free trade and decide which model will lead to the best market outcomes and quality of life
- Evaluate government and market solutions for handling problems in the market economy

### Michigan Economics Standards
3.1.2 International Organizations and the World Economy – evaluate the diverse impact of trade policies of the World Trade Organization, World Bank, or International Monetary Fund on developing economies of Africa, Central America, or Asia, and on the developed economies of the United States and Western Europe.
3.1.3 Comparing Economic Systems – compare and contrast the characteristics, advantages, and disadvantages of traditional, command, market, and mixed economic systems.
3.2.2 Domestic Activity and World Trade – assess the impact of trade policies, monetary policy, exchange rates, and interest rates on domestic activity and world trade.
3.2.4 The Global Economy and the Marketplace – analyze and describe how the global economy has changed the interaction of buyers and sellers.
### Topic Descriptions

**Unit 4: International Trade**

**4.3 Trade Deficits**

*Do the benefits of a trade deficit outweigh the costs?*

Students learn about imports and exports and how these global exchanges influence the United States economy. Today, with more openness to international trade, the share of the total RGDP that is made up of exports and imports is over 30 percent. Students explore what it means to us as a country when we are importing more than we're exporting—meaning a trade deficit—as they answer the question, "Do the benefits of a trade deficit outweigh the costs?"

### Key Learning Objectives

**Reading Objectives:**
- Define globalization and at least two effects it has had in the world economy
- Describe the difference between balance of payments and balance of trade
- Evaluate productivity for lower-wage developing nations and higher-productivity advanced nations
- Analyze different perspectives on the government reducing the trade deficit versus free trade
- Evaluate the benefits and cost of government influencing the imports and exports of a nation

**Hands-On Objectives**
- Gather evidence about a debate topic and evaluate the credibility of sources
- Develop clear arguments that include a claim, warrants, and impact
- Present a clear position in an argument that appeals to listeners and addresses opposing viewpoints
- Analyze and discuss the benefits and costs of a trade deficit
- Define globalization and at least two effects it has had in the world economy
- Describe the difference between balance of payments and balance of trade
- Evaluate productivity for lower-wage developing nations and higher-productivity advanced nations
- Analyze different perspectives on the government reducing the trade deficit versus free trade
- Evaluate the benefits and cost of government influencing the imports and exports of a nation

### Michigan Economics Standards

3.1.1 Developing Nations – assess how factors such as availability of natural resources, investments in human and physical capital, technical assistance, public attitudes and beliefs, property rights, and free trade can affect economic growth in developing nations.

3.1.3 Comparing Economic Systems – compare and contrast the characteristics, advantages, and disadvantages of traditional, command, market, and mixed economic systems.

3.2.4 The Global Economy and the Marketplace – analyze and describe how the global economy has changed the interaction of buyers and sellers.
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<td><strong>Unit 4: International Trade</strong>&lt;br&gt;4.4 Social Problems: Government or Market Solutions?&lt;br&gt;<em>Can economics solve social problems?</em></td>
<td><strong>Reading Objectives:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Distinguish between a social issue and an economic issue&lt;br&gt;• Identify social issues that develop when government makes all economic decisions&lt;br&gt;• Recognize how income and population growth have been affected by economic development&lt;br&gt;• Distinguish between positive and normative perspectives on economics&lt;br&gt;• Compare and contrast the potential tools available to the U.S. government and the international market for addressing social issues&lt;br&gt;• Evaluate the best solution for addressing social issues related to international trade—the international market or U.S. government policies</td>
<td>3.2.4 The Global Economy and the Marketplace – analyze and describe how the global economy has changed the interaction of buyers and sellers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students learn about the impact of global trade on social issues. They explore ways the free market and government policies can address social issues as they frame an answer to the question: &quot;Can economics solve social problems?&quot; Costs?&quot;</td>
<td><strong>Hands-On Objectives</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Gather evidence about a debate topic and evaluate the credibility of sources&lt;br&gt;• Develop clear arguments that include a claim, warrants, and impact&lt;br&gt;• Present a clear position in an argument that appeals to listeners and addresses opposing viewpoints&lt;br&gt;• Analyze and discuss the benefits and costs of using government policies to solve social problems&lt;br&gt;• Distinguish between a social issue and an economic issue&lt;br&gt;• Identify social issues that develop when government makes all economic decisions&lt;br&gt;• Recognize how income and population growth have been affected by economic development&lt;br&gt;• Distinguish between positive and normative perspectives on economics&lt;br&gt;• Compare and contrast the potential tools available to the U.S. government and the international market for addressing social issues&lt;br&gt;• Evaluate the best solution for addressing social issues related to international trade—the international market or U.S. government policies</td>
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**Unit 4 Project: International Trade**

Students consider how international trade affects a household budget by completing a shopping spree activity. They then conduct research on an American-made product and a product that is no longer made in America to investigate the economic reasons behind their decisions.

**Objectives:**
- Analyze the role government plays in market situations
- Write an argument supporting a position related to government intervention

**3.2.2 Domestic Activity and World Trade** – assess the impact of trade policies, monetary policy, exchange rates, and interest rates on domestic activity and world trade.

**3.2.4 The Global Economy and the Marketplace** – analyze and describe how the global economy has changed the interaction of buyers and sellers.

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**Unit 4 Case Study: Weighted Pros and Cons**

Students use a weighted pro and con list to determine whether or not a business should expand internationally.

**Objectives:**
- Use a weighted pro and con list to make a business decision

**1.1.1 Scarcity, Choice, Opportunity Costs, Incentives** – using examples, explain how scarcity, choice, opportunity costs, and incentives affect decisions made by households, businesses, and governments.