

Gladstone Park Secondary College



Knowledge is Power

VCE SUBJECT INFORMATION

UNIT 1 Economics

The behaviour of consumers and businesses

SAC DATES (week beginning):

- 1. 5th March – Investigation**
- 2. 16th April – SAC**
- 3. 14th May – Case Study**
- 4. 4th June - SAC**

Exam in mid June (TBA)

Area of Study 1 Thinking like an economist

- Introductory concepts
- Consumers
- Businesses

Key skills

- define key economic concepts and terms and use them appropriately
- apply economic theory to make economic predictions
- gather and synthesise information from a wide range of sources to assess the effect of economic decisions on relevant stakeholders
- compare the traditional economic viewpoint with research in the behavioural economics area
- construct, interpret and apply economic models to analyse the consequences of economic decisions
- evaluate the costs and benefits associated with a range of economic decisions
- investigate and evaluate alternative viewpoints on economic issues.

Area of Study 2 Decision making in markets

Students consider one or more of the following markets:

- Agricultural markets such as wool, wheat and beef
- Other commodity markets such as minerals and energy
- The property/housing market

Key knowledge

- the assumptions of a perfectly competitive market system
- the law of demand and the demand curve
- the way non-price factors such as changes in disposable income, the prices of substitutes and complements, preferences and tastes, interest rates, changes in population, consumer sentiment and government intervention, affect demand and the position of the demand curve
- the distinction between a movement along the demand curve and a shift of the demand curve
- the law of supply and the supply curve
- the way non-price factors such as changes in the cost of production, technological change, productivity growth, climatic conditions and government intervention affect supply and the position of the supply curve
- the distinction between a movement along the supply curve and a shift of the supply curve
- effects of changes in demand and supply on equilibrium prices and quantities
- the role of relative prices in the allocation of resources in a market-based economy
- the degree of market power in different markets such as perfect competition, monopolistic competition, oligopoly and monopoly, and the effect on prices, resource allocation and living standards

Key skills

- define key economic concepts and terms and use them appropriately
- acquire economic information from a range of sources
- construct graphs to represent and interpret economic information
- use economic tools and theories to analyse and predict economic outcomes
- research and synthesise information about a particular market
- apply economic knowledge, concepts and theories to predict the effect of changes in conditions on market outcomes.

All students will be given the opportunity to submit a practice SAC prior to the SAC for marking and feedback.

All completed SACs will be returned to students for your own reference and learning

Unit 1	Outcome 1		50% of Unit 1	
	Outcome 2		50% of Unit 1	
Unit 1				25%
Unit 2				25%
End of Year Exam	Duration: 2 hours.			50%

End of the Year Exam

Still to be advised

Course Orientation

Time	Topic
Double	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 outline—key knowledge, key skills, outcomes, • School-assessed Coursework • Resources • Keeping up-to-date with the latest economics news and statistics • Economics glossary of key terms • Approach to study/homework • Taking notes • the basic economic problem of relative scarcity and the need for economic decision making • the concept and applications of opportunity cost