

**New Jersey Department of Education
2006 Social Studies Standards Implementation Guide (SIG)**

6.5. (ECONOMICS) ALL STUDENTS WILL ACQUIRE AN UNDERSTANDING OF KEY ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES

Grade 12

6.5.12.B Economics and Society

1. Compare and contrast the roles of the United States government and the private sector in the United States economy (e.g., Federal Reserve System, United States Mint, Stock Exchange).
2. Evaluate international trade principles and policies.
3. Analyze labor and environmental issues affecting American citizens raised by economic globalization and free trade pacts.
4. Discuss the value and role of free and fair competition versus the social need for cooperation and how business, industry, and government try to reconcile these goals.
5. Analyze the importance of economic issues to politics and be able to distinguish the economic views of different political parties.
6. Analyze the connections and potential effects of the widening gap between the rich and the poor in the United States, the decline in labor union membership since 1950, rapidly advancing technology, globalization, and problems of public schools.
7. Compare and contrast the causes and consequences of discrimination in markets, employment, housing, business, and financial transactions.
8. Evaluate the activities and impact in various countries of major international institutions including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organization.
9. Describe how clearly defined and enforced property rights (e.g., copyright laws, patents) are essential to a market economy.



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Framework97 References

Evaluating Economic Principles and Policies: NAFTA and the Consequences of Free Trade, pp. 264-265.

Economic Growth and the Environment: The Case of New Jersey, pp. 274-275.

The Influence of Economic Factors in History: The Causes of World War I, pp. 261-263.

National History Standard

THEME VII: Production, Distribution and Consumption

No. 16. There is an economic role for government in a market economy whenever the benefits of a government policy outweigh its costs. Governments often provide for national defense, address environmental concerns, define and protect property rights, and attempt to make markets more competitive. Most governmental policies also redistribute income.

Content Overview

There are two major topics in this cluster: economics and American society, and the international marketplace. Students learn about the importance of large scale economic issues (macro) and of smaller scale, individual issues (micro). This includes an understanding of the economic profiles of political parties, local, state, and federal governments' economic regulation and participation, and economic sectors' and industries' market structure (i.e., perfect competition, monopolistic competition, monopoly, and oligopoly); income distribution; place of discrimination in all phases of society; and the mixed governmental/private sector nature of the American economic system. In the international market place, students learn about the basics of trade among nations, issues of globalization good and bad, and the work of such institutions as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the World Trade Organization.

Essential Questions

- How important to American society are economic issues?
- How closely connected are politics and economics in the U.S.?
- Why do many consider property rights a central element of freedom in America?
- How can we end discrimination in all phases of American life?
- Is the gap between rich and poor in America too great? or just right?
- What are the good and bad features of globalization? economics? cultural?

Teaching Resources

“Virtual Economics” is a CD from the National Council on Economic Education which contains 160 pages of lesson plans, K-12, on economics education. Available at cost from the Council.

<http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/index.cfm?lesson=EM651&page=teacher>: China: Where Will it Fit in the World Economy?

<http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/index.cfm?lesson=EM220&page=teacher>: A Case Study: The Federal Reserve System and Monetary Policy

<http://www.law.cornell.Edu/Supet/html/04-108.ZS.html>.

Assessment

- Students participate in a two-team debate on the good and bad aspects of globalization in economics and culture. Use a teacher-developed rubric with students as judges to score the performance of the two teams.
- Students do the following performance item in groups: “You are a team of elected officials who must develop a plan to eliminate discrimination in your community. Concentrate on employment and housing. Develop a three- to five-page plan for review by the class.” Be prepared to present the plan to the class orally.
- Research eminent domain in NJ communities. Develop a persuasive paper/presentation on how it is affecting people in NJ. Include consideration of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the *Kelo v. New London* case.