



**EDUC780-05-1/EC700-05-1
Economics & Personal Finance
for K-12 Educators
Course Syllabus
Summer 2026**

Instructor: Dr. Guanlin Gao
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Office: Kieffer Hall, Room 22
Credit Hours: 3 graduate-level credits

Class date and time: July 20-24, 2026.
9:00 AM- 5:00 PM
Location: Hale Hoaloha 301

Course description: This course prepares K-12 educators for teaching economics and personal finance at their grade levels. Participants will gain a better understanding of economics and personal finance and learn ways to effectively implement the Hawaii K-12 Social Studies Common Core standards in their classes with innovative and interactive lessons and activities. This course also provides participants with teaching resources, including ready-to-adopt lesson plans and one-on-one assistance in adopting and adapting lesson plans for specific grade levels.

Learning materials: All learning materials will be provided by the instructor.

Prerequisite: None.

Course Objectives: By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to

- Describe the importance of economic education and personal finance literacy for K-12 students.
- Illustrate DOE Social Studies Common Core economic concepts taught in K-12.
- Apply lesson plans and other instructional resources for classroom use.
- Develop effective teaching strategies to advance student knowledge of economics and personal finance.

Course final deliverables: Participants will identify one lesson plan at their grade levels and upload a recorded presentation on how to implement the lesson plan in the classroom.

Tentative Schedule

Monday, July 20	
9:00 am - 9:30 am	Class Orientation
9:30 am – 10:45 am	The Ten Principles of Economics that Everyone Should Know (Part I)
10:45 am – 11:00 am	Break
11:00 am – noon	The Ten Principles of Economics that Everyone Should Know (Part II)
Noon - 1:00 pm	Networking Lunch (lunch provided)
1:00 pm – 2:20 pm	Making Your Class Everyone’s Favorite (Part I): Exploring and Incorporating Classroom Resources for Effective Teaching
2:20 pm – 2:30 pm	Break
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Final Deliverables: What to Expect
*3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Final Deliverables Preparation (optional)

Tuesday, July 21	
9:00 am – 10:45 am	Market Simulation Game
10:45 am – 11:00 am	Break
11:00 am – noon	Market, Market Failures, and Government Interventions: What Does the Game Tell Us
Noon - 1:00 pm	Q&A Lunch (lunch provided)
1:00- 2:00	Making Your Class Everyone’s Favorite (Part II): In-class Games, Experiments, and other Hands-on Activities
2:00-3:00	Reflections: Classroom Implementation Plans
*3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Final Deliverables Preparation (optional)

Wednesday, July 22	
9:00 am – 10:00 am	The 20-Bean Salary Game: A Hands-On Introduction to Personal Finance
10:00 am – 10:15 am	Break
10:15 am – noon	From Mandate to Classroom Practice: Teaching Earning, Spending, Saving, Investing, Credit, and Risk

Noon – 1:00 pm	Q&A Lunch (lunch provided)
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Connecting Economics and Personal Finance to Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Cultures and Values
*3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Final Deliverables Preparation (optional)

Thursday, July 23	
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Ten steps of Financial Wellness (Invited Speakers: Bryan Yucoco, HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union)
10:00 am – 10:15 am	Break
10:15 am – noon	Demystify Credit Card and Credit History (Invited Speakers: Bryan Yucoco, HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union)
Noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch with Hawaii USA (Lunch provided by Hawaii USA)
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Teacher Resource Fair (Sponsored by Hawaii USA)
*3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Final Deliverables Preparation (optional)

Friday, July 24 (Families and Friends Welcome!)	
9:00 am – noon	Final Presentations
Noon – 12:30 pm	Course Feedback and Evaluation, Group Photo
12:30 – 2:30 pm	Graduation & Reunion Luncheon

This course schedule provides a general plan. Deviations may be necessary.

Technical Assistance for Canvas Users:

- Watch this [video to get you started](#)
- [Live chat with Canvas Support for students](#)
- Canvas Support Hotline for students: +1-833-209-6111
- [Online tutorials](#): click on “Students” role to access tutorials
- Contact the Chaminade IT Helpdesk for technical issues: helpdesk@chaminade.edu or call (808) 735-4855

University Policies:

Marianist Values:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith
2. Provide an Integral Quality Education
3. Educate in Family Spirit
4. Educate for Service, Justice, and Peace
5. Educate for Adaptation and Change

WASC Core Competencies:

1. Written Communication
2. Oral Communication
3. Quantitative reasoning
4. Critical Thinking
5. Information Literacy

Credit Hour Policy: This is a three-credit hour course requiring 135 clock hours of student engagement, per the official CUH Credit Hour Policy. Students enrolled in this course are anticipated to spend a total of 38 hours in class, 46 hours research and writing a grade-specific lesson plan. There will be an additional 51 hours of work required beyond what is listed here, including but not limited to, course readings, homework assignments, implementation and course planning hours, etc., averaging 3.4 hours each week during the semester.

Academic Honesty Statement: Violations of the Honor Code are serious. They harm other students, your professor, and the integrity of the University. Alleged violations will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs. If found guilty of plagiarism, a student might receive a range of penalties, including failure of an assignment, failure of an assignment and withholding of the final course grade until a paper is turned in on the topic of plagiarism, failure of the course, or suspension from the University. Violations of Academic Integrity: Violations of the principle include, but are not limited to:

- Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise.
- Fabrication and Falsification: Intentional and unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification is a matter of inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.
- Multiple Submissions: The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work for credit (including oral reports) more than once without authorization.
- Plagiarism: Intentionally or knowingly presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source).
- Abuse of Academic Materials: Intentionally or knowingly destroying, stealing, or making inaccessible library or other academic resource materials. Complicity in Academic Dishonesty: Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying or borrowing liberally from someone else's work without his/her knowledge or permission; or with his/her knowledge or permission and turning it in as your own work.
- Copying of someone else's exam or paper.

- Allowing someone to turn in your work as his or her own.
- Not providing adequate references for cited work.
- Copying and pasting large quotes or passages without properly citing them.

Disability Access: If you need individual accommodations to meet course outcomes because of a documented disability, please speak with me to discuss your needs as soon as possible so that we can ensure your full participation in class and fair assessment of your work. Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations from Kōkua 'Ike: Center for Student Learning by the end of week three of the class, in order for instructors to plan accordingly. If a student would like to determine if they meet the criteria for accommodations, they should contact the Kōkua 'Ike Coordinator at (808) 739-8305 for further information (ada@chaminade.edu).

Title IX Compliance: Chaminade University of Honolulu recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources by visiting Campus Ministry, the Dean of Students Office, the Counseling Center, or the Office for Compliance and Personnel Services.

Tutoring and Writing Services

Chaminade is proud to offer free, one-on-one tutoring and writing assistance to all students. Tutoring and writing help is available on campus at Kōkua 'Ike: Center for Student Learning in a variety of subjects (including, but are not limited to: biology, chemistry, math, nursing, English, etc.) from trained Peer and Professional Tutors. Please check Kōkua 'Ike's website at <https://chaminade.edu/advising/kokua-ike/> for the latest times, list of drop-in hours, and information on scheduling an appointment. Free online tutoring is also available via Smarthinking. Smarthinking can be accessed 24/7 from your Canvas account. Simply click Account – Notifications – Smarthinking. For more information, please contact Kōkua 'Ike at tutoring@chaminade.edu or (808) 739-8305.