

ECONOMICS: FINAL PROJECT

Due on _____

Portraits of America: The American Economy in Photographs

This year's economics course is aimed to provide applicable knowledge of how the United States' economy competes and functions in a globalized market. Whether or not you initiate the conversation you will without a doubt encounter discussions about the state of the economy throughout your lifetime. Understanding the complex web and variety of factors that impact the health of the nation's economy and evidence of its status are important civic responsibilities. Whether you're entering the job market, going to trade school, pursuing a degree, or just taking time off to travel and relax, the economy *will* affect you.

The final project for economics will require you to utilize your creativity, vast amounts of resources, and knowledge gained in class to create a one-of-a-kind compilation of photographs that are indicative of our nation's economy and represent a multitude of factors that play a part of its health. Thinking beyond the statistical figures and thinking beyond the basics will help you find success

TASK: Create a compilation of **ten** talking points (slides, video, etc.) discussing **nine** economic indicators - the tenth is an interview (see reverse). At least **six** photographs must be original and can reflect any aspect of our economy on either a global or local scale. Don't be afraid to think outside the box! (the goal is to relate the less obvious). Accompanying each photo will be a description as to how the image indicates evidence of the state of the economy or is a reflection of current trends (see rubric on back).

EXAMPLES FROM THE PAST & COLLABORATIVE BRAINSTORM

- The Walmart Effect** - Take a photo of your local store, an employee inside, or the parking lot. Provide an anecdote with supportive facts or a broad description of the company's impact on the US economy.
- Oil Prices** - A simple photo of your local gas prices can go a long way here!
- Main Street** - Are businesses thriving or closing? Interview a local shop owner.
- Housing Market** - Photos of foreclosed homes or sold homes; how is the housing market currently doing? How is it an indicator of the economy and what impacts do sales of homes have on the economy?
- Unemployment** - Ever see someone standing near an intersection holding a cardboard sign saying they're looking for work?
- National Debt** -
- Stock Market** -
- Black Friday Shopping** -
- GDP/GNP** -
- CPI** -
- Literacy Rates** -
- Infant Mortality Rate** -
- Welfare/Safety Net Use** -
- Poverty Rate**

<https://www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>

<http://www.aaii.com/investing-basics/article/the-top-10-economic-indicators-what-to-watch-and-why>



IMAGES	1-Ineffective	2-Developing	3-Proficient
CONTENT OF IMAGE	Image is unrelated, of poor quality, and/or is not present.	Image is of high quality and clearly reflects the content presented	Image is of high quality, displays creativeness, and clearly reflects the content presented

DESCRIPTIONS	1-Ineffective	2-Developing	3-Proficient
IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC INDICATOR	No explanation is present. Information does not share why photo/topic is indicative of economic health	Explanation of economic indicator is present and is descriptive.	Explanation of economic indicator is present and is more analytical than descriptive. Indicator may be critiqued.
HISTORY OF INDICATOR	History of economic indicators origin/trends is not present or underdeveloped	History of economic indicators origin/trends is present but does not contain clear pattern of development or analysis	History of economic indicators origin/trends is present and shows clear pattern of development and analysis
MODERN DATA	Statistics, trends, analysis, and/or change is not present or is irrelevant to project	Statistics, trends, analysis, and change is present and related to the project	Statistics, trends, analysis, change and projection is present and related to the project. Analysis is evident.
ACCURACY & CITATION	Information is not cited and/or contains significant inaccuracies	Information contains significant inaccuracies; citations* are present	Citations are accurate and are representative of credible resources

Analysis = Examination of the elements or structure of something, typically as a basis for discussion or interpretation.

*Citations may be compiled on one final slide/frame in MLA format

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. Name
2. Age
3. Current Occupation
4. Highest Level of Education (details if applicable such as location, major, etc.)
5. Political Affiliation
6. In your opinion, how healthy is the United States economy?
7. In your opinion, what is the one thing that would help make the economy stronger and why?
8. At what point was the United States' economy it's strongest in your opinion

15 = 100

14 = 93

13 = 87

12 = 80

11 = 73

10 = 65