

Steps to Success in AP Microeconomics & AP Macroeconomics

There are no shortcuts to academic success in AP Microeconomics and AP Macroeconomics, and there are no shortcuts to passing the AP Exams in both subjects. They require an entire trimester of hard work, day-by-day and week-by-week.

Silent Sustained Reading, Cornell Notes, and Problems (on a daily basis):

_____ Break up the assigned readings, Cornell Notes, and assigned Problems into manageable portions (approximately 3 hours per assigned textbook chapter; **5-6 hours total per week**)

_____ Take your time to read slowly and to do every assigned problem carefully for in-depth understanding

_____ Watch the concise YouTube videos (2-3 minutes on every topic) linked from my website (www.rossdunbar.com) of the following two amazing teachers on the Web:

- Mr. Jacob Clifford (“ACDC Leadership”)
- Dr. Mary J. McGlasson (“mjmfoodie”)

_____ Take the time necessary to carefully compose detailed Cornell Notes on the assigned readings including all formulas and graphs presented

_____ Write definitions and explanations in your own words

_____ The left-hand side of your Cornell Notes can become a “flip sheet” for reviewing before tests

_____ Be fully present and engaged in all classroom presentations, discussions, and debates (cell phone off)

_____ Proactively come to see me for additional help; available by appointment before school, at lunch, and Thursdays after school

Dedicated Study Environment (completely distraction-free):

It is crucial for success in AP Microeconomics and AP Macroeconomics to have a truly dedicated study environment that is completely distraction-free for concentrating on readings, Cornell Notes and Problems. This means no texting, no emails, no Web browsing, no cell calls, no games, no interruptions, no multi-tasking, etc., all of which disengage the brain as often as every minute. This may require using a study site other than home. The following are excellent study environments:

- * UM Hatcher Library at the diag (open 24 hours a day to the public and very quiet);
- * UM Shapiro Library at diag (UM ID usually not required during daytime hours and very quiet);
- * Downtown AADL Library, second floor (very quiet);
- * Not Recommended: Traverwood Library (not very quiet and many distractions).