

PRINCIPLES OF MACRO: USING MACROECONOMIC INDICATORS TO EXPLORE THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA

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Internationalizing Curriculum

“The need for students to be able to empathize with others, value diverse perspectives and cultures, understand how events around the world are interconnected, and solve problems that transcend borders has never been greater.”

A Global Perspective: Bringing the World Into Classrooms
by: Ariel Tichnor-Wagner, Senior Fellow of Global Competence
at [ASCD](https://www.ascd.org/)



Picture: <https://www.catsmeow.com/products/international-travel/africa-map>

Principles of Macro: Assessment Requirements

Flags of Africa



Picture: vectorstock.com/16821766

- ❖ **Explain** the connections between historical and recent events and **current global situations related to** political systems, **economic systems**, social systems and/or environmental issues
- ❖ Function effectively in multicultural settings
- ❖ **Discuss** issues from a **global perspective**

Why Africa?



Sources:

Intro to African Continent

YouTube Videos:

- ❖ [20 Fun Facts About Africa](#)
- ❖ [Here are all 54 Countries of Africa](#)
- ❖ [101 Facts about Africa](#)
- ❖ [Every Country in Africa \(part 1\)](#)
- ❖ [Every Country in Africa \(part 2\)](#)

Economic Data

- ❖ [A to Z the World Database](#) (subscription-based)
- ❖ [CIA World Factbook](#)
- ❖ [Trading Economics](#)
- ❖ [Global Edge](#)
- ❖ [Numbeo](#)
- ❖ [Gap Minder](#)

Africa Research: Small-Group Project

- ❖ Principles/Introductory level, adaptable
- ❖ Flipped classroom approach
 - (3 days/week, 50 minute periods & online)
 - ❖ face-to-face: 3-4 week period with theory
 - ❖ online: mid-term project
- ❖ Asarta/Butters McGraw-Hill Connect Master
- ❖ **Variables: GDP, Unemployment, Inflation**
emphasis on Economic Growth in African nations
- ❖ Objectives:
 - ❖ expand international awareness, particularly diversity of Africa
 - ❖ add depth to knowledge of key macroeconomic indicators
 - ❖ identify sources of international economic data

The Great Western Dessert



Picture: <https://www-atoztheworld-com.proxy.southeast.edu/egypt/country-overview.html>

Small-Group Project: Overview

Congolese Woman



Picture: https://www.flickr.com/photos/un_photo/

Students create a collaborative written report and/or presentation (Canvas Collaborations).

1. **Introduction** – geography, culture, religion, pictures, flag, description of natural and economic resources, primary imports, exports, and major economic activities.
2. Data Collection
3. Analysis
4. **Summary** - demonstrate ability to interpret key indicators, provide insight into economic well-being and potential growth, offer growth projection for next 5 years

Students share findings with the class.

Small-Group Project: Data Collection

Africa Project Required Data					
Real GDP (\$ amount)		Unemployment rate		Inflation rate	
Real GDP growth rate		Median age		Median income	
Real GDP per capita		Size of the labor force		Current prices:	
GDP Composition				gasoline (1 gallon)	
(C + I + G + NX)				milk (1 gallon)	
Population size				loaf of bread	
Population in poverty				pair of jeans	
				movie ticket	
				rent (1 bd outside of city)	

Small-Group Project: Sample Analysis Questions

GDP

- ❖ Compare and contrast the GDP composition percentages between your country and the US
- ❖ Identify links between GDP and the country's natural and economic resources
- ❖ Discuss the role of poverty in the economic growth of your country

Unemployment

- ❖ Explain the link between the unemployment rate and GDP growth
- ❖ Explore connections between the labor force and the major economic activities of the country

Inflation

- ❖ Discuss the role of prices, income, and inflation on standard of living.

Small-Group Project: Adaptations

- ❖ Rather than 1 year of data, collect 3-5 years of data
- ❖ Add additional data to be collected and analyzed: interest rates, public debt, current account balance, energy, communication, transportation, etc...
- ❖ Research and include the economic impact of colonization
- ❖ Research the role of China (or other major investor) with specific regard to infrastructure investment and technological progress
- ❖ Address challenges of climate change faced by each country

Cape Towne, South Africa



Picture: https://www.luxurylink.com/images/sho_574foc91/6158_102-1280/image-6158_102.jpg?filtered=1

THANK YOU!

- ❖ Questions
- ❖ Comments
- ❖ Suggestions

Ostrich, South Africa



Picture: <https://theculturetrip.com/africa/south-africa/articles/the-fearless-nature-of-these-african-animals-will-surprise-you/>

Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania



Picture: <https://www.worldatlas.com/r/w768/upload/43/9c/47/shutterstock-331765757-min.jpg>