
Course Information

Instructor: Grace Kim Robbins
Course websites: <http://bc.instructure.com>
Textbook website: www.boundless.com/DJUFUEHNBILWZA
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Office Hours: M: 9:30-10:30 / T: 11:30-12:20 / W: 9:30-11:00 / Th: 11:30-1:00
Meeting Times: Daily 8:30-9:20 in A208



Contact with the Instructor

The easiest way to reach me with quick questions is by email. Some questions are much more easily answered in person, so I am available most days of the week during office hours listed above. You do not need an appointment to come to office hours—these are times I set aside specifically to be available to students. Please feel free to stop by with any questions about the course, or simply to chat! If you can't make it to office hours, email me to set up a time to meet.

Course Description

Economics provides a useful perspective and set of tools for analyzing and interpreting the world around us. Economics 201, a microeconomics course, focuses on the small subsets of the economies, such as individual consumers, producers, and governments. We examine the decisions made by these groups, and we will use a variety of frameworks for analyzing such decisions, including comparative advantage, supply and demand, and game theory. We will explore in detail how markets function, and understand how, in theory, markets lead to efficient outcomes through perfect competition. We will then loosen some assumptions to see how markets operate under more realistic conditions, including monopolist, oligopolist, and monopolistically competitive frameworks. We will also explore other conditions under which markets fail, i.e. lead to inefficient outcomes, such as when there are externalities, public goods, or imperfect information.

Learning Goals and Objectives

By the end of the quarter, students will be able to do the following:

- Apply the theory of rational choice to explain individual behavior.
- Explain how markets allocate, produce, and distribute society's resources.
- Predict how government intervention impacts market outcomes.
- Critique market outcomes and government policies using concepts of efficiency and equity.
- Explain firm behavior under various degrees of competition.
- Extend the market framework to analyze market failures.
- Critically analyze the positive and negative impacts of markets as they relate to social justice and environmental issues.
- Represent and understand economic concepts and outcomes in numerical and graphical form.



Required Text and Resources



FREE online readings from www.boundless.com/DJUFUEHNBILWZA

The textbook we will be using for this course is a series of free online readings provided under a Creative Commons License. “[Creative Commons](#) develops, supports, and stewards legal and technical infrastructure that maximizes digital creativity, sharing, and innovation.” Specifically, Boundless uses a [CC-BY-SA](#) license.

The readings are similar in structure and organization to *Microeconomics* by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells (third edition). There are a few copies of this textbook on reserve at the library for short-term use.

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to:

- help in creating a positive learning environment.
- come prepared to every class. (Prepared means arriving on time with all materials needed for class and having read the relevant sections for discussion.)
- keep cell phones silenced and use computers only for course-related work.
- inform me ahead of time if they can't attend a class, or if they have to leave early.
- know and meet the deadlines for all assignments and exams. Please note that no make-up assignments or exams are offered!
- come for extra help before small misunderstandings become major learning gaps.
- gain access to the internet. Students should maintain access and cope with any technology problems, including viruses, that involve your own machine or software.
- know BC's policies on withdrawing and other quarterly commitments
- complete their own work and be familiar with Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue Community College, especially with respect to cheating, stealing, and plagiarizing.



Attendance Policy

Your attendance is very important for a number of reasons: you will have a chance to practice applying what we are learning in class; you will be able to clarify concepts and ask questions as they arise; I will be able to monitor the progress of the class and adjust the pace; you will learn from your peer's contributions and questions; and your peers will learn from your contributions and questions. As such you are expected to come to every class!

In order to align your incentives to show up with my desire for you to be here, for every entire class you attend you will receive **5 attendance points**, 1 point for every 10 minutes of class. These attendance points contribute to your course grade as outlined below. Everybody starts the class with 10 extra points. You can think of these as a free pass, so if there's some emergency and you can't attend class, don't sweat too much. You will keep the 5 extra points if you have perfect attendance for the quarter.

Tardiness: If you arrive late, you will lose 1 point for every portion of a 10-minute interval of class which you miss. If you leave early, you will lose 1 point for every portion of a 10-minute interval of class which you miss. (For example, if you arrive 2 minutes late (-1) and leave 11 minutes early (-2), you will receive only 7

attendance points.) Attendance will be taken by a designated team member starting in the second week of class, **and all team members will lose all points for the week if the information is recorded incorrectly.**

Cell phones are not allowed in class (unless cleared by grace beforehand). **If you are using your cell phone in class, you will lose 1 attendance point** for that day because that is time that you're not really "with me" in class. The same is true if you are using your computer for non-class related work.

Please **do not come to class when you are sick!!** If you are sick and unable to attend class, you will have a chance to earn 80% of these attendance points back: show me that you have copied the notes from a classmate and complete any assignments done in class during your absence.

Grading Policy

The best way to learn economics is by doing, not by memorizing. There will be a variety of homework assignments, exams, and activities in which students will demonstrate how they have learned to implement economic reasoning and analysis. Grades will be assigned according to the following grading scale:

Letter grade	%
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	Below 60

Remember, according to BC:

A grades indicate *outstanding achievement*

B grades indicate *high achievement*

C grades indicate *satisfactory achievement*

D grades indicate *poor achievement*

F grades indicate *unsatisfactory achievement*

Grades will be based on the following weights:

Attendance	5%
Team Assignments	15%
Individual Assignments	20%
Quizzes	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

Attendance

In order to align your incentives to show up with my desire for you to be here, for every entire class you attend you will receive **5 attendance points**, 1 point for every 10 minutes of class. Everybody starts the class with 10 extra points. You can think of these as a free pass, so if there's some emergency and you can't attend class, don't sweat too much. Please see the Attendance Policy section above.

Team Assignments

There will be a number of in-class assignments throughout the quarter, generally completed as **part of a team**. (Team selection will happen in class during the second week of the quarter.) These activities are designed for the application of economic concepts and theories to real world examples. Attendance in class and participation in the activities are an important part of your grade. I provide one copy of the assignment per team, but the assignments are posted on Canvas if you would like to print your own copy to bring to class.

Individual Assignments

There will be a number of in-class assignments throughout the quarter that are completed individually. These might be Canvas assignments, worksheets, written essays, etc. These activities are also designed for the application of economic concepts and theories to real world examples.

To offer some more incentive to participate in class, students will have a chance to **earn Branston Bucks** to improve their grades. Students who participate in class or office hours by answering or asking questions (verbally or in writing) or who demonstrate excellent classroom behavior will earn Branston Bucks, which can be used during the final exam day to buy back points missed from the Individual Assignments score.



Quizzes

Approximately every other week you will take a brief 10 point quiz, first individually and then with a randomly assigned quiz partner. You have the option to take the quiz individually if you so desire and if you notify me before quiz partners are assigned.

Exams

There will be two exams during the quarter. The exams will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer (calculation with explanation and/or essay) questions. The midterm exam will be held in class on Friday, 24th October. The final exam is cumulative but focuses on the latter part of the course is held during the college-scheduled Final Exams Period on Wednesday, 10th December from 7:30-9:20am.

Preventing Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty occurring when students use information or material from outside sources without properly citing them. This is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

- You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas.
- You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
- You do not write summaries and paraphrases in your own words and/or do not document your source.
- You turn in work created by another person.
- You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course *without express permission* from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.

In order to help identify (and therefore hopefully avoid) plagiarism, we will be using a website called **turnitin.com**, which checks your written work against other sources to check for originality. We will register for turnitin.com accounts during the first week of class.

Consequences: If it is determined that you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action.

Please see the following Writing Lab link for more information regarding plagiarism:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/Plagiarism.html>

Out of fairness to all students, no extra credit will be offered unless it is available to all students; i.e. no extra credit will be awarded after the quarter has ended. It is your responsibility as a student to be aware of the expectations set forth for this course. If these expectations of you are unclear, please come and speak with me as early as possible.

Campus Resources

Disability Resource Center

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact asn@bellevuecollege.edu or 425.564.2764. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125. www.bellevuecollege.edu/autismspectrumnavigators/

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc

The Writing Lab – D204-d

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing>

Monday – Thursday 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The Writing Lab is a place where you can work on developing college-level writing skills. As a student, you can receive personalized feedback on your writing for class, college applications, or short personal correspondence. Tutors can listen to your ideas and help you develop strategies to see and avoid significant errors.

Students can drop in any time the Writing Lab is open as well as make an appointment. We recommend visiting the lab at least two days before a paper is due. A tutoring session is a 35-minute, face-to-face conversation to discuss your writing. The tutor will not fix your paper but will work with you to identify areas to revise independently.

Math Lab (Academic Success Center)

Students who are enrolled in a math class can stop by D-207 for help on math related problems.

Academic Tutoring (Academic Success Center)

Drop-in or individual tutoring may be available for students with a grade of C or below. Please stop by D-204 to ask about eligibility and/or to apply. There is a Business and Economics Study Center located in C207K which offers economics and business students drop-in help.

MCS – Multicultural Services

MCS has a very friendly staff who can answer any questions or provide help in a variety of areas. They can help you plan to complete college successfully, help you with financial aid application process, help you select classes, connect you with campus resources, help you talk with instructors, connect you with community resources that can help you with food, transportation, and temporary housing challenges, and generally support you in overcoming non-academic and academic challenges. They are located in the B-building above the bookstore.

TriO

The TriO program provides extensive academic support, personal assistance, and financial aid guidance for students who qualify (first generation college students, low-income students, or students with a documented disability).

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Bellevue College's Affirmation of Inclusion

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at BC, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

The college's "Affirmation of Inclusion" is in line with the principle of free speech in a free society: we have the right to express unpopular ideas as long as we don't show disrespect for reasonable people who might believe otherwise. In an online course, you will be expressing ideas through the medium of the course site rather than face to face in the classroom. In that case, these expectations refer to the courtesy with which you communicate with one another through e-mails and e-discussions. Part of this respect involves professional behavior towards the instructor, colleagues, and the class itself.

Cheating, Stealing, and Plagiarizing* and Inappropriate Behavior

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: plagiarizing material from the Internet and posting rude or personal attacks in discussions. When you are in doubt about any behavior, please consult your instructor. In addition, you may wish to review the general applicable rules of cyberspace, such as in the [Core Rules of Netiquette](#). The instructor reserves the right to remove posted messages, and downgrade assessments as a result of these types of behaviors. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services, [link to Student Code](#).

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). It is the student's responsibility for maintaining contact and adhering to the agreed-upon

actions. Vista class sites, and material, may not be directly accessible after the end of the quarter so it is important to make arrangements before the quarter ends. The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F"). There is a standard form that instructors have access to in their instructor's grade briefcase.

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

Please refer to the syllabus at the start of the quarter for additional details and contact the instructor directly for any clarifications. A student who is not in compliance with the scheduled format may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be in compliance with any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

Academic Year: College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Summer Quarter: College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the fifth week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). After the sixth day and through the end of the fifth week of the quarter, the "W" grade will become part of the student's transcript record.

Check [Enrollment Calendar Deadlines, Refunds/Withdrawals](#), for additional details. As with most enrollment deadlines, it is the student's responsibility to be aware of these dates and act accordingly.

Hardship Withdrawal (HW)

From page 9 of the current course catalog, [2008-2009 online catalog](#), HW indicates a withdrawal request made because of extenuating circumstances after the official withdrawal period is over. The student must contact the instructor to request this withdrawal option, or the faculty member may initiate the contact. No points are calculated into the grade-point average. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) [link to DRC](#). The office is located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110, email drc@bellevuecollege.edu). Students will need to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter or contact your online instructor directly by email. Students who require accommodation in a course should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Distribution of Grades

Students should access their grades through the BC Web site. Any returned material should be accessed prior to the end of the quarter. After the end of the quarter, Vista class sites may not be accessible by students. Individual instructors may use non-Vista tools for recording and maintaining the students' progress. Questions about grades assigned should be initially directed to your instructor.

Submission and Returning of Papers, Assignments and Assessments:

Specific guidelines for taking exams and submitting assignments are published in the syllabus. Please contact instructor at the start of the quarter for any clarifications.

*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Vice President of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.

Course Calendar

The most up-to-date information about the course schedule and assignment deadlines can be found on Canvas. However, to give you a sense of how we will move through the quarter:

SEPTEMBER 2014						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	22 Intro & syllabus	23 Economic Principles	24 Economic Principles	25 Economic Principles	26 Quiz 1	27
28	29 Supply and Demand	30 Supply and Demand				

OCTOBER 2014						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Supply and Demand	2 Supply and Demand	3 Supply and Demand	4
5	6 Cons & Prod Surplus	7 Cons & Prod Surplus	8 Gov't Intervention	9 Gov't Intervention	10 Quiz 2	11
12	13 Elasticity PED	14 Elasticity PES & other	15 Elasticity/ Taxes Intro	16 Taxes	17 Taxes	18
19	20 Consumer Choice	21 Consumer Choice	22 NO CLASSES	23 Review	24 MIDTERM EXAM	25
26	27 Production	28 Production	29 Competitive Markets	30 Competitive Markets	31 Competitive Markets	

NOVEMBER 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 Monopoly	4 Monopoly	5 Monop Comp	6 Monop. Comp.	7 Quiz 3	8
9	10 Oligopoly	11 NO CLASSES	12 Oligopoly	13 Catch Up	14 Externalities	15
16	17 Externalities	18 Externalities	19 Public Goods	20 Public Goods	21 Quiz 4	22
23	24 Income Inequality	25 Income Inequality	26 Income Inequality	27 NO CLASSES	28 NO CLASSES	29

DECEMBER 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	1 Inefficiency	2 Inefficiency	3 Inefficiency	4 Inefficiency	5 Quiz 5	6
7	8	9	10 Final Exam 7:30-9:20			