

ECON 100 – INTRODUCTION TO BASIC ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES (#5101 OAS, 5CR)
SPRING QUARTER 2015

INSTRUCTOR: Chris Hendrixson

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OFFICE HOURS: T/Th 9:30 - 10:30am or by appointment (on campus or in online chat room).

TEXTS: *The Economics of Public Issues*, 17th ed., Miller, Benjamin and North.
Current Economic Issues, 17th ed., Dollars&Sense

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Introduces the concepts and tools of economic thinking. Students learn to understand and evaluate the complex economic problems encountered in modern society. Business and Economic majors who plan to transfer to a 4-year institution should generally take ECON& 201 or ECON& 202 rather than ECON 100.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- After completing this class, students should be able to:
- Explain how markets allocate, produce, and distribute society's resources.
- Use economic reasoning to address current social issues.
- Critically analyze the positive and negative impacts of markets as they relate to social justice and environmental issues.
- Recognize and discuss the limitations of markets.
- Explain how government intervention can help or hinder market outcomes.
- Identify some causes and implications of income inequality.
- Represent and understand economic concepts and outcomes in numerical and graphical form.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Background Quizzes: Every Wednesday (including the first Wednesday of the quarter) a quiz over the background materials for the current topic will be due by 10pm. The questions will come from both the class notes and the videos provided in the "Background Materials" section. Each quiz is worth a maximum of 3 points each, for a total of 30 points possible for the quarter. A forum will be provided where any questions about the material can be asked and a practice quiz to test yourself before taking the real quiz will also be posted.

Tests: Each Sunday a test will be available (to be finished anytime on Sunday up until 10pm). The material for the test will mainly come from the topic readings for the given week but a few questions will also relate to the class notes, videos, or discussion questions. These tests will contain roughly 16 multiple choice questions with a time limit of 20 minutes (be sure to know the readings well, there will not be time to look through the readings for many answers). Each test will be worth 4 points, for a maximum of 40 points for the quarter.

Chapter Summaries: Over the course of the quarter roughly 60 chapter/article summaries will be posted by students (2 summaries total per student). Each week a total of roughly 6 students will sign up (or be assigned randomly if there are no volunteers) to write a summary for one of the roughly 6 specific chapters, articles, or videos assigned for the week (one student per chapter/article/video). The signups will be available until 10pm on Tuesday, after which a student will be ASSIGNED RANDOMLY to any unclaimed chapters. These chapter summaries will then need to be posted in the appropriate forum by the volunteer (or assigned) student before Friday at 10pm. Each summary must be at least 400 words and will be worth a maximum of 4 points each, for a total of 8 points possible (2 summaries written per student over the course of the quarter).

Discussion Questions: Throughout the week, at random times, discussion questions will be posted which will relate to the readings, videos, or class notes. The first student to successfully answer the question in a FULLY satisfactory manner, using tools/concepts from the class, or giving the core insights into the nature of the problem will receive 2 points. Although multiple discussion questions will be provided, any given student may only successfully receive 2 points one time in any given week. For the quarter, the maximum amount of discussion question points possible will be 8 points (therefore to receive full points you must be the first person to successfully answer one of the questions in 4 different weeks). Participation points will be given for students helping in these threads, who may not individually have contributed enough to claim the full 2 points for the question.

Participation Points: Participation points can be given in many different ways. These include, but are not limited to: Asking questions, giving opinions, or helping other students in the Background Material forums, Chapter Summary forums, or Discussion Question threads. They can also be given for seeking help during the online office hours or through messaging. Up to 2 points per week can be given for participation, with a maximum of 14 points for the quarter. Basically, doing things above the bare minimum requirements, even if it is just to ask questions (which also gives other students an opportunity for participation points) may result in participation points.

Summary	Maximum Points
Background Quizzes	30 (ten weeks at 3 points per week)
Tests	40 (ten weeks at 4 points per week)
Chapter Summaries	8 (write two, 4 points each)
Discussion Questions	8 (2 points each, credit for one maximum per week)
Participation	14 (two points maximum in a given week)
Total Points	100

GRADING

At the end of the quarter, I will add your scores to find your total. The final grades will be given based on a 90/80/70% A/B/C scale from the 100 maximum total points.

Grade	Percentage
A/A+	93.3%+
A -	90 - 93.2%
B +	87.7 - 89.9%
B	83.3 - 87.6%
B -	80 - 83.2%
C +	77.7 - 79.9%
C	73.3 - 77.6%
C -	70 - 73.2%
D/F	Below 70%

OUTLINE OF TOPICS

Week One Topic: Economic Trade-offs and Opportunity Cost

Week Two Topic: Supply and Demand

Week Three Topic: Imperfect Competition

Week Four Topic: Labor Markets

Week Five Topic: Income Inequality

Week Six Topic: Property Rights and the Environment

Week Seven Topic: Health Care and Insurance

Week Eight Topic: The Mortgage Crisis

Week Nine Topic: Fiscal Policy and Government Debt

Week Ten Topic: Globalization

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Spring 2015

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at BellevueCollege. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from BellevueCollege. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services and at the site below [http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_\(Procedures\).asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_(Procedures).asp)

Email Communication with instructors must be done through student email accounts only. Instructors cannot communicate with students about their course work or grades through student's personal email accounts.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

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

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter 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 present at 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

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.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. 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 meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and program assistants or coordinators will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

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