

Econ 201, Online, Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

- Betsy Zahrt Geib
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- Phone: 425.564.2708
- Campus Office location:A200A
- Virtual office hours: I am always available via Canvas email and should respond within a day, unless it is over the weekend in which case I might not respond until Monday morning. If you want to request a one-on-one chat or video conference, please email me and we'll find a time to do that virtually. Office Hours: online via email or chat, contact to schedule an appointment

Required Materials

- Aplia access packaged with Mankiw, Gregory. Principles of Microeconomics, 6th ed. South-Western/Cengage.
- other readings/books as assigned
- desktop, laptop, tablet or netbook and a reliable internet connection

Course Outcomes

After completing this class, students should be able to:

- 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.

Bellevue College Learning Practices

In addition to the course level learning outcomes, courses at Bellevue College promote the following learning practices:

1. **Creative & Critical Thinking:** The ability to utilize a range of thought processes to evaluate information and opinions, generate new ideas, and identify creative and successful outcomes
2. **Communication:** The ability to communicate effectively using written, oral, visual, and/or electronic means, as appropriate to a given situation.
3. **Connections:** The ability to identify and explore connections, themes, and patterns in the social and natural world, and to see commonalities within dissimilar circumstances.

Pace

This is not a self-paced class. Please use the due dates as a guide for the material you should be working on each week. There is a richness to our discussions when students are working on the same material at the same time.

Learning Atmosphere

- contact the instructor immediately when:
 - you don't understand a concept or are having difficulty with an assignment
 - there is a possibility that you may miss the deadline for an assignment
 - you are concerned about your grade
- interact positively with classmates
- attempt all assignments, even if you are unsure of your results
- submit all assignments on time
- ask questions and voice your opinion
- read assignment comments and feedback
- log into the class site a minimum of 4 times each week, and spend approximately 5-8 hours each week on class assignments

Modules

This course is divided into 10 academic modules.

| Module | Title | Content |
|--------|---|---|
| | Getting Ready for the Course | Aplia instructions, syllabus quiz, student contract, practice assignment, introductions |
| 1 | Principles of Microeconomics | Chapters 1 and 2 |
| 2 | Consumer Choice | Chapter 21 |
| 3 | Costs of Production | Chapter 13 |
| 4 | Production Decisions in Perfectly Competitive Markets | Chapter 14 |
| 5 | Demand, Supply and Elasticity | Chapters 4 and 5 |

| | | |
|-----------|--|-------------------------|
| 6 | Markets, Efficiency, and Equality | Chapters 7 and 12 |
| 7 | Public Policy 1: Intervention in Perfectly Competitive Markets | Chapters 6, 8 and 9 |
| 8 | Public Policy 2: Intervention under Market Failures | Chapters 10 and 11 |
| 9 | Monopoly and Monopolistic Competition | Chapters 15 and 16 |
| 10 | Oligopoly | Chapter 17 |
| | Bringing it to a close | evaluations, final exam |

Grading

Total grades for the course will be based on the following weights.

| Item | Weight |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Final Exam | 20% |
| Midterm Exam | 10% |
| Aplia Chapter Problem Sets | 15% |
| Explorations and Applications | 15% |
| Lessons | 10% |
| Getting Started Module | 5% |
| Paper | 15% |
| Discussions | 10% |
| TOTAL | 100% |

Items

- **Final Exam:** The final exam for this course is online and timed. Check the course calendar or the module stream for the date of the final exam. Students must take the final exam during the open period specified.
- **Midterm Exam:** There is one midterm exam scheduled for this course. Check the course calendar or the module stream for the date of the midterm exam. Students must take the midterm exam during the open period specified.
- **Graded Aplia Problem Sets:** There is a graded problem set associated with each Chapter in this course. Students have 3 attempts at each question, and the high score for each assignment is recorded toward the final grade in this course. You only need to submit the assignment in Aplia. Once the due date is past I will pull your grade from Aplia and enter it into the Canvas gradebook.
- **Explorations:** Explorations are short answer assignments done in a group discussion format. Each exploration is worth 4 points. Explorations are graded using a scoring rubric.
- **Applications:** To encourage critical thinking, students will be asked to apply microeconomic theory to real world issues through: analysis of newspaper articles or guided inquiries through websites, articles, or films.
- **Getting Started Module:** There are several simple assignments due the first week of class. These assignments are intended to ensure that students have the skills and information necessary to be successful in this course. You will not be able to access any other course content until you have completed the Getting Started module.
- **Paper:** Students are required to submit a rough draft of a paper after Module 6 and a final draft during Module 9. Papers are not

to exceed 5 double space typed pages. Papers are graded using a scoring rubric.

- **Discussions:** Students will engage in multiple discussions throughout the quarter. Students are expected to contribute to these discussions in a timely and meaningful way. Discussions are graded using a scoring rubric.

Points and weights

Each assignment has a point score assigned to it. The total grade for the course is computed using percentages for each grade group and not based on the raw score.

Extra credit

Students may earn extra credit by submitting course evaluations online at the end of the quarter. More information about this is provided in the module stream. This is the only extra credit available for this course.

Deadlines

All assignments for this course will be due either on Thursdays or Sundays at 11 pm. It is the student's responsibility to plan his/her week in order to meet deadlines. With the exception of the midterm, final exam and the paper, students are allowed 3 late assignments as long as those assignments are submitted within 3 days of the original due date.

Feedback

I provide feedback on all assignment types. You'll find comments in many places: the assignment itself, in scoring rubrics, and in the comments section of grades.

Distribution of Grades

Throughout the quarter, you will be able to see your total points in Canvas. Be sure to check grades often and notify me of any potential discrepancies during the week the grade is posted. End-of-quarter grades will not be posted in Canvas, in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

| Highest | Lowest | Letter Grade |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 100.00% | 93.00% | A |
| 92.99% | 90.00% | A- |
| 89.99% | 87.00% | B+ |
| 86.99% | 83.00% | B |
| 82.99% | 80.00% | B- |
| 79.99% | 77.00% | C+ |
| 76.99% | 73.00% | C |
| 72.99% | 70.00% | C- |
| 69.99% | 67.00% | D+ |
| 66.99% | 60.00% | D |
| 59.99% and below | 0% | F |

Student Code

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 Bellevue College. I will 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.” The Student Code, Policy 2050, in its entirety is located at:

http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp (Links to an external site.)

Inclusion

I am 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. I highly value our different backgrounds, abilities and interests at Bellevue College.

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) office located in B132 to establish their eligibility for accommodation. Upon receipt of the letter of accommodation from the DRC, I will meet with you to find out how your learning can best be accommodated. Please visit their website for application information and other helpful links at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc (Links to an external site.)

I strive to create online courses that do not include unnecessary barriers. If you find content that you cannot access, please let me know.

Student Success

There are many resources at Bellevue College to help students succeed. To access more information about these resources please check out: <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/resources/> (Links to an external site.)

Deadlines and important dates

Withdrawals

You may formally withdraw from this course by the end of the seventh week of the quarter to avoid receiving a letter grade at the end of the quarter.

Hardship Withdrawals

You may request that I assign the grade of “HW” (hardship withdrawal) in the event that you are not able to complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. You may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Other dates

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.

- Enrollment Calendar - <http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/deadlines/>. On this calendar you will find admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.
- College Calendar - <http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/holidays/0910.asp>. This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.

