

ECON 100 – INTRODUCTION TO BASIC ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES (#5100, 5CR)

FALL QUARTER 2014: Daily 8:30-9:20am, B104

INSTRUCTOR: Chris Hendrixson

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OFFICE HOURS: T/Th from 10:00 – 11:00 am

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

ATTENDANCE: Class attendance will be extremely important due to the large number of in-class assignments and the need to follow lectures on the economic theory days, as some material will not be conveniently available elsewhere. Over the quarter 1 point will be given for each non-assignment class day for a maximum of 24 points possible. These points will be given at the BEGINNING of class, so if you are late you will not receive them. From the 24 maximum points possible, late students will lose 1 point and those that do not attend at all will lose 2 points from their attendance score.

READING ASSIGNMENTS: The particular reading assignments for each day are listed in Canvas. As the class will follow the texts very closely and assignments will be based directly on the books it will be very important to complete any assigned reading BEFORE coming to class.

IN-CLASS GROUP ASSIGNMENTS: Over the course of the quarter there will be a large number of in-class group assignments given. These assignments will be completed during the class period and unless excused, only those attending and participating that day will receive points. Each group assignment will be worth a maximum of 4 points each. Students will be expected to have finished the assigned readings beforehand and to have thought about the assignment questions provided in Canvas before arriving to class.

THEORY QUIZZES: Over the course of the quarter 8 Quizzes will be given. Each quiz will cover the material from lecture in the previous 2 class periods. Each quiz will be worth 5 points and cannot be made up unless an appropriate excuse is given BEFORE the quiz, except in the case of extreme emergencies. Each quiz will be taken two times, once as an individual and once as part of a group. If your individual score is higher than your group's, then your individual score will be used. If your group's score is higher than the individual score, then 1/3 of the difference will be added to your individual score.

TESTS: Over the quarter a total of 4 tests will be given. Each test will cover the material from the previous two topics covered in class (8 topics total and therefore 4 tests). These tests will cover the theory provided in lectures and will ask detailed questions concerning the readings from the in-class group assignments. Tests will consist of multiple choice questions and an essay question and will be worth 15 points each.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Twenty points will be reserved for the instructor to assign based on the level of participation in the class. Participation points will be given the more active and prepared students are for the in-class group assignments, for involvement on theory lecture or quiz review days, or for coming to office hours seeking help. Showing up late to class on group assignment days or "free-riding" on the work of others during group assignments will decrease this score. If you come prepared each day, these points will be easy to receive. If you consistently are unprepared and come late, very few will be given.

GRADING

The criteria for grading are based on universal intellectual standards which apply in all college-level courses. These standards include 1) clarity, 2) accuracy, 3) precision, 4) relevance, 5) breadth, 6) depth, and 7) consistency (logic). If your work is essentially **complete and essentially accurate**, and if it exhibits the qualities listed above at least at a minimal level, it will be assigned a grade in the **C** range. This designates work which is basically **acceptable** at the college level. If your work meets these minimal criteria and, in addition, is **occasionally distinguished** with respect to one or more of the above-listed standards, it will receive a grade in the **B** range. If your work is **consistently distinguished**, it will be assigned a grade in the **A** range. You can distinguish your work in many ways: by its clarity, by its accuracy and precision, by its depth and/or breadth of understanding, by its originality, or by other evidence that you have achieved and can communicate a high level of understanding of basic economic theory. Your final course grade will be determined by the total number of points you earn. The maximum points possible for each assignment are as follows:

| Requirement: | Points Possible (of 200 Total) |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 In-Class Group Assignments | 56 Points (4 points each) |
| 2 Theory Quizzes | 40 Points (5 points each) |
| 3 Attendance | 24 Points |
| 4 Participation points | 20 Points |
| 5 Tests | 60 Points (15 points each) |

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 200 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

Topic One: Economic Trade-offs and Opportunity Cost

Topic Two: Supply and Demand

Topic Three: Labor Markets and Inequality

Topic Four: Health Care and Insurance

Topic Five: Property Rights and the Environment

Topic Six: Mortgage Crisis

Topic Seven: Fiscal Policy and the Debt

Topic Eight - Globalization

The specific readings, material, and dates will be posted in the Canvas site.

TESTS

Topics 1&2: Thurs, October 9

Topics 3&4: Tue, October 28

Topics 5&6: Friday, November 14

Topics 7&8: Wed, December 10 from 7:30-9:20am

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION Fall 2014

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 Bellevue College. 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 Bellevue College. 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 Bellevue College 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.*