

Economics 202
5 Credit Hours
Spring, 2014
M/W, 11:30-1:20 and F 11:30-12:20 p.m.
Room: A208
Instructor: Chace Stiehl
Office: A200E
Hours: M-F 8-9
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Principles of Macroeconomics

Texts:

Principles of Macroeconomics, 3rd edition, Krugman and Wells
Real World Macro, 30th edition, Dollars & Sense
Sapling Access Code

Course Outcomes:

- Acquire and critique the use of primary source statistics in assessing the health of a macroeconomy.
- Explain the relationships between economic growth, unemployment, and inflation.
- Recognize the importance of the Federal Reserve's regulatory role in money and banking.
- Evaluate the pros and cons of proposed macroeconomic stabilization policy.
- Examine factors that influence long-run growth and productivity.
- Describe how the internationalization of our economy has changed the outcomes and choices of our domestic economy.
- 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.

Grading:

Midterm #1	20%	April 28
Midterm #2	20%	May 28
Final Exam	20%	June 18
Article Analyses	15%	June 9 – in class submission
Sapling Homework	15%	Due weekly see below
Engaged Attendance	10%	See Below

Total 100%

Extra Credit Opportunity:

Throughout this course we will do three specific readings on Sustainability. All of these are required and each of these assignments will have reading prompt questions to help guide you through the material. You should show up to class with written responses to these questions to earn your participation points for the day. If you would like to add up to 10% onto one of your exam grades, then you can submit a 3 page argumentative essay on the following: Are free market institutions compatible with sustainability? Feel free to argue for either side, but be certain to address all three P's: planet, people, and profit. You may also additionally argue about the relative importance of each of the P's or their lack of importance to your vision of sustainability. As with the Article Analysis content, argument, and clarity all matter.

Grade Scale:

100-94 A, 93-90 A-, 89-87 B+, 86-83 B, 82-80 B-, 79-77 C+, 76-73 C, 72-70 C-, 69-67 D+, 66-63 D, 62-60 D-, 60<F

Exams

All exams will be essays/worked problems and multiple choice. **You will need to bring an examination book (a.k.a. blue book) and a scantron.** You can purchase both of these at the bookstore. I suggest you buy all that you need at the beginning of the quarter. **If you fail to bring a blue book you will be penalized 5% for that exam.** Make up exams will only be given for school excused absences, catastrophic accidents, profound personal tragedy, severe illness, or other extraordinary circumstances. Poor planning, being overloaded with work, or travel plans do not constitute valid reasons for make-up exams.

Article Analyses

Your article analyses should be double-spaced. Hand written work will not be accepted, except for graphs. If you need a computer, then make use of one of the machines in the computer lab. Most simply, these analyses are an opportunity for you to make connections between the course material and the real world. However, they are also intended to get you thinking about the world around you in a new way. Find a news article, journal article, blog entry, or press release (gov't or private) that is topically relevant to our class. Very briefly summarize the point of the article (one paragraph). Next, demonstrate how the article connects to as many theories, models, or concepts from the class as possible. Be specific about the connections and add depth where possible. Use graphs when possible (hand drawn are acceptable) and explain the economic reasoning. Lastly, argue for a specific course of action with regards to policy. Should we do anything about this news? If the article has a policy perspective already, then evaluate and critique it. If at all possible, extend the analysis beyond the article. Your article analysis should be **at least 2** full pages excluding graphs and figures. **Late analyses will be penalized 10% per day.**

Some general rules apply to the writing assignments. First, all of these assignments should be typed, double-spaced, using standard font sizes and margins. Second, your grade will be based in part on whether or not you have expressed yourself clearly. Spelling, grammar, and organization all matter. **Third, if you use material from**

any source, you must clearly indicate your source, and if you directly quote any material, you must clearly indicate what has been quoted (along with indicating your source). If you quote material without clearly indicating so, you will receive a 0 for the assignment. If you have plagiarized at length you will fail the class at the discretion of the instructor. If you have any questions about this, please discuss them with me. If you know that you are going to miss class on the day an assignment is due, please make some arrangement for getting the work to me before class. **Late work will be docked 10% a day. -----email submissions will be rejected.**

Connections, Policy Analysis, and Grammar/Style all matter. They are equally weighted. Please consult the **Analysis Rubric in the Files folder in Canvas** for a more in depth description of the grading. If you need help with writing skills please visit the Academic Success Center's writing lab. Please find details about the writing lab here, <http://bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing/>.

Sapling Homework

1. Go to <http://saplinglearning.com> and click "US Higher Ed" at the top right.
- 2a. If you already have a Sapling Learning account, log in then skip to step 3.
- 2b. If you do not have an account you can create one, using either of the following:
 - If you have a Facebook account, you can use it to quickly create a SaplingLearning account. Click the blue button with the Facebook symbol on it (just to the left of the username field). The form will auto-fill with information from your Facebook account (you may need to log into Facebook in the popup window first). Choose a password and timezone, accept the site policy agreement, and click "Create my new account". You can then skip to step 3
 - Otherwise, click "Create Account" on the Sapling Learning website. Supply the requested information and click "Create my new account". Check your email (and spam filter) for a message from Sapling Learning and click on the link provided in that email.
3. Find your course in the list
Bellevue College - ECON 202 - Macro – Spring 14 - STIEHL
(you may need to expand the subject and term categories) and click the link.
4. Select a payment option and follow the remaining instructions.
5. Work on the Sapling Learning training materials. The activities, videos, and information pages will familiarize you with the Sapling Learning user environment and serve as tutorials in how to answer the Sapling Learning modules. These training materials are already accessible in your Sapling Learning course.

If you have any technical problems or grading issue during sign up and throughout the term, please send an email to support@saplinglearning.com explaining the issue.

The Sapling support team is almost always better able to resolve technical issues than your instructor.

Homework will be due every Monday at 8 a.m. The sapling homework will allow you to continue to rework the problem sets until you get them correct. However, with each incorrect attempt you will lose 5% for that section of the question. You will be able to drop the two lowest homework assignments. Average students will find it very difficult to pass the course without doing these. **Late work will not be accepted. Extensions will not be granted. You should have a back up plan in place**

for any computer/internet issues you may run into. If you miss homework you will have to use it as one of your drops.

Class Participaton

Participation points will be based on random attendance checks. Students will also be expected to **arrive on time** each day. Attendance will be called at the beginning of class. I will select 11 days at random and grade your **engaged** attendance. You must not only be physically present, but also mentally engaged. If you cannot contribute to class discussion, then you may lose your points for the day. Of the 11 days I will drop one and the remainder will equal 10% of your final grade. Attendance and preparation matter to your grade!!!

Instructor Expectations

I expect students to show up to class prepared, participate in discussion, and not distract other students. If you and your personal electronics become a distraction to other students, then you will be dismissed for the day and warned. If it is a recurrent problem, then you will be referred to the Vice President of Student Services for removal from the class and any disciplinary action that office deems appropriate.

Reading Schedule:

Week 1 4/7

- Syllabus, Introduction, A. Smith
- Krug 3 – Supply and Demand
- Krug 6 – Keynes – Taming the Business Cycle and the birth of Macro

Week 2 4/14

- Krug 7 – GDP & CPI, RW 2.1 When is a recession really over, RW 2.3 GDP and its Discontents
- Krug 8 – Unemployment, RW 7.5 Badge of Ignorance, RW 7.6 How Might Blacks fare in the Jobless Recovery

Week 3 4/21

- Krug 9 - Long Run Growth, RW 1.4 The Growth Consensus Unravels
- Sustainability*-McKibben – After Growth

Week 4 4/28 Exam 4/28

- Krug 10 Savings and Investment
- RW 4.3 Financialization: a Primer, RW 3.4 The Great Recession in Black Wealth, RW 3.5 The 99%, the 1%, and Class Struggle

Week 5 5/5

- Krug 11 – Income Expenditure/Keynesian Cross
- Sustainability* – Daly – Steady State

Week 6 5/12

- Krug 12 – AD/AS
- RW 1.2 What Happened to Keynesian Economics?, RW 1.3 What's Wrong with Neoliberalism?, Canvas – Of the 1%, By the 1%, and for the 1%, RW 3.2 The Death of Horatio Alger

Week 7 5/19

- Krug 13 Fiscal Policy, Surpluses, Deficits, and Debt
- Canvas – State Budget Blues, Canvas – Tax Cut Con, RW 5.5 The Great Tax Experiment, RW 5.6 Myths and realities of Government Spending, RW 5.7 Beyond Deficit Scare-Mongering

Week 8 5/26 No Classes 5/26 -- **Exam 5/28**

- Krug 14 – Money and Banking
- RW 1.1 Inequality, Power, and Ideology, Canvas – Not too Big Enough, Inside Job-Film

Week 9 6/2

- Krug 15 – Monetary Policy, RW 6.7 We're All Minskyites Now, RW 9.4 Transforming the Fed
- Krug 16 – Phillips Curve, RW 7.2 The "Natural Rate" of Unemployment, RW 7.3 Keynes, Wage and Price "Stickiness", and Deflation

Week 10 6/9 **Critical Analysis Due 6/9**

- Krug 5 - International Trade, RW 8.1 The Gospel of Free Trade, RW 8.2 Comparative Advantage
- Sustainability* – Foster – PNW Forests

Week 11 6/16

- Krug 19 – Open Economy Macro

Final Exam 6/18 11:30-1:20 p.m.

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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 Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

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. 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 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

Disability Resource Center (DRC):

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.

The DRC office is located in the Library 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

Social Science Division Policies can be found at:

http://bellevuecollege.edu/socsci/student_policies.asp Please familiarize yourself with them.