ECON 201 MICROECONOMICS (5108 D)

Course Information:

This course provides an introduction to microeconomic theory, concepts and controversy. Topics covered will include the structure of markets, the theory of consumer choice, the theory of the firm and the role of government in the economy. We will consider these topics from multiple perspectives including both mainstream and heterodox approaches.

Economics is exciting because it is contentious. Controversy in economics stems from the discipline's moral/ethical foundations as well as its powerful political implications. A central theme of this course is exposing the ways in which economics is linked to issues of power, politics and social justice. In exploring this theme students are encouraged to critically examine both economic ideas and existing economic institutions.

Books and Materials Required:

(1) Mankiw, Gregory N., 2009. *Principles of Microeconomics* 6th Edition
(2) Supplemental readings will be posted on Canvas.
   **For assistance accessing canvas materials visit the canvas [help desk](.).

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 failure.
- 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.

Grades:

Grades will be determined on the basis of a weighted average of exams, homework, quizzes and class participation. The dates for exams, quizzes and assignments are listed below.

- Midterm Exam 1: 20%
- Midterm Exam 2: 20%
- Final Exam: 20%
- Quizzes: 15%
- Homework: 15%
- Participation: 10%

100-93 A; 92-90 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

Exams will be in-class and closed book. The format for exams will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions. The best way to prepare for exams is to keep up with the readings/homework and to attend class. **Make-up exams will not be given unless arrangements are made prior to the date of the exam.**

Quizzes

The goal of the quizzes is to help you keep on top of course material and vocabulary, and to provide you with an indication of how well you are preparing for exams. Each quiz will consist of a vocabulary section and a short answer section covering material from the lecture and reading. You will be introduced to a lot of new terminology in this course and mastering it will be crucial for your success. The lowest quiz score of the quarter will be dropped. **Make-up quizzes will not be given unless arrangements are made prior to the date of the quiz.**

Homework

Homework assignments are designed to help you keep up with course material and give you an opportunity to practice applying models, solving problems, and writing. **Late assignments will not be accepted.**

Participation

Class attendance is required. More than two unexcused absences will result in a lower grade for the course. You are expected to show up on time and prepared to actively engage in class activities and discussion groups. You are also expected to engage in professional behavior at all times. This includes listening respectfully to your peers and ensuring that you do not disrupt the classroom environment. In class, please make sure your cell phone is off and your laptop is only used for course related work. If you plan to use a laptop in class, you must sit in the front row. Inappropriate use of technology in class will result in lost participation points.

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.

College Anti-Discrimination Statement (Title IX)

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates. For further information and contacts, please consult College Anti-Discrimination Statements.

Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity

Any act of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source), and fabrication 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 Success for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct at: Student Code

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. If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact Autism Spectrum Navigators Email and phone number is on the web page. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125.   The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by Skype: the address is **DRCatBC** (NOTE: There is no @ sign...it is actually **DRCatBC**). Please visit our website at Disability Resource Center for application information into our program and other helpful links.

Accessibility

The online elements of this course are designed to be welcoming to, accessible to, and usable by everyone, including students who are English-language learners, have a variety of learning styles, have disabilities, or are new to online learning. Be sure to let me know immediately if you encounter a required element or resource in the course that is not accessible to you. Also, let me know of changes I can make to the course so that it is more welcoming to, accessible to, or usable by students who take this course in the future.

Public Safety and Emergencies

Public Safety is located in the K building and can be reached at **425-564-2400** (easy to remember because it's the only office on campus open 24 hours a day—2400). Among other things, Public Safety serves as our Parking Permits, Lost and Found, and Emergency Notification center. Please ensure you are signed up to receive alerts through our campus alerting system by registering at RAVE Alert Registration

If you work late and are uneasy about going to your car, Public Safety will escort you to your vehicle. To coordinate this, please phone ahead and let Public Safety know when and where you will need an escort. Please familiarize yourself with the emergency postings by the door of every classroom and know where to go in the event of an evacuation. Your instructor will be asked if anyone might still be in the building, so check in before you do anything else. Emergency responders will search for anyone unaccounted for.

If a major emergency occurs, please follow these three rules:

1) Take directions from those in charge of the response -We all need to be working together.

2) Do not get in your car and leave campus (unless directed to) - Doing so will clog streets and prevent emergency vehicles from entering the scene. Instead, follow directions from those in charge.

3) In an emergency, call 911 first, then Public Safety.

Please do not hesitate to call Public Safety if you have safety questions or concerns at any time. You may also visit the Public Safety web page for answers to your questions.

Course Outline:

Week (starting date)	Reading	Topics
1/4	Mankiw 2 and Appendix Resnick & Wolff	What is economics? Competing Perspectives
1/11 **Quiz 1**	Mankiw 4, 5	Supply and Demand Elasticity
1/18 (No Classes Monday) **HW 1 Due**	Mankiw 6, 7 Tucker Appendix	Government controls Efficiency
1/25 **QUIZ 2**	Mankiw 8 **EXAM 1**	Application Taxes **EXAM 1**
2/1	Mankiw 10 Tucker	Externalities Consumer Choice
2/8 (No Classes Thursday) **QUIZ 3**	Mankiw 13 Mankiw 14	Production Costs Competitive Mkts
2/15 (No Classes Monday) **QUIZ 4**	Mankiw 15 **EXAM 2**	Monopoly **EXAM2**
2/22	JS Mill Richard Smith	Stationary State Beyond Growth
2/29 **HW 2 Due**	Slavery by Another Name Coates	Race and Racism Reparations
3/7 (No classes Tuesday) **HW 3 Due**	Sweezy Marx	Class Surplus Value
3/14 **HW 4 Due**	Braverman Monthly Review	Labor Process Why Socialism?
3/21 **FINAL EXAM 3/22 11:30-1:20**	**FINAL EXAM**	**FINAL EXAM**

***** The course outline is intended to provide students with a *rough* guide to the layout of the course. The outline is *subject to change* and will almost certainly be amended as the course proceeds. Changes will be announced in class.