

# Course Syllabus

## Instructor Information

- Betsy Zahrt Geib
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- Phone: 425.564.2708
- Campus Office location:D110K
- Office Hours: M and W 11:00-12:30, T and Th 1:20-1:50, and by appointment

## Required Materials

- Mankiw, Gregory. Principles of Microeconomics, 6th ed. South-Western/Cengage Learning
- other readings/books as assigned

## Course Outcomes

- Be able to evaluate economic examples as they relate to personal incentives and voluntary exchanges, and to recognize the key concept of opportunity cost.
- Be able to set-up and identify, both graphically and in words, a competitive market model's associated components and outcomes (demand, supply, price, equilibrium) and their link to utility theory and various production decisions
- Apply the basic model's approach to factor markets
- Expand the basic model to address elements of market failures
- Be able to calculate both marginal and average values for a variety of data sets and be able to use them appropriately within decision-making evaluations of choices.
- Understand the value of the competitive market model's outcome as a benchmark for evaluating more realistic models of industrial organization and government activity.
- Recognize and apply 'economic thinking' to various policy issues and applied problems, incorporating appropriately both positive and normative elements of analysis, with measures of efficiency and equity
- In addition, students may be introduced to a subset of the following:
  - Elasticity as a measure of quantity's responsiveness to changes in prices or income
  - Coase Theorem and transaction costs as they pertain to market failures
  - Maximizing behavior and the limitations of rationality assumptions for households, firms and government agents.
- Discuss, in depth, alternative mechanisms of allocation beyond the market mechanism of the price signal

## Learning Atmosphere

It is expected that you:

- attend all class sessions
- 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;
- read and/or watch, and be prepared to discuss, class assignments as they are assigned;
- submit all assignments on time;
- ask questions and voice your opinion;
- leave cell phones in backpacks while in class.

I welcome students to discuss quiz and exam grades/grading. This is a wonderful way to improve your knowledge of the subject and build mastery.

## Modules

This course is divided into 6 modules. These modules are:

Module	Description	Content
Intro	Introduction to the Quarter	Canvas quizzes; syllabus; learning groups
1	Introduction to Microeconomics	Chapters 1, 2, 3
2	How Markets Work	Chapters 4, 5, 6
3	The Economics of the Public Sector	Chapters 10, 11, 12
4	Firm Behavior and Industrial Organization	Chapters 13, 14, 15, 16, 17*
5	The Economics of Labor Markets	Chapters 18*, 19*

\* We may or may not have time to cover these chapters.

## Grading

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

Item	Weight
Final Exam	25%

Midterm Exam	15%
Module Quizzes	15%
Daily Problems	15%
Attendance	10%
Participation	10%
Discussions/Explorations	10%

### *Items*

- **Final Exam:** The final exam for this course is cumulative and is scheduled for **Monday, 3/18/13, 9:30-11:20.**
- **Midterm Exam:** The midterm exam for this course is scheduled for **Wed, Feb. 13** and covers the material in Modules 1, 2, and 3.
- **Module Quizzes:** There will be a quiz at the conclusion of each module. The dates of these quizzes depend on the pace at which we move through the material. Quiz dates will be announced in class. Students are allowed to drop their lowest module quiz grade.
- **Daily problems:** Students will be given an in-class or out-of-class problem to attempt each class meeting. These "mini-quizzes" will be based on the material covered in the previous class meeting. Students are allowed to drop their lowest 3 daily problem sets.
- **Attendance:** Students are expected to attend every class session.
- **Participation:** The quality of student participation during in-class activities will be scored by their peers as well as by the instructor.
- **Discussions/explorations:** Throughout the quarter we will have an opportunity to discuss more deeply aspects of the course. Students are expected to read or watch the material ahead of time and come to class prepared to discuss the material in a meaningful way.

### *Points and weights*

Each assignment has a percentage score assigned to it. All assignments are worth 100 points, so each assignment, no matter how small, is worth the same as more involved assignments. The only exception to this is the scoring for attendance. Students receive 1 point for each class they attend. At the end of the quarter a % score will be computed for each student based on their attendance. This score will then be re-entered into the student's grade as a % and not a raw score.

### *Deadlines*

Each assignment has a due date. In the event that you fall below expectations, contact me immediately to set up a meeting to discuss options. Keep this in mind and make every attempt to begin assignments well before the due date. However, in the event that you miss an assignment or quiz, please know that you are allowed to drop your lowest module quiz score, your lowest 3

daily problem, and your lowest exploration/discussion score. **There is no extra credit and late work is not accepted.**

*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. End-of-quarter grades will not be posted in Canvas (total points will, but not letter grades), 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. 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](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp)

## Deadlines and important

### dates

#### *Withdrawals*

You may withdraw from this course by 1.15.13 to not have this course show up on your transcript. You may withdraw by 2.15.13 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.

## 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. If you have already established eligibility, please make me aware of your

accommodation needs in the first week of the quarter. The DRC office is located in B 132 or you can call their reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach them by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit their website for application information and other helpful links at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Jan 2</b>	Wed	<a href="#">First day of class</a> 9:30am to 11:10am
<b>Jan 4</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Class: Principles of Microeconomics</a> 9:30am to 10:55am
<b>Jan 6</b>	Sun	<a href="#">Syllabus Quiz</a> due by 11pm
<b>Jan 7</b>	Mon	<a href="#">Class: Thinking like an Economist</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 1.7.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Jan 9</b>	Wed	<a href="#">Class: Interdependence and the Gains from Trade</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 1.9.13</a> due by 9:30am <a href="#">Should LaBron James Mow his own Lawn</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Jan 11</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Class: Interdependence and the Gains from Trade</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 1.11.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Jan 14</b>	Mon	<a href="#">Pit Market Activity</a> due by 9:30am <a href="#">Module Quiz 1</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Jan 15</b>	Tue	<a href="#">Last day to officially withdraw</a> 12am
<b>Jan 16</b>	Wed	<a href="#">Class: The Market Forces of Demand and Supply</a> 9:30am to 10:55am
<b>Jan 18</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Class: Elasticity and Its Application</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 1.18.13</a> due by 9:30am <a href="#">Elasticity Activity</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Jan 21</b>	Mon	<a href="#">No Class</a> 9:30am to 10:55am
<b>Jan 23</b>	Wed	<a href="#">Class: Elasticity and Its Application</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 1.23.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Jan 25</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Class: Supply, Demand and Government Policies</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 1.25.13</a> due by 9:30am <a href="#">Rent Control Activity</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Jan 28</b>	Mon	<a href="#">Class: Consumers, Producers and the Efficiency of Markets</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Module Quiz 2</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Jan 30</b>	Wed	<a href="#">Midterm Exam</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Feb 1</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Class: Consumers, Producers and the Efficiency of Markets</a> 9:30am to 10:55am

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Details</b>
		<a href="#">Daily Question 2.1.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Feb 4</b>	Mon	<a href="#">Class: The Costs of Taxation</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 2.4.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Feb 6</b>	Wed	<a href="#">Class: International Trade</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 2.6.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Feb 8</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Class: International Trade</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Deep Economy Discussion</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Feb 11</b>	Mon	<a href="#">Class: Externalities</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Module Quiz 3</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Feb 13</b>	Wed	<a href="#">Class: Externalities</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 2.13.13</a> due by 9:30am
		<a href="#">Last day to withdraw w/a W on your transcript</a> 12am
<b>Feb 15</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Class: Public Goods</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Public Goods Activity</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Feb 18</b>	Mon	<a href="#">No Class</a> 12am
<b>Feb 20</b>	Wed	<a href="#">Class: The Design of the Tax System</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 2.20.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Feb 22</b>	Fri	<a href="#">The Great Tax Shift Discussion</a> due by 9:30am <a href="#">Module Quiz 4</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Feb 25</b>	Mon	<a href="#">Class: Costs of Production</a> 9:30am to 10:55am
<b>Feb 27</b>	Wed	<a href="#">Costs of Production Activity</a> due by 9:30am <a href="#">Daily Problem 2.27.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Mar 1</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Activity: Costs of Production</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 3.1.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Mar 4</b>	Mon	<a href="#">Class: Perfect Competition</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 3.4.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Mar 6</b>	Wed	<a href="#">Class: Perfect Competition</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 3.6.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Mar 8</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Class: Monopoly</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 3.8.13</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Mar 11</b>	Mon	<a href="#">Class: Monopolistic Competition</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Daily Question 3.11.13</a> due by 9:30am

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Mar 13</b>	Wed	<a href="#">Class: Oligopoly</a> 9:30am to 10:55am <a href="#">Prisoner's Dilemma Activity</a> due by 9:30am
<b>Mar 15</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Class: Oligopoly</a> 9:30am to 10:55am
<b>Mar 18</b>	Mon	<a href="#">Final Exam</a> due by 11:59pm
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 1</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 10</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 11</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 2</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 3</a>
	Other	<a href="#">Attendance Week 4</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 5</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 6</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 7</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 8</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 9</a>