

# Course Syllabus

## Instructor Information

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

## Required Materials

- Krugman and Wells, "Macroeconomics," 2<sup>nd</sup> edition.
- Sapling online learning system

## Course Outcomes

After completing this class, students should be able to:

- Correctly identify reliable sources and be able to calculate the primary summary statistics used to evaluate macroeconomic performance: real GDP, unemployment rates, inflation measures, labor productivity, money measures, interest rates, and the federal budget position. Have the ability to read and interpret the reasonableness of these data as presented in charts and tables.
- Understand the key components (consumption, investment, government expenditures and net trade) of GDP for an open, mixed economy and how these relate to the flow of resources, national income and goods through an economy.
- Identify and describe the processes a central bank uses to implement monetary policies
- Identify and describe the components of fiscal policy as enacted by the federal government
- Evaluate policies, within different time horizons, for their influence on business cycles, long-run growth, productivity and for various responses to external shocks to the economic system (growth and stability)
- Understand how the internationalization of our economy has changed the outcomes and choices of our domestic economy (including exchange rates, trade in goods and factors)
- In addition, students may be asked to:
  1. Explain the evolution of US capitalism from the Great Depression to the present and identify the major events that contributed to shifts in economic policy.
  2. Understand the role of expectations, risk and uncertainty in modifying outcomes of actions, especially with respect to consumption and tax policies
  3. Understand the short-term trade-offs of Phillips curve, Okun's and Gresham's Laws, and Taylor Rule
  4. Recognize the competing macro theories and models
  5. Understand a comparison of summary statistics with other countries' performance

6. Discuss how such measures, outcomes, and policies would be adjusted for lesser-developed countries

## **Learning Atmosphere**

It is expected that you:

- attend all class sessions
- check-in online several times per week; (i.e., don't try to do all assignments due each week in a single sitting);
- 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;
- contact Sapling Learning when you have technical questions with their product;
- 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;
- post or submit all assignments on time;
- ask questions and voice your opinion.

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 8 learning modules based on broad themes in macroeconomics. Except for the introductory module, each module can include information from 1 to 3 or more textbook chapters and other activities. These modules are intended to be completed sequentially, so you may not start a later module until you have completed an earlier one. Each module includes a brief overview, chapter by chapter lectures and practice self quizzes, graded assignments, and discussions.

The modules are:

- Getting Ready for the Quarter
- Introduction to Macroeconomics
- Long-run Growth
- Short-run Fluctuations and Income-Expenditure Model
- Fiscal Policy
- Banking and Monetary Policy
- Events and Ideas
- Open Economy Macro

## **Grading**

Item	Weight
Participation	5%
Daily Questions	5%
Attendance	5%
Module Quizzes	10%
Final Exam	25%
Midterm Exam	15%
Graded Chapter Problem Sets	10%
Explorations and Discussions	15%
Field Trip	10%

### *Item descriptions*

- The **final exam** is cumulative and is scheduled for **Tuesday, 3/19/12 11:30-1:20**.
- The **midterm exam** covers Chapters 6-10 The midterm is schedule for **Thursday, Feb. 7th**.
- **Graded problem sets** are found in the supplemental learning management tool, called **Sapling Learning**. You will need to log into that site and complete these problem sets there. You will be locked out of each assignment after the due date, so be sure to submit your answers before that time. If you have any technical or grade issue within this system, please contact their help desk as they will be able to resolve the issues for you. I will transfer grades from Sapling Learning into Canvas on a weekly basis. You are allowed to drop your lowest 2 graded problem set scores.
- **Graded quizzes** are scheduled throughout the quarter at the end of each module. You are allowed to drop your 1 lowest quiz score.
- **Daily problems** are "mini-quizzes" that will be given each class meeting. You are allowed to drop your 2 lowest daily problem scores.
- **Discussions and explorations** allow us to think more deeply about the theory we are presented in the textbook. You are allowed to drop your lowest discussion score.
  - Discussions: I will assign students to different discussion groups and your posts will go to this smaller group. For most discussions, you are responsible for making an original post and then following up by responding to at least two other students' posts. Students will post responses to either a reading or a video I have assigned. Student scores for discussions are based on the scoring rubric associated with the discussion.
  - Explorations: From time to time I will have you visit websites related to the material we are studying in class. After viewing the sites there will be a short exploration quiz.
- Each student will attend a virtual **field trip** towards the end of the semester. You will be able to choose from 3 options. After watching a contemporary economists present online, students will write a short paper following the rubric guidelines.

### *Points and weights*

Each assignment has a point score assigned to it. Scores for these assignments will be converted from total points to a percentage grade based on the total points earned by the student. This % score, not the point score, is used in the calculation of final grades. For example, if an assignment is worth 20 points and a student earns 17 out of 20 points, the student will receive a score of 85% for that assignment. In this way, assignments worth 10 points and assignments worth 30 points have the same weight in the final grade. Please keep this in mind and treat assignments worth 5 points with equal in importance to assignments worth 50 points.

### *Deadlines*

Each assignment has a due date. For simplicity, you have until 11 pm on the due date to turn in the assignment. 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 quiz score, your lowest 2 graded assignment scores, and your lowest exploration/discussion score. **There is no extra credit and late work is not accepted.**

### *Scoring Rubrics*

The discussions and field trip report have scoring rubrics associated with them. Please read through the rubric before submitting your work so you are aware of how you will be assessed on each assignment.

### *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 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.

## 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 3</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Start Modules 1 and 2</a> 12am
		<a href="#">Class: Introduction and Ch. 6</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">Module 1 closes</a> 12pm
		<a href="#">Module 1: Canvas Quiz</a> due by 11pm
<b>Jan 6</b>	Sun	<a href="#">Module 1: Learning the Tools of Sapling</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">Module 1: Personal Introductions</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">Module 1: Syllabus Quiz</a> due by 11pm
<b>Jan 10</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 7</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">Daily Questions 1.10.13</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Jan 13</b>	Sun	<a href="#">Module 2 discussion opens</a> 12am
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 6 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
<b>Jan 15</b>	Tue	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 8</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">In class unemployment activity</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Jan 17</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 8</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">Daily Questions 1.17.13</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 7 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">online Module 2 Discussion: The Great Depression Video</a> due by 11pm
<b>Jan 20</b>	Sun	<a href="#">Module 2 discussion closes</a> 11pm
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 8 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
<b>Jan 22</b>	Tue	<a href="#">Start Module 3</a> 12am
		<a href="#">Class: Chapter 9</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">Daily Question 2.22.13</a> due by 11:30am

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Details</b>
		<a href="#">In class production activity</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">End Module 2</a> 1:20pm
<b>Jan 24</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 9</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">Daily Question 1.24.13</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">Module 2 Quiz</a> due by 11:30am
<b>Jan 27</b>	Sun	<a href="#">Module 3 discussion opens</a> 12am
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 9 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
<b>Jan 29</b>	Tue	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 10</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
<b>Jan 31</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 10</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">online Module 3 Discussion: Deep Economy</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">Daily Questions 1.31.13</a> due by 11:59pm
		<a href="#">Module 4 opens</a> 12am
<b>Feb 3</b>	Sun	<a href="#">Module 3 discussion closes</a> 11pm
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 10 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">In class MPC activity</a> due by 11:30am
<b>Feb 5</b>	Tue	<a href="#">Module 3 Quiz</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">Module 3 closes</a> 11pm
<b>Feb 7</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 11</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">In class Midterm Exam</a> due by 11:30am
<b>Feb 12</b>	Tue	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 11</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">Daily Questions 2.7.13</a> due by 11:59pm
<b>Feb 14</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 12</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">Daily questions 2.14.13</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 11 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
<b>Feb 15</b>	Fri	<a href="#">Last day to withdraw with a W</a> 12am
<b>Feb 17</b>	Sun	<a href="#">Module 5 discussion opens</a> 12am
		<a href="#">Module 5 opens</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
<b>Feb 19</b>	Tue	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 12</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">Daily Question 2.19.13</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 12 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
<b>Feb 21</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 13</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">Module 4 quiz</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">Module 4 Closes</a> 11pm

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Details</b>
		<a href="#">online Module 5 Discussion: The Great Tax Shift</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">Module 6 discussion opens</a> 12am
		<a href="#">Module 6 opens</a> 12am
<b>Feb 24</b>	Sun	<a href="#">Module 5 closes</a> 11pm
		<a href="#">Module 5 discussion closes</a> 11pm
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 13 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
<b>Feb 26</b>	Tue	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 14</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">In class banking activity</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">Class: Chapter 14</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
<b>Feb 28</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Daily Questions 2.28.13</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">online Module 6 Discussion: The Crisis of Credit</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">Field Trip Check-in</a> due by 11pm
<b>Mar 3</b>	Sun	<a href="#">Module 6 discussion closes</a> 11pm
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 14 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
<b>Mar 5</b>	Tue	<a href="#">Class: Chapter 15</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
		<a href="#">Class: Chapter 16</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
<b>Mar 7</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Daily Questions 3.7.13</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 15 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">Module 8 begins</a> 12am
<b>Mar 10</b>	Sun	<a href="#">Field Trip Report</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 16 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">Class: Chapter 18</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
<b>Mar 12</b>	Tue	<a href="#">Module 6 closes</a> 11pm
		<a href="#">Module 6 quiz</a> due by 11:59pm
		<a href="#">Class: Chapter 18</a> 11:30am to 1:20pm
<b>Mar 14</b>	Thu	<a href="#">Daily Questions 3.21.13</a> due by 11:30am
		<a href="#">Online evaluations</a> due by 11pm
		<a href="#">Sapling Ch. 18 Graded Problems</a> due by 11pm
<b>Mar 19</b>	Tue	<a href="#">In class final exam</a> due by 11:59pm
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 7</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 1</a>
Other		<a href="#">Attendance Week 10</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 11</a>
		<a href="#">Attendance Week 2</a>

**Date**

**Day**

**Details**

[Attendance Week 3](#)

[Attendance Week 4](#)

[Attendance Week 5](#)

[Attendance Week 6](#)

[Attendance Week 8](#)

[Attendance Week 9](#)