

Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

- Betsy Zahrt Geib
- E-mail: elizabeth.zahrtgeib@bellevuecollege.edu
- Phone: 425.564.2708
- Campus Office location:D210
- Virtual Office Hours: by appointment

Required Materials

- Krugman and Wells, "Macroeconomics," 2nd 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

Online Learning Atmosphere

It is expected that you:

- 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 via email. 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

Pace

This is not a self-paced course. There will be a richness in our discussions when students are working on the same material at the same time. Please pay attention to due dates on assignments,

explorations and discussions as this will be your key to staying current on the material and being in sync with other students. If/when you feel lost, please contact me immediately.

It is recommended that you read the textbook and watch the video lectures for each section before attempting graded assignments.

Grading

Item	Weight in total grade
Final Exam	25%
Midterm Exam	15%
Graded Problem Sets	10%
Graded Quizzes	15%
Practice Self Quizzes	10%
Discussions and explorations	15%
Field Trip	10%
TOTAL	100%

Item descriptions

- The **final exam** is cumulative and timed and will be available in Canvas between 12:01 am-11:59 pm on **Sunday, March 17th**.
- The **midterm exam** covers Chapters 6-12 and is timed. The midterm will be available in Canvas between 12:10 am-11:59 pm on **Wednesday, Feb. 13th**.
- **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 get to drop your two lowest graded problem set scores.
- **Graded quizzes** are in Canvas and will be available for 24 hours on the due date. These are timed quizzes, so once you start the quiz you will have only some much time to complete it. The time allowed for each quiz will be announced ahead of time. You are allowed to drop your lowest graded quiz score.
- **Discussions and explorations** allow us to think more deeply about the theory we are presented in the textbook.
 - 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.
- **Practice self quizzes** are very short quizzes and accompany each subsection of the textbook. These "bite-size" assessments allow you to focus on the main learning objective of each section. These quizzes are not scored but account for a portion of your final grade. You will earn points simply by attempting each quiz so that the total points for the quarter is 100.
- 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 economist 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. I recognize that we all have lives outside of school, and that on occasion things come up. 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

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

Date	Day	Details
Jan 2	Wed	First Day of the Quarter 12am Module 1: Canvas Quiz due by 11pm
Jan 6	Sun	Module 1: Learning the Tools of Sapling due by 11pm Module 1: Personal Introductions due by 11pm Module 1: Syllabus Quiz due by 11pm
Jan 8	Tue	Last date to withdraw with full refund 12am
Jan 13	Sun	Chapter 6 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm Chapter 6 Self Quizzes due by 11pm
Jan 15	Tue	Last date to withdraw without a W on your transcript 12am
Jan 17	Thu	Chapter 7 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm Chapter 7 Self Quizzes due by 11pm

Date	Day	Details
		Module 2 Discussion: The Great Depression Video due by 11pm
		End: Module 2 Discussion 12am
Jan 20	Sun	Chapter 8 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm
		Chapter 8 Self Quizzes due by 11pm
		Module 2 Exploration: Unemployment Insurance due by 11pm
Jan 21	Mon	Last date to withdraw with a 50% refund 12am
		No Classes on Campus 12am
Jan 24	Thu	Chapter 9 Self Quizzes due by 11pm
		Module 2 Quiz (Chapters 6, 7, 8) due by 11:59pm
Jan 27	Sun	Chapter 9 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm
		Chapter 10 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm
Jan 31	Thu	Chapter 10 Self Quizzes due by 11pm
		Module 3 Discussion: Deep Economy due by 11pm
Feb 3	Sun	End: Module 3 Discussion 12am
		Module 3 Quiz (Chapters 10,11) due by 11:59pm
Feb 7	Thu	Chapter 11 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm
		Chapter 11 Self Quizzes due by 11pm
Feb 10	Sun	Chapter 12 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm
		Chapter 12 Self Quizzes due by 11pm
Feb 13	Wed	Midterm due by 11:59pm
		Last date to withdraw with a a W on your transcript 12am
Feb 17	Sun	Chapter 13 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm
		Chapter 13 Self Quizzes due by 11pm
		Module 4 Discussion: The Great Tax Shift due by 11pm
Feb 18	Mon	No Classes on Campus 12am
		End: Module 4 Discussion 12am
Feb 21	Thu	Chapter 14 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm
		Chapter 14 Self Quizzes due by 11pm
Feb 24	Sun	Chapter 15 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm
		Chapter 15 Self Quizzes due by 11pm
		Chapter 16 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm
Feb 28	Thu	Chapter 16 Self Quizzes due by 11pm
		Module 6 Discussion: The Strength of Monetary Policy due by 11pm

Date	Day	Details
Mar 3	Sun	End: Module 6 Discussion 12am Field Trip Check-in due by 11pm
Mar 7	Thu	Chapter 17 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm Chapter 17 Self Quizzes due by 11pm Module 8 Discussion: The Crisis of Credit due by 11pm
Mar 10	Sun	End: Module 8 Discussion 12am Field Trip Report due by 11pm
Mar 14	Thu	Chapter 18 Graded Problems (Sapling) due by 11pm Chapter 18 Self Quizzes due by 11pm Online evaluations due by 11pm
Mar 17	Sun	Final Exam due by 11:59pm
Mar 20	Wed	Last Day of the Quarter