

ECON& 201: Microeconomics

Fall 2009, Section A

Meets: Daily 7:30 – 8:20 AM, Room C208

Instructor: Chuck Curry

Office Hours: 9:30 – 10:20 AM, M, T, W, & Th, Room D110H

Email: ccurry@bellevuecollege.edu

Textbook: *Principles of Microeconomics, 5th Edition*, by N. Gregory Mankiw. The text is available as a digital book that is bundled with Aplia—an online learning tool that we will use for many of the graded problem sets. You may also purchase, if you choose, a hard copy of the text from Aplia or another source. However, you must register with Aplia in order to complete the online homework assignments for the course. Instructions for registering online with Aplia are posted at our MyBC Class Site.

Course Goals: Microeconomics is the study of the decision-making behavior of households and firms and their interaction in markets. The goal of this course is to introduce you to the basic tools of economic theory and the use of these tools in analyzing real-world issues and problems—what is often called “the economic way of thinking.” We’ll focus on the allocation of resources through competitive markets, prices, and government intervention. We’ll use the tools of economic analysis to examine issues including taxes, trade, monopoly power, and income inequality.

Recommended: 30 prior college credits.

Schedule:

Week 1

Sept. 21st - 25th *Principles of Economics*, Ch. 1, pp. 3-12.
 Thinking Like an Economist, Ch. 2

Week 2

Sept. 28th - Oct. 2nd *Interdependence and the Gains from Trade*, Ch. 3

Week 3

Oct. 5th - 9th *The Market Forces of Supply and Demand*, Ch. 4
No Class Monday, 10/5: College Issues Day

Week 4

Oct. 12th - 16th *Elasticity and Its Application*, Ch. 5
 Supply, Demand, and Government Policies, Ch. 6

Week 5

Oct. 19th – 23rd *Consumers, Producers, and the Efficiency of Markets*, Ch. 7
 Applications of the Tools of Welfare Economics, Ch. 8 & 9

Week 6

Oct. 26th - 30th ***Midterm Exam: Monday, 10/26**
Externalities, Ch. 10
Public Goods and Common Resources, Ch. 11

Week 7

Nov. 2nd – 6th *Earnings and Discrimination*, Chapter 19
Income Inequality and Poverty, Chapter 20

Week 8

Nov. 9th – 13th *The Costs of Production*, Ch. 13
Firms in Competitive Markets, Ch. 14
No Class Weds. 11/11: Veterans' Day

Week 9

Nov. 16th – 20th *Firms in Competitive Markets*, Ch. 14 (*cont.*)
Monopoly, Ch. 15

Week 10

Nov. 23rd – 27th *Monopolistic Competition*, Ch. 16
No Class 11/26 & 27: Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 11

Nov. 30th – Dec. 4th *Oligopoly*, Ch. 17

Monday, December 7th FINAL EXAM: 7:30—9:20 AM, Room C208

This schedule, other than the midterm and final exam dates, is subject to change.

Grading: Your grade will be based on homework assignments, quizzes, a midterm exam and a final exam.

Homework:

Aplia. There will be graded Aplia homework assignments due each week, typically one assignment for each chapter that we cover. The first Aplia assignment will familiarize you with completing these online problem sets. To earn credit for the graded problem sets, they must be completed by the due date and time. Each week's due dates and times are posted in Aplia's *Course Outline*. Before the due date/time, you may make multiple attempts on the Aplia problem sets and only your highest scoring attempt will count. After each assignment's due date/time, you will be able to review the answers for that problem set but you will not be able to submit answers for credit. A total of 50 points will be awarded based on the percentage of the problems you answered correctly from all the Aplia assignments (e.g., if you answer 90% of the Aplia questions correctly, you will earn 45 points).

Problems and Applications. There will also be ten written homework assignments, generally taken from the end-of-chapter *Problems and Applications*. These assignments

will be submitted in class (or electronically). Each assignment will be worth 5 points, for a total of 50 points.

A word to the wise: Diligently working through all the problem sets is, for most students, the best way to learn the challenging material of this course.

Quizzes: There will be 6 quizzes worth 20 points each. I will drop your lowest quiz score when calculating your grade, so the total number of points possible from the quizzes is 100.

Exams: There will be one midterm exam worth 75 points and one comprehensive final exam worth 125 points.

The total number of points possible for the course is 400. Your final letter grade will be based on the percentage of possible points you have earned and assigned as follows:

<u>% of Points Earned</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
94-100	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
60-66	D
< 60	F

Classroom Learning Atmosphere:

I expect you to attend class, ask questions, participate in discussions, and keep up-to-date with the week's readings and homework assignments. Though I don't require (and no part of your grade is explicitly based on) attendance, you are responsible for all material covered and all announcements made during class. Written homework is due at the beginning of class on the due date. Aplia problem sets are due at the date/time listed in the *Aplia Course Outline*. There are **no make-ups** for missed quizzes. Make-up or early exams will be given **only** for **documented emergencies and/or instructor-approved absences**. Extra credit opportunities will be offered occasionally **during** the quarter; no extra credit opportunities will be made available at the end of the quarter.

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.

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

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

Important Links:

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to: <https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam>.

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Computing Services website](#).

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 B 132 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

The Bellevue College (BC) Public Safety Department’s well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop

resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements and critical information in the event of an emergency. Public Safety is located in K100 and on the web at: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>

The final exam schedule is posted here:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/classes/exams>

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/fall09.asp> . 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.

Information about Bellevue Colleges copyright guidelines can be found at:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/links/copyright.html>

A good resource for Plagiarism is the Writing Lab:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/Plagiarism.html>

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Revised Winter 2009

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

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 Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue Community College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the [Disability Resource Centre](#) (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with [Disability Resource Centre](#), and review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted 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.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the

student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*