

Bellevue Community College
Econ & 202: Macroeconomics (formerly Econ200)
Winter 2009
5243D @11:30-12:20pm in Room L218
Instructor: Humaira Jackson

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Office: D200B	Available office hrs: M-F 12:30-1:30pm
Also in A265: Economics Study Hall	by request and on exam weeks

Scope of Macroeconomics:

Macroeconomists study the economy as a whole.

Why do recessions and booms occur? What are the sources of economic growth and why are some nations more prosperous than others? What makes a country rich? Does a higher average per capita income mean that everyone is better off? What are ways the government can affect outcomes of low unemployment, stable prices and continuous economic growth? How important is our relationship with other nations? Why are we currently in a global economic downturn and how long will it last? How does money, banking and credit play a crucial role? Should we be concerned about budget and trade deficits and if so why? We will be examining these questions among others in the course of the quarter. Also, this quarter, we will take a particular look at the role of the China in the global economy. This will contrast with our main focus which is the U.S. economy.

Method of Economics:

Economists like to use mathematical models and graphical tools to understand the workings of the economy. In this course, you will be introduced to or review models such as the production possibilities frontier and demand and supply models. In addition you will be introduced to some new models mainly the Aggregate Demand/Aggregate Supply and growth models used to look at macroeconomic problems and potential solutions.

Economics Department Learning outcomes:

All sections of macroeconomics at BCC have the following goals: By the end of the quarter, students will be able to do the following:

- 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)
- A comparison of summary statistics with other countries' performance
- A discussion of how such measures, outcomes, and policies would be adjusted for lesser-developed countries

Prerequisites:

Students are expected to have 30 prior college credits before taking Macroeconomics. Economics requires both writing and critical thinking skills. Students will be practicing both quantitative (graphing and mathematical) along with their reading/writing analytical skills. In the first week of the quarter, students will self-assess their math skills using our Aplia homework tools.

Required Readings:

Textbook: *Macroeconomics* by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells

Online textbook bundled with Aplia assignments

Begin: 01.05.09 End: 03.31.09

Fee: \$70.00 USD

Grace Period: ends at the end of the day on 01.25.09. You will be able to access the textbook readings and homework assignments starting the first day of the quarter. Students must purchase the Aplia/textbook combination to be successful in the course. This subscriptions are individual and homework assignments count for 20% of students' overall course grade.

Textbook: Macroeconomics by Paul Krugman and Robin Wells

Bookstore Options: none available in bookstore

Course Key: RNZC-JXBS-6XKF

For those students who would like to have a paper copy of the textbook, one is available for an additional \$50 through the Aplia website. In this case total cost will be \$120 rather than \$70.

Instructor's materials (includes article links, lecture notes, assignments etc...)

www.mybcc.net You will be able to see our class listed. If you click on the link to the class you will see the files I have uploaded.

Useful Website: Amos Web Glossarama for economic terminologies and concept checking tests <http://www.amosweb.com/gls/>

Students will use the BCC library periodical database *ProQuest*. The database is available off campus as well to everyone student registered in a BCC class.

This class is *not intended* to be simply a review of a given textbook. We are constructing our own investigation into understanding the basic ideas in macroeconomics. We will draw on the material from the text, but also on the instructor's experience, current examples from the various newspapers and magazines, and information provided by students.

Email Address: This is how I will normally communicate with students outside of campus. It is assumed that any email address you provide will be checked regularly and is private. When sending me an email, you should use the following convention in the subject line: the course you are enrolled, your first initial last name subject of your email for eg)

Econ200B_JDoe_question, This way I can organize your emails for the duration of the quarter and you will get the appropriate points for submission.

Attendance:

Participation in class is a significant component towards success in the course. Our daily class meetings are not meant to be just a review of the assigned readings but an opportunity for you to test out your understanding and practice what you are learning. I will take attendance at the beginning so I can get to know students' names quickly. I will also be giving short assignments in class that will count for points throughout the quarter. The class assignments are to encourage both individual and peer to peer learning. If you are not there, the whole class will miss your contribution to our learning community. Please let me know if you have any conflicts that will require you to miss class anytime during the quarter. If you know that you will be missing more than 20% of our class meetings, please consider withdrawing from the class.

Schedule

Week 1 1/5/09	Introduction of site/text Demand/Supply	Chapters 1-4
Week 2 1/12	Cont'd	
Week 3 1/20 no classes on 1/19 First paper due (Fri. Jan. 23rd)	Big Picture, Tracking the economy and Long Run	Chapter 6-10
Week 4 1/26 First Test (Fri. Jan. 30th)	Cont'd	
Week 5 2/2	Cont'd + Intro to Short Run	
Week 6 2/9	Cont'd + Intro to Short Run	
Week 7 2nd Paper (Fri, Feb. 20th) 2/16	Aggregate Demand/ Aggregate Supply- Short Run Macroeconomic Decisions	Chapter 12-14

Week 8 2 nd Test (Fri, Feb. 27 th) 2/23	Cont'd	
Week 9 3/2	International Macroeconomy	Chapter 18-19
Week 10 3/9	Cont'd +Article Journal seminars	
Week 11 3/16-3/18	Wrap up and review	
FINALS PERIOD 3/19-3/23	FINAL EXAM (cumulative)	Friday March 20 th , 9:30- 11:20 am

Notes:

-Other dates to remember January 16th is the 10th day of the quarter. January 19th and February 16th are holidays.

-This syllabus was constructed as a tentative plan for how the course will proceed. A number of conditions and circumstances may arise which can alter the topics, schedule, activities, materials, etc. The faculty member reserves the option to make any changes as she deems necessary. Please make sure that you keep your own calendar of upcoming due dates. We can have dynamic changes to the course syllabus.

Grading Scheme

Mid term Exams (2 @ 100pts)	200 pts
Aplia Homework Assignments*	200 pts
Class Assignments	100 pts
Short Analysis Papers (2@100pts)	200 pts
Final Exam	200 pts
Article Journal + summary paper	100 pts
Total	1,000 pts

*at the end of the quarter your lowest three Aplia scores will be dropped from your grade.

Mid term Exams: There will be two quizzes during our 50 minute class meetings to assess student's work/understanding. These exams will be closed notes/books.

Aplia Homework Assignments:

These will be required throughout the quarter as homework. Aplia is meant to be used as a way to get some practice problem solving and applying the concepts in your textbooks. There will be approximately 1 graded and 1 practice assignment per week (one per chapter). There will be one assignment at the beginning of the quarter which is a math review. This will help you refresh your mathematical knowledge or give you an indication of what you need to review. I will be available to work with students helping them to get "ramped up" especially in the first two weeks of the quarter. At the end of the quarter, I will drop your lowest three or non-completed assignments from your grade and then compute the % based on the number of questions you got right out of possible scores. Then your percentage will be converted to points (out of 200). Please see Instructions for Aplia at the end of the syllabus.

Class Assignments: Twice a week (except on test weeks), we will be doing in class work (in groups). I will take these in for grades. If you are not present for in class work, your classmates do not benefit from your participation therefore missed class assignments cannot be made up. Students get a “free pass” for one missed class assignment. Class work will generally be on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Short Analysis Papers: There will be two during the quarter. There will be a question for the students to analyze. I will give students at least one week’s notice for the paper assignment. These papers will be submitted as word-processed double spaced documents of between 600-750 words each (approximately typed pages)

Article Journal + Summary Paper

Students will be collecting one article per week from a reputable news source pertaining to the topics we are discussing in class that week. You should keep your article reference and short reflection (one paragraph) for the duration of the quarter. These articles will be kept in a lightweight folder for the duration of the quarter. I will be collecting these twice during the quarter. At the end of the quarter, students will write a short summary reflection paper on what they have learned from their collection.

Missed Class Policy: If you do miss a class, you are responsible for the material covered. I appreciate an email letting me know that you will be missing class but please share contact information with another student in class to get missing notes or announcements.

Extra Credit Assignments: There are many opportunities throughout the quarter for earning points. For this reason, I don’t generally give extra credit assignments or make ups for missed or low score tests or assignments. However, if there are campus lectures/events that are relevant to our course, I will give small incentives for students who attend if the events are outside of class time. At the end of the quarter I will assess the quality of your completed and submitted work throughout the quarter. If I see improvements in understanding of material and you have taken advantage of all the resources available to you (my office hours, study hall meetings and regular class attendance and participation), I will factor these into your final grade.

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION
Revised Spring 2008

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 Community 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 BCC 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 BCC 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 Community 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*