



Bellevue College Logo 1



photo of Humaira Jackson

Econ 201 Microeconomics
Economics Department, Social Science Division
T/TH 10:30 to 12:20, F 11:30-12:20pm in A208
Winter 2019 Syllabus

Important: contact and login information

Instructor: Humaira Jackson Phone: (425) 564-5192

Email: hjackson@bellevuecollege.edu

Office hours: T/TH 9:30-10:30 and Friday by appointment

A tower offices, 2nd floor A200A

Communication with the Instructor:

Welcome to our class! I encourage students to read the syllabus carefully and clarify any questions you may have as early as possible. A successful quarter starts and ends with good communication. I recommend that you print a copy of this syllabus and keep it handy for the duration of the quarter.

Scope & Method of Economics

Scope of Microeconomics: In Microeconomics, we will examine individual markets, consumer and producer decision making. For example, what factors make the price of gasoline fluctuate so much? If we are in a recession, how does that affect demand for a particular worker, say in construction or real estate? How do wages get determined and what factors cause differentials in pay and compensation? What about tastes and preferences? Is economics all about increasing our material well-being or do we derive benefits from better social programs for others in health and education along with a more sustainable physical environment? Your Micro textbook by McConnell/Brue/Flynn gives you a foundation based on Neo-Classical economic theory. Throughout the quarter, you will have access to readings and video which address the shortcomings of the traditional theories and gives students a contrasting view. Your aim should be to effectively understand and think critically by evaluating the arguments made by both sides.

Method of Microeconomics: 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. The demand and supply graphical model will be used throughout the quarter, along with equations to show the relationship between variables that impact the markets we are studying.

Learning outcomes

After completing this class, students should be able to:

1. Apply the theory of rational choice to explain individual behavior.
2. Explain how markets allocate, produce, and distribute society's resources.
3. Predict how government intervention impacts market outcomes.
4. Critique market outcomes and government policies using concepts of efficiency and equity.
5. Explain firm behavior under various degrees of competition
6. Extend the market framework to analyze market failures.
7. Critically analyze the positive and negative impacts of markets as they relate to social justice and environmental issues.
8. Represent and understand economic concepts and outcomes in numerical and graphical form.

Grading

| Assessment | % of overall grade | Points |
|--|--------------------|--------|
| Exams (5 X 50 points) Lowest score dropped | 40% | 200 |
| Analysis Paper | 20% | 100 |
| Class discussions/assignments | 10% | 50 |
| Homework Problems | 10% | 50 |
| Final Exam | 20% | 100 |
| Total | 100% | 500 |

Quizzes:

There will be a quiz at the end of each topic (about every two weeks). Your lowest score or non-completed quiz (1/5) will be dropped from your score

Analysis Paper:

An analysis paper (5-6 pages) will allow you to analyze a particular economic problem and combine your textbook knowledge of concepts and economic vocabulary. Late papers carry a letter grade deduction per day. Your paper will generally not be accepted after two days. Papers must be submitted by the due date/time for full credit. APA citation style is use

Class Discussions/Assignments:

Practice:

For every week, there will be some assigned problems which will be graded for completion. These problems are from the back of the chapter readings. The homework assigned counts towards your grade and you are expected to submit on CANVAS and/or come prepared to discuss when due.

I will take attendance at the beginning of our class meetings. Each class meeting is essential to your learning and that of your class community. If you are not present at the time attendance is called, you will be marked absent and 2% will be deducted from your final grade. I will excuse 1 late arrival, as long as it is within 15 minutes of class start time. After that, late arrivals (within 30 minutes) will result in a loss of 1% of your final grade. Late arrivals after 30 minutes will count as absences. An excused absence such as a death in the family/hospitalization will be evaluated on a case by case basis. If you are absent for 3 or more classes during the quarter, you will miss enough that you will likely not be successful in the course.

There will be ample time in class for discussions/group work/problem solving. You are expected to come to class with your hard or digital copy of your textbook to each meeting.

Final Exam:

There will be an online final exam in this course which will require you to submit an essay that will allow me to assess the cumulative knowledge you have attained. In addition there will be multiple choice questions from anywhere in the course material. **The due date/time for the final is March 21st, 2018 at 9:30am**

Class Policies:

Participatory Attendance:

Our face to face meetings are absolutely essential. You are responsible for getting your assignments and readings completed in a timely manner so that our meetings' goals will be to enhance, collaborate and share learning (and what is still unclear) from the relevant material. Due to our time constraints, I may not be able to do a detailed review of every topic that you are responsible for. It is up to everyone in the class to bring up questions and ask for clarity on concepts or theories.

Disruptive/Inappropriate Behavior:

Laptops, tablets & mobile devices are ok and welcome to use **for class work** but manage it so you are not disrupting the teacher or fellow students. Please keep chatting to a minimum. Side conversations disrupt other students and your instructor. I will ask students involved to leave after one warning. Inappropriate words (either spoken or written) or actions which offend will not be tolerated. Please keep our classroom comfortable and welcoming for all of us. We will read the Affirmation of Inclusion for Bellevue College in the first week of class and students will agree verbally to it before gaining the privilege to participate in our class community.

Missed Class Policy:

If you do miss a class, you are responsible for the material covered. This means A) check with a fellow student, B) check our class website and finally C) see me during my office hours. As a courtesy, please let me know if you will be missing a class due to illness or some other reason. If you know you will be missing more than 3 class meetings during the quarter (10% or more of our meetings), please consider withdrawing from the class and retaking it during a quarter where you can regularly attend.

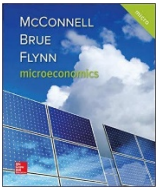
Missed exams or late papers:

Missed exams, presentations or in class assignments cannot be made up! **If you miss a scheduled quiz, exam or assignment, you will receive a 0 grade.** You may arrange to take your final exam early but must arrange this with me at least two weeks in advance. Late papers are accepted but with a penalty of a portion of a letter grade per day and will not be accepted after one week of the due date.

Extra Credit Assignments:

If there are lectures/events (on or off-campus) that relate to our class content, 2 extra credit points may be earned if the student submits a one paragraph summary **relating** the event to something we have learned in class. One out of two extra credit assignments can be a film or reading. This paragraph is due within one week of the event/viewing/reading. Maximum points that can be earned for the quarter is 6 which includes the class evaluation. Must have **proof** of submission. Please wait for me to announce how the evaluation should be submitted.

Books and Materials Required:



microeconomics by McConnell, Brue & Flynn 21st edition. Available as an E-book through your CANVAS course.

COURSE CALENDAR

McConnell, Brue, Flynn 21st edition (M/B). All other readings/web links will be listed under the relevant Module in Canvas

Introduction: First Days of Class: Jan 3 & 4

Readings: M/B

Ch. 1 “Limits Alternatives & Choices”

Assignments:

Syllabus Quiz

Week 1/2: Thinking Like an Economist: w/e Jan 11th & Jan 18th

Readings: M/B:

Ch. 1 “Limits Alternatives & Choices”

Ch. 2 “The Market System & the Circular Flow”

Ch. 3 “Demand. Supply & Market Equilibrium”

Assignments:

Quiz #1

Week 3/4: Governments & Markets: w/e Jan 25th & Feb 1st

Readings: M/B

Ch. 4 “Market Failures: Public Goods and Externalities”

Ch. 5 “Government’s Role & Government Failure”

Ch. 6 “Elasticity”

Assignments:

Quiz #2

Week 5/6: Theory of the Firm: w/e Feb 8th and Feb 15th

Readings: M/B

Ch. 9 “Businesses & the Costs of Production”

Ch. 10 “Pure Competition in the Short-Run”

Ch. 11 “Pure Competition in the Long-Run”

Assignments:

Quiz #3

Week 7/8: Theory of the Firm: part 2 w/e Feb 22nd and March 1st

Readings: M/B

Ch. 12 “Pure Monopoly”

Ch. 13 “Monopolistic Competition”

Ch. 14 “ Oligopoly & Strategic Behavior

Assignments:

Quiz #4

Week 9/10: Topics in Microeconomics: w/e March 8th and March 15th

Ch. 23 "Income Inequality, Poverty & Discrimination"

Ch. 24 "Health Care"

Ch. 25 "Immigration"

Assignments:

Analysis paper due: March 6th on CANVAS at 11:59pm

Quiz #5

Review and Final Exam March 19th and March 21st.

Cumulative Final Exam: March 21st, 2019 from 9:30 to 11:30 in A208

Notes on Calendar

1. No make-up tests (including the final) will be given except under exceptional circumstances.
2. Extra credit assignments (6pts maximum) are not replacements for missed tests or papers
3. 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

Class Expectations and Learning Atmosphere

1. Resources needed outside of those provided by the instructor: Amos Web Glossarama for economic terminologies and concept checking tests <http://www.amosweb.com/gls/>
Also, students are expected to utilize the BCC library periodical database ProQuest. The database is available online to everyone student registered in a BCC class.
2. This class is not intended to be simply a review of given textbooks. We are constructing our own investigation into understanding the basic concepts of microeconomics. 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. Chapters in the assigned text should be read according to the schedule and indicates the order of the material and the timing of the exams.
3. Communication: CANVAS Inbox is how I will normally communicate with students outside of campus. If you send me an email to hjackson@bellevuecollege.edu, please be aware that there may be a delay in responding back to you. If you are not able to get online, you may call me at 425-564-5192
4. Attendance: Online participation in class is a significant component towards success in the course. Our daily online interactions 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. The class assignments are to encourage both individual and peer to peer learning (this happens through Discussions). If you are not posting to Discussions, the whole class will miss your contribution to our learning community. Missed class assignments and discussions cannot be made up.
5. Missed Class Policy: If are not able to get online for 3 consecutive days, you are responsible for the material covered or missed. This means A) check with a fellow student B) check our class website and finally C) see instructor during her office hours or virtually if it isn't possible to meet in person. The expectations for an online class at BC is to be engaged with the course content and readings and online assignments at least 15 hours per week. You should plan on logging in at least 5 out of 7 days and do not let more than 48 hours go by without logging in. I send announcements regularly and update the class calendar but you are responsible for keeping track of your due dates/times as well.

6. Extra Credit Assignments: 2 extra credit points may be earned if the student submits a one paragraph summary based on an attended event (virtually or in person) that relates to something we have learned in class. This paragraph is due within 2 weeks of the event. Maximum points that can be earned is 6. More information can be found under extra credit assignments in CANVAS

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 online behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: using offensive or derogatory language in posts and other 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

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

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

Public Safety

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/>