



ECON&201: Principle of Microeconomics Syllabus

Instructor and Contact Information

- Betsy Zahrt Geib
- E-mail: **please use the email function in Canvas** for quickest response. I can also be reached at [Betsy's email](mailto:betsy@bellevuecollege.edu) or elizabeth.zahrtgeib@bellevuecollege.edu
- Phone: 425.564.2708 (I check phone messages only about once a week; email is the best option)
- Campus Office location: A200A
- Campus office hours: By appointment
- Virtual office hours: I am always available via Canvas email and should respond within a day, unless it is over the weekend in which case I might not respond until Monday morning. If you want to request a one-on-one chat or video conference, please email me and we'll find a time to do that virtually or use the ConexEd link in our Canvas course to sign up for an appointment.

Required Materials

- Taylor, Timothy and Shapiro, David: *Principles of Microeconomics*, OpenStax. Cost: Free
 - The material from this text is embedded into this Canvas course. If you would like a print version, please go to: [Principles of Microeconomics: OpenStax](https://openstax.org/r/principles-of-microeconomics)
- Sapling Learning. Cost: \$32.
 - Sapling Learning is an online homework system. It is embedded in Canvas.
- Reliable internet connection

Course Outcomes

After completing this class, students should be able to:

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

Bellevue College Learning Practices

In addition to the course level learning outcomes, courses at Bellevue College promote the following learning practices:

1. **Creative & Critical Thinking:** The ability to utilize a range of thought processes to evaluate information and opinions, generate new ideas, and identify creative and successful outcomes
2. **Communication:** The ability to communicate effectively using written, oral, visual, and/or electronic means, as appropriate to a given situation.
3. **Connections:** The ability to identify and explore connections, themes, and patterns in the social and natural world, and to see commonalities within dissimilar circumstances.

Online Learning Expectations

It is expected that you:

- check-in online several times per week; don't try to do all assignments due each week in a single sitting;
- go through the lessons in the order they are presented;
- post your questions in the weekly Q & A forum;
- contact the instructor immediately when there is a possibility that you may miss the deadline for an assignment;
- 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 (this means 11:59 pm on the due date);
- ask questions and voice your opinion;
- check your grades often and notify the instructor when there is a discrepancy;
- do your own work and provide citations as needed;
- check submission comments in the grade book.

Grades

Your total grade for this course will be computed using the following weights.

Component	% of Final Grade
Assignments	20%
Sapling Problem Sets	20%
Midterm Exam	15%
Discussions	20%
Participation	5%
Final Exam	20%
TOTAL	100%

Assignment Descriptions

- **Assignments:** After going through the lessons each week, students will demonstrate their knowledge through the completion of problem sets. The number of assignments varies by week, but there will always be at least 1 and not more than 3 assignments per week. Students are encouraged to ask questions and receive help through the Q & A discussion boards each week. Assignments are due on Sunday nights. You should plan to spend around 1 hour on each assignment.
- **Midterm Exam:** There is an online, timed midterm exam in the sixth week. The quiz opens on Wednesday and closes on Sunday.
- **Discussions:** Many, though not all, weeks include a discussion component about a key concept(s). The points on these discussions vary and depend on the effort students will need to put in. Detailed instructions about the expectations are offered for each discussion and a rubric is posted for each discussion as well.
- **Participation:** You earn participation points by completing tasks that are not related to the learning outcomes, such as checking your grades, submitting reflections, and participating in the getting started module.
- **Final Exam:** The final exam is a cumulative, online, timed exam. It opens on Sunday, June 16th at 8:00 am and closes on Friday, June 21st at 11:59 pm.

Deadlines/Due Dates

Each assignment has a due date. To help schedule your workload, these assignments due dates are always on Friday and Sunday nights. Please make every attempt to begin assignments well before the due date. I will accept **up to 2** late assignments as long as the assignments are turned in within 3 days of the original due date, **excluding quizzes and the final exam**. Further missed assignments **may** result in a score of 0 for that assignment.

Extra Credit

There are a few opportunities for extra credit:

1. Students can earn 2 points for each notes outline they submit by Wed. of each week, and 1 point for submitting the notes outline on Thursday. Up to 22 points will be awarded to the assignments group.
2. Students can earn 2.5 points of extra credit to be added to their final exam score for the quarter when they turn in proof that they have evaluated this course through the official **Bellevue College course evaluation** process. More information on how to do this is offered when the evaluations open.
3. Students can earn bonus points in the assignments for completing the "Bonus" section when offered.

Scoring Rubrics

Scoring rubrics are used for the discussions. Please read through the rubrics 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 the instructor 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. Please refer to the [Bellevue College Grading Policy](#) to read more about grading criteria:

upper limit	lower limit	letter grade
100.00%	94%	A
93.99%	90.00%	A-
89.99%	87.00%	B+
86.99%	84.00%	B
83.99%	80.00	B-
79.99%	77.00%	C+
76.99%	74.00%	C
73.99%	70.00%	C-
69.99%	67.00%	D+
69.99%	60.00%	D
59.99%	-	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."

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 the [Disability Resource Center](#) website for application information and other helpful links.

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. I value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College. Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their **religious** observance will be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide me with advance notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent in the **first week of the term**. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments will be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it creates an unreasonable burden to me. Should a disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates. For further information and contacts, please consult College Anti-Discrimination Statements.

Resources

There are many resources available both on campus and online for you to successfully complete your education at Bellevue College. A great resource for macroeconomics is me, your instructor! I am committed to helping you learn the material and am happy to do so.

The [Academic Success Center](#) is also a great place to find out about other resources. There is a link to their home page in the navigation menu in Canvas.

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. To be eligible for a hardship withdrawal you must have completed at least 70% of the work for the quarter. 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](#) This calendar lists admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.
- [College Calendar](#) This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.

Public Safety

[Public Safety](#) is located in D171 and can be reached at 425-564-2400 (easy to remember because it's the only office on campus open 24 hours a day—2400). Among other things, Public Safety serves as our Parking Permits, Lost and Found, and Emergency Notification center. Please ensure you are signed up to receive alerts through our campus alerting system by registering at RAVE Alert Registration

If you work late and are uneasy about going to your car, Public Safety will escort you to your vehicle. To coordinate this, please phone ahead and let Public Safety know when and where you will need an escort.

Please familiarize yourself with the emergency postings by the door of every classroom and know where to go in the event of an evacuation. Your instructor will be asked if anyone might still be in the building, so check in before you do anything else. Emergency responders will search for anyone unaccounted for.

If a major emergency occurs, please follow these three rules:

1. Take directions from those in charge of the response -We all need to be working together.
2. Do not get in your car and leave campus (unless directed to) - Doing so will clog streets and prevent emergency vehicles from entering the scene. Instead, follow directions from those in charge.
3. In an emergency, call 911 first, then Public Safety.

Please do not hesitate to call Public Safety if you have safety questions or concerns at any time. You may also visit the Public Safety web page for answers to your questions.

Course Summary

Date	Details
Fri Apr 5, 2019	Using the Tools of Sapling due by 7:35am
	M0: Discussion: Course Outcomes due by 11:59pm
	M0: Discussion: Personal Introductions due by 11:59pm
	M0: Student Contract due by 11:59pm
	M0: Syllabus Scavenger Hunt due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 7, 2019	M1: Discussion: Allocation Methods due by 11:59pm
	M1: Sapling Problem Set: Welcome to Economics due by 11:59pm
	M1: Extra Credit: Submit Notes Outline due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	
Wed Apr 10, 2019	M2: Extra Credit: Submit Module 2 Notes Outline	due by 11:59pm
Fri Apr 12, 2019	M2: Discussion: Consumer Choices	due by 11:59pm
	M2: Sapling Problem Set: Choice in a World of Scarcity	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 14, 2019	M2: Assignment 2.1: Production Possibilities Curve	due by 11:59pm
	M2: Assignment: 2.2 Consumer Choice Model	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 17, 2019	M3: Extra Credit: Submit Notes Outline Copy	due by 11:59pm
Fri Apr 19, 2019	M3: Sapling Problem Set: Demand and Supply	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 21, 2019	M3: Assignment 3.1: Comparative Statics	due by 11:59pm
	M3: Assignment 3.2: Elasticity	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 24, 2019	M4: Extra Credit: Submit Notes Outline	due by 11:59pm
Fri Apr 26, 2019	M4: Discussion 4.1: Government Policies and their Effects	due by 11:59pm
	M4: Sapling Problem Set: Government Intervention	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 28, 2019	M4: Assignment 4.1: Government Intervention	due by 11:59pm
	M4: Assignment 4.2: Incidence of a Tax	due by 11:59pm
Wed May 1, 2019	M5: Extra Credit: Submit Notes Outline	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 3, 2019	M5: Sapling Problem Set: How Firms Make Decisions in Perfect Competition	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	
Sun May 5, 2019	M5: Assignment 5.1: Profit Maximization	due by 11:59pm
	M5: Assignment 5.2: Advise a Client	due by 11:59pm
	M5: Participation Assignment: Check your grades	due by 11:59pm
Wed May 15, 2019	M6: Extra Credit: Submit Notes Outline	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 17, 2019	M6: Discussion Option A: Big Data and Price Discrimination	due by 11:59pm
	M6: Discussion Option B: So You Want to be an Antitrust Economist	due by 11:59pm
	M6: Discussion Option C: Current Mergers	due by 11:59pm
	M6: Sapling Problem Set: Monopoly	due by 11:59pm
Sun May 19, 2019	M6: Assignment 6.1: Monopolies	due by 11:59pm
Wed May 22, 2019	M7: Extra Credit: Submit Notes Outline	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 24, 2019	M7: Discussion: Creative Summary of Market Structures	due by 11:59pm
	M7: Sapling Problem Set: Monopolistic Competition and Oligopoly	due by 11:59pm
Sun May 26, 2019	M7: Assignment 7.1: Monopolistic Competition	due by 11:59pm
	M7: Assignment 7.2: Oligopoly	due by 11:59pm
Wed May 29, 2019	M8: Extra Credit: Submit Notes Outline	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 31, 2019	M8: Sapling Problem Set: Negative Externalities	due by 11:59am

Date	Details	
Sun Jun 2, 2019	M8: Assignment 8.1: Cap and Trade	due by 11:59pm
	M8: Assignment 8.2: Negative Externalities	due by 11:59pm
Wed Jun 5, 2019	M9: Extra Credit: Submit Notes Outline	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 7, 2019	M9: Discussion 9.1: Public Goods and Common Resources	due by 11:59pm
	M9: Sapling Problem Sets: Positive Expternalities and Public Goods	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jun 9, 2019	M9: Assignment 9.1: Market Failure and Government Intervention	due by 11:59pm
	M9: Assignment 9.2: Types of Goods	due by 11:59pm
Wed Jun 12, 2019	M10: Extra Credit: Submit Notes Outline	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 14, 2019	M10: Discussion 10.1: Thinking about the Poverty Threshold	due by 11:59pm
	M10: Sapling Problem Set: Poverty and Economic Inequality	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jun 16, 2019	EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY: Course Evaluation	due by 5pm
	M10: Assignment 10.1	due by 11:59pm
	M10: Assignment 10.2: Income Inequality	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 21, 2019	Final Exam	due by 11:59pm