

ECONOMICS 201 – INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMICS (#5105A, 5CR)
SPRING QUARTER 2020: ONLINE

INSTRUCTOR: Chris Hendrixson

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Office: Online for the quarter

OFFICE HOURS: Online Thursday (12-2pm), Saturday (1-2pm)

TEXTS: *Microeconomics: Private and Public Choice*, 16th ed., Gwartney and Stroup.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Investigates the responses of individual economic agents to incentives. This course provides the framework for analyzing simple models of choices for individual markets and industries within a mixed economy. The structure and outcomes of the basic model can then be modified to analyze a variety of market structures and be used to address a range of social issues, using the common policy goals of efficiency and equity.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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.

The GenEd ratings in this class are a "2" for "Critical Thinking" and for "Quantitative and Logical Reasoning" and "Writing" as well as 1s in 7 other areas

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

SYLLABUS QUIZ: Due by Sunday of the 1st week, a syllabus quiz will be posted to Canvas. This quiz will ask questions about the structure of the class and grading. These materials can be found in the "Getting Started" section on Canvas. You will have unlimited attempts to get a perfect score on this quiz (worth a maximum of 4 points).

READING ASSIGNMENTS: We will typically be covering one chapter a week from the online textbook that comes with your Mindtap/Cengage registration (which is REQUIRED). As economics can be very difficult for some, an intimate relationship with your book will be required to do well in this class. Quickly become friends with your book and schedule consistent times during the week in which you can read. Although there isn't a huge amount of reading, in terms of page count, the reading itself can be quite difficult and slow going at times. Also pay VERY close attention to any graphs you come across. As you'll soon find, in Economics, completely understanding the graphs is most of the fight. Lecture notes may also be posted for particular chapters. Pay careful attention to these, as they represent how I see these chapters and what I think is necessary to know. And since I am the one writing the quizzes, that's important!

MINDTAP/CENGAGE ASSIGNMENTS: At 11pm every Thursday (Pacific Standard Time), Graded Problem Sets covering the material from that week will be due. These assignments cannot be made up, so make sure to finish on time. There will often be Practice problem sets available if you wish to have some extra work. Practice problem sets are completely optional and have no effect on your grade. Over the course of the quarter the Graded sets will contribute a maximum of 14 points toward your total score, based on the percent of the maximum possible Cengage points received. For example, a 92% average on all Cengage assignments would convert into 12.9 out of 14 points for the class.

GROUP ASSIGNMENTS: Each Friday of the quarter (except for the 1st and last week) a Group Assignment will be due. This assignment will be composed of questions that students may answer as a group and turn in as a single answer key. An online meeting room will be provided during our regularly scheduled class meeting time (our on-ground time, now moved online) and I will break students up into small groups to work on the assignment. If students are unable to meet at this time, they will have the option to do the assignment on their own (if you choose this, note that the assignments will be challenging). Each group assignment will be worth 3 points, with the lowest of the nine assignments dropped. Therefore these assignments are worth 24 points for the quarter.

QUIZZES: In Canvas, two different quizzes will be given per week. There will be a “Pre-Quiz” on Saturday and a higher point “Quiz” on Sunday. These multiple choice quizzes will only be available through Canvas and will be worth a total of 6 points per week (1 point Pre-Quiz, 5 point Quiz). They will be taken over nine weeks of the quarter, with the lowest pre-quiz and lowest quiz score dropped, and therefore they will be worth a total of 48 points for the quarter. While taking these quizzes, there will be a strict time limit in order to make the use of outside materials difficult. You will be expected to finish your studying BEFORE taking these quizzes. There will be a window of availability for these quizzes that will not be uniform, so be sure to look at the posted availability ahead of time and plan accordingly. You may choose to start the quizzes anytime during its window of availability, but once you begin the quiz you must be prepared to finish it during the given time limit (roughly 30 minutes) and also finish BEFORE the window of availability ends. Therefore, before starting the quiz, make sure you will have a stable connection and an appropriate amount of undisturbed time to finish.

FINAL TEST: During the final week of the quarter, one last Final test will be held. This test will be cumulative and can cover anything from the class. This test will contain roughly 20 multiple choice questions and be worth a maximum of 10 points

GRADING

The criteria for grading are based on universal intellectual standards which apply in all college-level courses. These standards include 1) clarity, 2) accuracy, 3) precision, 4) relevance, 5) breadth, 6) depth, and 7) consistency (logic). If your work is essentially **complete and essentially accurate**, and if it exhibits the qualities listed above at least at a minimal level, it will be assigned a grade in the **C** range. This designates work which is basically **acceptable** at the college level. If your work meets these minimal criteria and, in addition, is **occasionally distinguished** with respect to one or more of the above-listed standards, it will receive a grade in the **B** range. If your work is **consistently distinguished**, it will be assigned a grade in the **A** range. You can distinguish your work in many ways: by its clarity, by its accuracy and precision, by its depth and/or breadth of understanding, by its originality, or by other evidence that you have achieved and can communicate a high level of understanding of basic economic theory. Your final course grade will be determined by the total number of points you earn.

Your final grade will be based on your total of the following elements:

Requirement:	Points Possible:
1 One Syllabus Quiz	4 Points (unlimited attempts)
2 Weekly Cengage problem sets	14 Points (based on percent of maximum possible)
3 Weekly Group Assignment	24 Points (highest 8 weeks, 3 points/week)
4 Weekly Pre-Quizzes	8 Points (highest 8 weeks, 1 point/week)
5 Weekly Quizzes	40 Points (highest 8 weeks, 5 points/week)
6 Final Test	10 Points

At the end of the quarter, I will add your scores to find your total. The final grades will be given based on a 90/80/70% A/B/C scale from the 100 maximum total points as follows:

Grade	Percentage
A/A+	93.3%+
A -	90 - 93.2%
B +	86.7 - 89.9%
B	83.3 - 86.6%
B -	80 - 83.2%
C +	76.7 - 79.9%
C	73.3 - 76.6%
C -	70 - 73.2%
D/F	Below 70%

Econ 201 Reading List (16th ed)

Week 2: Demand and Supply - Chapter 3

Week 3: Price Controls - Chapter 4 (Sections 4-2 and 4-3)

Week 4: Burden of a Tax – Chapter 4 (Section 4-4)

Week 5: Consumer Choice and Elasticity – Chapter 7 (Sections 7-1, 7-2, 7-3)

Week 6: Economic Profit/Costs, SR Cost curve – Chapter 8 (8-3 through 8-9, skip 8-7)

Week 7: Perfect Competition: Chapter 9 (Sections 9-1 through 9-5)

Week 8: Monopoly: Chapter 11 (Sections 11-1 and 11-2)

Week 9: Monopolistic Competition: Chapter 10 (Sections 10-1, 10-2, 10-3)
Oligopoly: Chapter 11 (Sections 11-3 through 11-7)

Week 10: Role of the Government (Chapter 5)

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Spring 2020

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 BellevueCollege. 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 BellevueCollege. 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 and at the site below [http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_\(Procedures\).asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_(Procedures).asp)

Email Communication with instructors must be done through student email accounts only. Instructors cannot communicate with students about their course work or grades through student's personal email accounts.

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.

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 program assistants or coordinators 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.

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**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a BellevueCollege 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.*

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.

Religious Holidays:

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

College Anti-Discrimination Statement (Title IX)

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](#).

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.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact [Autism Spectrum Navigators](#) Email and phone number is on the web page. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by Skype: the address is **DRCatBC** (NOTE: There is no @ sign...it is actually **DRCatBC**). Please visit our website at [Disability Resource Center](#) for application information into our program and other helpful links.

Student Code:

Any act of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source), and fabrication 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 Success for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct at: [Student Code](#)