

Economics 481(L01) (Behavioural Economics)

Instructor: Subhasish Dugar
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Lecture Location: SA 147
Lecture Days/Time: TR 9:30 – 10:45

Office: SS 434
Office Hours: Tuesday 14:00 – 15:00

Winter 2015

Textbook(s): There is no textbook for this class.

At the core of behavioural economics is the conviction that increasing the realism of the psychological underpinnings of economic analysis will improve economics on its own terms --generating theoretical insights, making better predictions of field phenomena, and suggesting better policy.

Book(s) on Reserve: None.

Desire2Learn: This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> using or through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information.

Course Outline:

The course will introduce basic concepts in game theory to prepare the ground for other topics to be discussed in the class. The course tentatively plans to discuss the following set of topics: Social Preferences, Time Preferences, Reference-dependent Preferences, Incentives and Human Behaviour, Discrimination, Identity- and status-driven Preferences, etc.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

There are three in-class, closed book and notes, comprehensive exams:

Class Participation: 10 points (based on how prepared you are for class and the extent to which you participate in class discussions—that is, the quality of your questions, answers, commentary, and criticisms in the classroom)

First Midterm Exam – 25 points (Exam Date: Feb 24)

Second Midterm Exam – 25 points (Exam Date: March 19)

Final Exam – 40 points (Exam Date: University decided)

Tests and final exams are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, then converted to letter grades. The course grade is then calculated using the weights indicated above. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will apply:

A+	95 – 100	B	73 – 76	C-	60 – 62
A	85 – 94	B-	70 – 72	D+	56 – 59
A-	80 – 84	C+	67 – 69	D	50 – 55
B+	77 – 79	C	63 – 66	F	0 – 49

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

Non-programmable calculators will not be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations. There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination, held in a classroom, lasting 2 hours.

Tests and exams will not involve multiple-choice questions.

Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor *within fifteen days* of the work being returned to the class.
- It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

All students must comply with the regulations published in the University Calendar concerning "Intellectual Honesty," "Examinations," etc.

Students who are unable to write the midterm because of an illness, family emergency or religious observance will have the midterm weight shifted to the final examination. Documentation MUST be provided.

Students' Union Vice-President Academic:

Hana Kadri

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Society of Undergraduates in Economics (S.U.E.):

www.ucalgary.ca/sue

Society of Undergraduates in Economics is a student run organization whose main purpose is to assist undergraduate economics students succeed both academically and socially at the University of Calgary. Services include access to the exam bank, career partnerships with the Career Centre through hosting industry nights and information sessions, recognizing achievements in teaching, and organizing social events for members. They invite you to join by contacting sue@ucalgary.ca.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580 or email them at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at 403-220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Library Block.
- Online writing resources are available at <http://ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support/online-writing-resources>

Safewalk/Campus Security: 403 220 5333
Emergency Assembly Point: Social Sciences Food Court