



Department of Economics Course Outline

		Term:	Winter 2010
Course:	Economics 557 [Topics in Economic Theory I]	Section:	01
Time:	TR 12:30 – 13:45	Place:	ST 027
Instructor:	John R. Boyce		
Office:	SS 412	Telephone:	220-5860
Office Hours:	TBA	E-Mail:	boyce@ucalgary.ca

Textbook:

Required: Martin Osborne, *An Introduction to Game Theory*, Oxford, 1st Edition, 2004.

Books on Reserve:

Prajit K. Dutta, *Strategies and Games -- Theory and Practice*, The MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1999.

Robert Gibbons, *Game Theory for Applied Economists*, Princeton University Press, Princeton New Jersey, 1992.

Hugh Gravelle and Ray Rees, *Microeconomics*, 3rd Edition, Prentice Hall Financial Times, Harlow, England, 2004.

Hal R. Varian, *Microeconomic Analysis*, 3rd Edition, W.W. Norton & Company, New York, 1992.

Course Outline:

This course will emphasize applied game-theoretic modeling. The emphasis is very definitely on learning by doing: there will be a homework assignment due every fourth lecture; each assignment will be quite demanding, and your performance on these assignments will be given a heavy weight in determining your course mark. You will be required to use many of the mathematical techniques that you learned in Econ 387 and 389, and all of the core concepts of microeconomic theory. We will rely on Osborne's textbook, and on selected journal articles for modeling approaches. Lectures will be devoted to problem solving and model development. Each student will write an original applied economics model on the topic of your choice, subject to instructor approval, for a course-project. Course projects will be presented orally in 15 minute presentations during the last two weeks of class. The first midterm is on the last Thursday before the reading break. The second midterm is on the last Thursday before course project presentations begin. There is no final examination.

Grade Determination:

Course Component	Date	Percent of Grade
Homework Assignment 1	January 21	10%
Homework Assignment 2	February 4	10%
<i>Midterm 1</i>	<i>February 11</i>	<i>20%</i>
Homework Assignment 3	March 4	10%
Homework Assignment 4	March 18	10%
<i>Midterm 2</i>	<i>April 1</i>	<i>25%</i>
Course Project Presentations	April 6, 8, 13, 15 (Order drawn by lot, trades allowed.)	15%
Total		100%

Exams, course project, and homework assignments are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, then converted to letter grades. The course grade is then calculated using the weights indicated above. Letter grades are as follows:

A+	95-100	B	75-79	C-	60-62
A	90-94	B-	70-74	D+	55-59
A-	85-89	C+	68-70	D	50-54
B+	80-84	C	63-67	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** be allowed during the writing of examinations. .../3

Tests and exams **will not** involve multiple choice questions.

Students' Union Vice-President, Academic

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

www.ucalgary.ca/sue/

Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work must discuss their work with the Instructor *within* fifteen days of the work being returned to the class.
- This course will make use of Blackboard. Students who are registered in the course can logon at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>.
- 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.
- Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333
- Emergency Assembly Location: SS Food Court

JRB:mi

2009-12-01