

ECON 3880:

Introduction to Strategic Thinking

Fall 2023



Instructor:
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Many important economic interactions require strategic thinking due to the interconnected nature of consequences, from competition between firms to global environmental regulation. Therefore, success in these situations requires careful analysis of the strategic connections between participants. This course will introduce students to the basic tools of strategic thinking, often referred to as Game Theory. Our focus will be on developing an intuitive understanding of formal concepts, as well as testing various theories using laboratory experiments. Where possible, we will also explore real-world applications. Topics include price and quantity competition, insurance, voting, auctions, bargaining and contracts, teamwork, and evolution. Students will acquire an appreciation for the ubiquity of strategic decisions in everyday life and, as a result, the way in which the world is organized around them.



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