ECO 7922/ECON 6020
Microeconomic Theory
University of Ottawa
Winter 2019

Instructor
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Faculty of Social Sciences 9047
Office hours on Mondays from 14:00 to 15:30

Course Location MNT 204

Time Thursdays 08:30 to 11:30

Textbooks
Microeconomic Theory
Andreu Mas-Colell, Michael D. Winston, and Jerry R. Green
Oxford University Press, 1995

A Course in Game Theory
Martin J. Osborne and Ariel Rubinstein
MIT Press, 1994

Game Theory
Drew Fudenberg and Jean Tirole
MIT Press, 1991

Official Course Description  Advanced graduate-level microeconomic theory, including topics such as game theory, externalities and public goods, general equilibrium, and welfare.

Course Objectives  This course will introduce students to the economist's standard toolbox for analyzing collective decision making. In doing so, it exposes students to the mathematical rigor of modern economic analysis.

Evaluation  Course grades will be based on two exams. Each exam will count for 50% of the final grade. The first exam (February 14) will pertain to the material covered in the first half of the course and the second exam (date to be announced) will pertain to the remainder of the material. Please note that while the second exam is not cumulative, you will need to build on the material from the first half of the course.
**Problem Sets**  As practice for the exams, I will assign problem sets. I will not grade these problem sets but will provide detailed solutions. If anything is unclear, you are welcome to discuss them with me to ensure that you fully understand them.

I strongly recommend that you take these problem sets seriously and work on them as if they will be graded. Furthermore, I encourage you to submit these problem sets via email once you have completed them. Doing so will document the efforts that you have made for this course.

**Tentative Course Outline**

- Game theory fundamentals 5 lectures
- Mechanism design and implementation 3 lectures
- Market design 1 lecture
- Public goods 1 lecture
- General equilibrium* 2 lectures

* There will be no formal lectures for general equilibrium. Instead, you will solve problems from previous years’ comprehensive exams and present them to the class as groups.

I emphasize that this outline is tentative. Rather than rushing through all of the material, I will focus on covering topics methodically and rigorously.

**Responsibility for Material**  You are responsible for reading and understanding all of the material in the chapters of the relevant textbook that we cover in class. While we will go over much of the material in class, you should also prepare on your own. I am available to answer any questions you may have. An important goal of this course is to prepare you to tackle challenging new problems independently using what you have learned in class. Consequently, in addition to what we cover in class, any novel analysis that can be done using what we have seen is fair game for the exams—regardless of whether our discussions in class or problem sets addressed it specifically.

**Grade Disputes, Re-marking, and Deferred Exams**

- I encourage you to use a pen in writing your exams as I will not, under any circumstances, re-mark exams written in pencil.

- I will take attendance every lecture. In case of an absence, you must supply a physician’s note. If you miss a lecture and do not provide a physician’s note, you forfeit the right to a deferred exam.

- If you miss an exam, you must supply a physician’s note and complete the Request for a Deferred Mark, available from the Department of Economics Secretariat.

- To request re-marking of an exam, you must do so in writing. Your written request should include a clear explanation of why the exam should be re-marked.
• I will only re-mark exams in entirety, not individual questions. Consequently, it is possible that you end up with a lower final mark after re-marking.

• I will not entertain a request to re-mark a midterm exam more than five business days after announcing the exam results. I will not entertain a request to re-mark a final exam more than ten days after the announcement of final grades.

• I will not re-mark an exam once it has left my office. You are welcome to review your exam in my office prior to requesting that it be re-marked. However, by removing your exam from my office, you forfeit the right to having it re-marked.

• Only medical certificates from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario and the College of Psychologists of Ontario, or their Québec equivalents, are considered to be valid medical certificates.

• Deferred exams for economics will be scheduled May 3.

• Requests for a deferred exam must be submitted through uoZone within five business days of the date of the exam.

Absence from an examination  Absence from any examination due to illness must be justified by a physician’s letter. It will otherwise be counted as a zero. Only medical certificates from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario and the College of Psychologists of Ontario, or their Québec equivalents, are considered to be valid medical certificates. Travel, employment, misreading the examination schedule, and similar will not be accepted.

Beware of Academic Fraud!  Academic fraud is an act committed by a student to distort the marking of assignments, tests, examinations, and other forms of academic evaluation. Academic fraud is neither accepted nor tolerated by the University. Anyone found guilty of academic fraud is liable to severe academic sanctions.

Here are a few examples of academic fraud:

• engaging in any form of plagiarism or cheating;

• presenting falsified research data;

• handing in an assignment that was not authored, in whole or in part, by the student;

• submitting the same assignment in more than one course, without the written consent of the professors concerned.

Sexual Violence  The University of Ottawa does not tolerate any form of sexual violence. Sexual violence refers to any act of a sexual nature committed without consent, such as rape, sexual harassment or online harassment. The University, as well as student and employees associations, offers a full range of resources and services allowing members of our community to receive information and confidential assistance and providing for a procedure to report an incident or make a complaint. For more information, visit http://www.uOttawa.ca/sexual-violence-support-and-prevention.
The goal of the Mentoring Centre is to help students with their academic and social well-being during their time at the University of Ottawa. Regardless of where a student stands academically, or how far along they are in completing their degree, the Mentoring Centre is there to help students continue on their path to success.

A student may choose to visit the Mentoring Centre for very different reasons. Younger students may wish to talk to their older peers to gain insight into programs and services offered by the University, while older student may simply want to brush up on study and time management skills or learn about programs and services for students nearing the end of their degree.

In all, the Mentoring Centre offers a place for students to talk about concerns and problems that they might have in any facet of their lives. While students are able to voice their concerns and problems without fear of judgment, mentors can garner further insight in issues unique to students and find a more practical solution to better improve the services that the Faculty of Social Sciences offers, as well as the services offered by the University of Ottawa.

At the AWHC you will learn how to identify, correct and ultimately avoid errors in your writing and become an autonomous writer. In working with our Writing Advisors, you will be able to acquire the abilities, strategies and writing tools that will enable you to:

- Master the written language of your choice
- Expand your critical thinking abilities
- Develop your argumentation skills
- Learn what the expectations are for academic writing

Career Services offers various services and a career development program to enable you to recognize and enhance the employability skills you need in today’s world of work.

There are many reasons to take advantage of the Counselling Service. We offer:

- Personal counselling
- Career counselling
- Study skills counselling

The University has always strived to meet the needs of individuals with learning disabilities or with other temporary or permanent functional disabilities (hearing/visual impairments, sustained health issues, mental health problems), and the campus community works collaboratively so that you can develop and maintain your autonomy, as well as reach your full potential throughout your studies. You can call on a wide range of services and resources, all provided with expertise, professionalism and confidentiality.