Economics 452 (A01) 2020
Information and incentives
CRN 21051
Preliminary course outline

Class: MTh 1:00 –2:20 pm Clearihue Building A206
Instructor: Dr. Linda Welling
Office: BEC 346
Contacts: 721-8546; email is lwelling@uvic.ca
Office hours: TBA by January 20; or by appointment

Textbook: Campbell, Donald E. (2), Incentives: motivation and the economics of information, 3rd edition
Supplementary:
any modern intermediate micro text and/or advanced examples:
Varian, H. (1992), Microeconomic Analysis, Third Edition

Course web page:
https://coursespaces.uvic.ca/course/view.php?id=66149#section-0

Topics / tentative outline (will be modified/updated as the course proceeds, depending on timing and interests)

1. Introduction and foundations:
   asymmetric information
   choice under uncertainty/risk:
   lecture notes on state space
   comparative statics: lecture notes
   quasi-linear preferences: C, ch 2
   basic non-cooperative game theory
2. Hidden action (moral hazard): C, ch 3-4
3. Hidden knowledge (adverse selection): C, ch 5
4. Auctions: C, ch 6
5. Voting: C, ch 7
6. Matching: C, ch 9
7. Networks: C, ch. 10
8. Class presentations
**Evaluation**
Final marks will be based on the following components:

1. **Assignments** (20%): three - four problem sets

2. **Examinations** (55%):
   - an in-class mid-term exam (on Thursday, February 13), and
   - a three hour comprehensive final exam (during the examination period).

The final will be worth at least 35%. The midterm will count for 20% of the final grade if the percentage on that exam exceeds the percentage the student attains on the final. Otherwise, the midterm will be worth 15%, and the final worth 40%. Students must pass the final exam to pass the course.

3. **Class presentations** (25%); individual or group presentations (depending on class size) on assigned topic(s).

Since assignments are intended to go beyond what is covered in lectures, students are encouraged to work together in deriving answers. However, students must write up their own answers, in their own words.

**Make-up tests and exams**
Make-up tests and exams will be arranged by the Economics main office. I will give you information as soon as it is available. Students must be registered with the main office by their instructor no later than the Wednesday before the exam.

**Grading scale**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>73-76</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>65-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-64</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>50-59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>0-49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students should review the University's more detailed [summary of grading](#).

**Notes**

1. You must pass the final exam to pass this course.

2. If your mark on the final exam is higher than that on the midterms I will shift 5% of the mark from the midterm to the final exam.

3. Students should not make travel plans for the end of the year until after the final exam schedule is announced.
Department course policies
This course adheres to the Undergraduate Course Policies of the Department of Economics that deal with the following issues:

- Academic concessions
- Academic integrity (plagiarism and cheating)
- Attendance
- Grading
- Inclusivity and diversity
- Late adds
- Late assignments
- Repeating courses
- Review of an assigned grade
- Students with a disability
- Term assignments and debarment from examinations
- Travel plans
- Waitlists

The following policies are explicitly included because of their importance.

Examinations
Attendance at all scheduled examinations is mandatory. Consideration for missed examinations will be given only on the basis of documented illness, accident or family affliction, and for no other reasons. In the event of a missed final examination, students are advised to follow the procedures outlined in the University Calendar.

Students are advised not to make work or travel plans until after the examination timetable has been finalized. Students who wish to finalize their travel plans at an earlier date should book flights that depart after the end of the examination period. There will be no special accommodation if travel plans conflict with the examination.

Waitlist Policies
- Instructors have no discretion to admit waitlisted students or raise the cap on the course.
- Students on the waitlist should discuss with the instructor how to ensure they are not behind with coursework in the event they are admitted.
- Registered students who do not show up in the first seven calendar days from the start of the course may be dropped from the course.
- Registered students who decide not to take the course are responsible for dropping the course, and are urged to do so promptly out of courtesy toward waitlisted students.
- Waitlist offers cease after the last date for adding courses irrespective of published waitlists.

Academic Integrity
Academic integrity requires commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students are expected to observe the same standards of scholarly integrity as their academic and professional counterparts. A student who is found to have engaged in unethical academic behaviour, including the practices described in the Policy on Academic Integrity in the University Calendar, is subject to penalty by the University.

Review What is Plagiarism for the definition of plagiarism. Note: Submitted work may be checked using plagiarism detection software.
University Policy on Human Rights, Equity and Fairness
The University is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive, supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

See General University Policies

Accessibility & Health Resources
Centre for Accessible Learning
Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, you are free to approach me; however, you must register with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) for formal arrangements to be made. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Health Services - University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.

Counselling Services - Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.

Elders’ Voices - The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.