

The University of Texas at Austin
Professor Jim Enelow (jenelow@austin.utexas.edu)
BAT 3.102, Office hrs: M-TH 1030-1130AM

GOV 341M
Fall 2012
MW 430-6PM
WEL 2.312

DECISION THEORY

Required Reading

Joel Watson, STRATEGY: An Introduction to Game Theory. 2nd edition. W.W. Norton, 2008.

Below each reading are a chapter number and a list of exercises, which can be found at the end of the chapter. It is strongly recommended that these exercises be attempted before they are done in class. Parts of the Appendix (App) are also assigned.

There is no T.A. for this class, so I am available outside of my office hours. You can e-mail me and request an appointment or you can simply stop by my office and I will help you if I am not getting ready for class. I can even arrange to meet you in the evenings or on the weekend if that is the only free time you have. If you are having any difficulty with the material, see me as soon as possible, since the longer you wait the harder it is to help you. It is assumed that you have a working knowledge of high school algebra as well as a basic understanding of sets, functions, and probability. If you don't, the course may be hard for you and you may need my help outside of class.

In addition, this course is supported by Peer-Led Undergraduate Studying. PLUS study groups provide an opportunity to collaboratively practice skills and knowledge you need for success in this course. Feel free to attend any study group at any point in the semester; more information on times and locations will be available through Blackboard or announced in class. To find out more about PLUS, go to wikis.utexas.edu/display/PLUS or find us on Facebook.

Exams

There will be three in-class multiple-choice exams covering material from each of the three sections of the course. Each exam is of the problem-solving type, similar to the SAT math exam. There is no final exam and no extra credit. A make-up exam (not multiple-choice) will be given only if an exam is missed for a valid reason.

Grades

The first two exams will have 20 questions, the third 16 questions. Each question is worth one point. The points you receive on the three exams are added together to determine your total score. These scores will be curved to determine your final grade, approximating as closely as possible the following distribution: 30% A's, 35% B's, 20% C's, 10% D's and 5% F's. No plus or minus grades will be given.

Students with disabilities: Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259, www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/

Assignments

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
AUG 29, SEP 5	Game Theory	Chs. 1-2 2: 1,4,6,7 App 365-7
SEP 10	Strategies and the Normal Form	Ch. 3 3: 1,2,3,4,7 App 367-8
SEP 12,17	Mixed Strategies and Expected Payoffs	Ch. 4 4: 1,2,3,4 App 371-6
SEP 19	Dominance and Best Response	Chs. 5-6 6: 1,2,4,5,6,7
SEP 24	Rationalizability and Iterated Dominance	Ch. 7 & 77-80 7: 1,2,3,4,7
SEP 26, OCT 1	Nash Equilibrium	Ch. 9 & 112-117 9: 1,2,3,4,6,7
OCT 3	REVIEW	
OCT 8	FIRST EXAM	
OCT 10,15	Mixed-Strategy Nash Equilibrium	Ch. 11 11: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,10,11
OCT 17,22	Backward Induction and Subgame Perfection	Chs. 14-15 15: 1,2,3,5,6
OCT 24	Bargaining Games	Ch. 19 19: 3,6,8
OCT 29,31	Repeated Games	Ch. 22 22: 1,2,3,5
NOV 5	REVIEW	
NOV 7	SECOND EXAM	
NOV 12,14,19	Incomplete Information	Ch. 24, 312-113, 320-322, 327-332 24: 1,2,3; 26: 1,3,6,7,8,9
NOV 26,28	Perfect Bayesian Equilibrium	Chs. 28-29 28: 1,2,3,4,6,8; 29: 1,2,3,4,5,7

DEC 3

REVIEW

DEC 5

THIRD EXAM