



Department of Economics Course Outline

		Term:	Fall 2009
Course:	Econ 611.17 [Theory of Incentives]	Section:	01
Time:	TBA	Place:	ES 926
Instructor:	Jack Mintz		
Office:	School of Public Policy, ES 926	Telephone:	403-220-7661
Office Hours:	TBA	E-mail:	policystudies@ucalgary.ca

This reading course allows graduate students to review literature related to principal-agent theory and applications. The first meeting shall take place 3:30 pm in room 926 Earth Sciences, September 14, 2009. Scheduling of other meetings during the fall will be arranged upon agreement. Meetings will be used to assist with comprehending the material being reviewed.

The requirement for the course is an essay agreed upon with the instructor that either uses modeling techniques or survey a particular field of application. The essay is expected to be at least 25 pages double spaced to be submitted to the instructor during the final examination period, date will be announced at a later period, worth 100%.

The level of reading will depend on the backgrounds of students. Those at the Ph.D. level will read * material. Others will be expected to read non-star material.

Primary books are the following:

*Jean-Jacques Laffont and David Martimort, *The Theory of Incentives: The Principal-Agent Model*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey, 2002.

Donald Campbell, *Incentives: Motivation and Economics of Information*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge UK, 1995.

Other material relevant for review:

*Timothy Besley, *Principled Agents? The Policy Economy of Good Government*, Oxford University Press, Oxford UK, 2006. Chapters 3 and 4.

Louis Kaplow, *The Theory of Taxation and Public Economics*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey, 2008. Part II. .../2

No formal lectures will be given. Students will read material selected from above and will meet periodically to discuss issues involved.

Notes:

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor *within fifteen days* of the work being returned to the class.
- 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 403-220-8237. 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: 403-220-5333
Emergency Assembly Point – ICT Food Court

JM:mi
2009-09-04