

Economics 661(L01) (Behavioural Economics)

Instructor:	Robert Oxoby	Lecture Location:	SS 403
Phone:	403.220.2586	Lecture Days/Time:	MW 930-1045
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Office:	SS 444		
Office Hours:	by appointment	Winter 2018	

Course Description:

We will be surveying recent developments in behavioral economics. We will not only be analyzing recent theoretical and experimental work from economics, but also examining research from psychology and sociology that informs our models of decision-making.

The course will follow a discussion format (rather than purely a lecture format) in which you are encouraged and required to participate. We will be using journal articles and a reading list will be distributed on the first day of class. Your participation involves discussing and interpreting the readings. Although not required, you may wish to purchase Camerer (2003) and Baron (2007). Copies of both are on reserve in the library.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

The goal of this course is to develop your understanding of the psychological foundations of economics and economic theory. You will also develop your writing and presentation skills, both of which are essential to your professional success.

Course Outline:

Below is a tentative list of topics we will be exploring:

1. Social preferences and reciprocity
2. Mental Accounting
3. Decision Making Under Uncertainty
4. Self-Control and Intertemporal Choice
5. Identity
6. Emotions and Subjective Well-Being
7. Learning and Dynamic Interactions (including Embodied Cognition)

Prerequisites/corequisites:

Econ 657 or 707

Required Textbook(s):

None

Recommended Textbook(s):

Jonathon Baron (2007), *Thinking and Deciding*, Cambridge University Press.
Colin Camerer (2003), *Behavioral Game Theory*, Princeton University Press.

Books on Reserve:

Jonathon Baron (2007), *Thinking and Deciding*, Cambridge University Press.
Colin Camerer (2003), *Behavioral Game Theory*, Princeton University Press.

Desire2Learn:

This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca> through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

Grades will be based on four problem sets (30%), a term project (50%), referee reports on others term papers and a final presentation (to be held during the scheduled final exam; total 20%)

The official grading system will be used. See <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>.

Grading Scale

A+	95 – 100	B	73 – 76	C-	60 – 62
A	85 – 94	B-	70 – 72	D+	56 – 59
A-	80 – 84	C+	67 – 69	D	50 – 55
B+	77 – 79	C	63 – 66	F	0 – 49

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

As per the Writing Across the Curriculum Statement in the Calendar, writing and grading thereof will be a factor in the evaluation of student work.

Any student work which remains undistributed after the last day of classes will be available to students through the instructor's office during his office hours.

The final examination will be comprehensive, scheduled by the Registrar, held in a classroom, and last 2 hours. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final. Under no circumstance will this be accommodated by the Department.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED QUIZZES/TESTS/EXAMS under any circumstances, nor may the quizzes/tests/exams be written early. Students unable to write the quizzes/tests/exams because of documented illness, family emergency, religious observance, or university-sanctioned event will have the weight shifted to the final examination; otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned.

Reappraisal of Grades and Intellectual Honesty:

For reappraisal of graded term work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For reappraisal of final grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Statement of Intellectual Dishonesty, see Calendar K.4

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-4.html>

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct, , see Calendar K.5

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>

Academic Accommodations:

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

Student Organizations:

Faculty of Grad Studies website: <http://grad.ucalgary.ca/home>

Graduate Students Association: <http://gsa.ucalgary.ca/>

Professional Development for Grad Students

Workshops and resources can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/mygradskills/>

Economics Graduate Association: <http://econ.ucalgary.ca/ega/>

Evacuation Assembly Point:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The assembly point for this classroom is the Professional Faculties Food Court

Safewalk:

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. **Call 403-220-5333.**

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. For more information, see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.

Internet and Electronic Communication Device information:

The use of cell phones for any purpose in class is prohibited. Computers and tablets may be used for note-taking only.

RJO

2017-10-30