

ECO421 Economics of Information, Winter 2020

Marcin Peški

January 6, 2020

Contact information

	Name	Lecture	Office hours
Instructor	Marcin Peški	Monday, 2-5pm, WI 523	Tuesday 9.15-11.10 am (priority 10.10-11.10am),
TA	Rami Abou-Seido		TBA

Course information

The (tentative) course schedule and the assigned readings (from the book) is listed on the course website.

There is no required book for the class. For some topics, I recommend additional readings which are listed in the table below (*Osborne* means “An introduction to game theory” by M. Osborne)

Course Prerequisites

It is your responsibility to check whether you have correct prerequisites for this class. The Department strictly enforces the prerequisites – if you do not have them you will be dropped, no exceptions. The calendar description of the class says

Prerequisite: ECO316H1(60%)/ ECO326H1

Exclusion: ECO421H1 (Special Topics in Economics: Economics of Information), offered in Winter 2018

Grading

The grade will be a weighted average of three items:

- writing assignment (total of 40%),
- midterm 30% of the grade,
- final exam 30% of the grade.

Writing assignment

In the writing assignment (5-12 pages), you are going to demonstrate that you can use the skills and knowledge that you learned in the class to analyze a real-world strategic situation with asymmetric information. Your task will be to find and describe a real-world problem, build a formal model, and analyze the model.

The paper is due on the last day of the class, April 3 (that is the FACS rule and I cannot move it). . You have two day grace period for weekend. **For each late day after April 5, I take away 10% of the grade for the paper.** So, if you don't bring the paper before April 15, you don't have to do it anymore.

For more details about the writing assignment, see [here](#).

Midterm and final exam

The midterm is written in-class, during regular class hours, on 10th February. The midterm covers the material from the first 5 lectures.

The final exam is written during the examination period. The final exam covers material from the last 6 lectures. The final exam is not cumulative, but, in order to do well, one must have an understanding of the material from the first part of the class.

Other

Regrades

I accept applications for re-grades if: (1) they are made in writing and given to me personally along with your entire paper, (2) they clearly specify which questions were improperly marked and explains why, (3) they are submitted within one week after each exam or midterm is returned. In addition, I generally regrade entire exams, not just individual questions. Your score may go up, go down or remain unchanged.

Make-up midterm

You are required to attend the midterm. Should you need to miss a midterm, 1. I will need a documented, valid excuse. An example of a documented, excused absence is an original note from a doctor that states you are physically unable to attend the final. The only accepted note is a fully completed University of Toronto Medical Certificate completed by a qualified medical doctor (e.g.,

not an acupuncturist, chiropractor, or other health care professional) and with the doctor's OHIP registration number. 2. I need to be contacted before the exam. When both (1) and (2) are satisfied, you will be able to take the make-up midterm. The make-up midterm will be scheduled for Friday, March 2, 9am-11am. Should you miss the midterm without satisfying one of the two above conditions, or should you miss the make-up midterm, you will automatically get 0 points for the midterm.

Any absence during the final exams is dealt according to the standard university procedures.

Drop dates

Please make sure you check the calendar to make sure you're aware of the add/drop deadlines and the associated penalties:

<http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/Sessional-Dates.html>.

Email policy

I will try to respond to emails within 24 hours outside of weekends. However, I do not respond to emails that ask a question that can be answered by looking at the syllabus or course website. Some questions cannot be answered adequately over the email so I will ask you to see me in office hours. Questions on grading will only be answered during office hours.

Academic honesty

I take any attempts to cheat (either actively or by assisting/facilitating cheating) very seriously. Any student caught or suspected will be referred to OASI and will be subject to penalties as prescribed by the University.