

Sample Syllabi – Subject to Change

Pathways in Economics

Course Objectives: This three-week, intensive program is an introduction to Chicago-style, rigorous economics. It consists of lectures taught by full-time lecturers at the Department of Economics in four important fields of economics: price theory, game theory, experimental economics, and macroeconomics. The program is designed to teach students how to think like an economist: (1) conceptualize ideas into models, (2) apply empirical methods to test the implications of the models, and (3) study a wide range of economic and social problems.

Course Outline: There will be a total of 20 lectures: four lectures in price theory, three lectures in game theory, five lectures in experimental economics, and eight lectures in macroeconomics.

Lecture 1: Methodology

- Friedman (1953); Becker (1976); Becker (1993); and Schelling (1978)

Lecture 2: Household Production

- Becker (1965) and Fair (1978)

Lecture 3: Marriage

- Becker (1976) and Gale and Shapley (1962)

Lecture 4: Externalities, Public Goods, and the “Coase Theorem”

- Hardin (1968); Olson-Zeckhauser (1966); and Coase (1960)

Lecture 5: Game Theory 1

- Osborne (2003) Ch 2-3

Lecture 6: Game Theory 2

- Osborne (2003) Ch 5-7

Lecture 7: Game Theory 3

- Osborne (2003) Ch 10

Lecture 8: Causal Model and Experiments

- Mostly Harmless Econometrics (Ch2); Rubin (1974)

Lecture 9: Lab and Field Experiments

- Harrison and List (2014); Levitt and List (2007); Falk and Heckman (2009)

Lecture 10: Experiment and Discussion of Results: Competitive Markets and Game Theory

- Smith (1962); List (2004); Guth et al (1982); Henrich (2000); Anderson et al (2011)

Lecture 11: Social Preferences

- Forsythe et al (1994); Fehr et al (1993); List (2006)

Lecture 12: Public Goods: Charitable Giving

- Karlan and List (2007); Falk (2007); Dellavigna et al (2012)

Lecture 13: Macroeconomic Perspectives

- Friedman (1968); Lucas (1976); and Lucas and Sargent (1979)

Lecture 14: Neoclassical Growth Model

- Kaldor (1957); Solow (1956); Wickens (2011, Chapter 2)



Lecture 15: Economic Growth and Convergence

- Barro and Sala i Martin (1990); Barrow (1991); Wickens (2011, Chapter 3)

Lecture 16: Business Cycle

- Kydland and Prescott (1982); Lucas (2003)

Lecture 17: Government Spending

- Barro (1981); Woodford (2011); Ramey (2011)

Lecture 18: Optimal Tax Policy

- Barro (1979); Lucas and Stokey (1983); Lucas (1990); and Mankiw et al (2009);

Lecture 19: Monetary Models

- Lucas (1982); Lucas and Stokey (1987); Sidrauski (1967)

Lecture 20: Money and Monetary Policy

- Lucas (1972); Kydland and Prescott (1977); Barro and Gordon (1983);

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