

## ECON 436: Economics of Coordination, Spring 2024

Section A3(72390) + Section A4(72391): TR 2:00 pm-3:20 pm, Room: 312 DKH

**The course outline:** ([Download The course outline:](#) (UPDATED: 01/20/2023- 9:30 am))

The course outline lists the dates each topic has been covered so far. The topics covered in future dates could change.

**Instructor:** Ali Toossi, Clinical professor of economics

**e-mail:** [toossi@illinois.edu](mailto:toossi@illinois.edu)

**Office location and Phone:** 205C DKH, (217)333-6777

**Course Site:** <https://canvas.illinois.edu/> Lecture notes and other supporting materials are available on Canvas and students are expected to check this site for announcements and materials on a regular basis.

**Office hours:** MW 2:00 pm-3:00 pm or by appointment.

- In order to make it easier for you to ask questions I have created a discussion board in Canvas with the following forums:
  1. a forum for your feedbacks about the lectures and for answering questions regarding the lectures. I welcome any suggestions about improving the lectures.
  2. a forum to answer question about assignment and exams.
- The best way to ask a question is to post it in the discussion board.

**Prerequisites:** I do not recommend you take this course unless you know:

- *Microeconomics*: at the intermediate level
- *Calculus*: differentiation & unconstrained optimization

**Attendance:**

- Attendance is required. I usually take attendance at the beginning of the lecture. Please try to be on time. In case you are late, take the first available seat and try not to disrupt the class.
- Except for an emergency, you are not allowed to leave the lecture before it ends. In case there is something important, that makes you to leave the lecture early, please tell me about it before the beginning of the lecture.
- **PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE DURING LECTURE.**

### Recommended Texts:

- "Microeconomics: Competition, Conflict, and Coordination" by Samuel Bowles & Simon D. Halliday. [Click here for a free PDF file.](#) [Option 2]
- The Economy by the CORE project: <http://core-econ.org/>. To access the text for free you must register as a learner at this [link](#).
- Bowles, Samuel. *Microeconomics: Behavior, Institutions, and Evolution*. Princeton University Press. 2003

### Grading:

Grades will be based on homework assignments (20%) & three exams: midterm1 (20%), midterm 2 (25%) and a cumulative final exam (35%).

I will adjust the average determined above to take into consideration the trend of your performance in the class.

**Grade Scale:** Letter grades will be assigned only at the end of the semester based on the overall score for the course. A +/- scale will be used. The cut-offs for +/- are as follows:

**A+   A   A-   B+   B   B-   C+   C   C-   D+   D   D-**

≥97%   ≥93%   ≥89.5%   ≥87%   ≥83%   ≥79.5%   ≥77%   ≥73%   ≥69.5%   ≥67%   ≥63%   ≥59.5%

### Assignments:

- The assignment with the lowest grade will be dropped.
- Assignments should contain the following information on the **right-hand corner** of the page: your name, assignment identification and date.
- I will post the assignments on the course Canvas site. For each assignment a deadline will be announced. Any solutions submitted after the deadline will not be graded.

**Exams:** In addition to the final exam, there will be a midterm exam. The final exam is cumulative.

- You can use a simple calculator.
- There are to be no books, papers other than the exam itself.
- **No cell-phone use is allowed during the exam.** Students found to be using unapproved items are in violation of the Academic Integrity policy of the University and will be subject to disciplinary action.
- If an extreme circumstance occurs (e.g., illness), notify me prior to the exam and provide appropriate documentation. Otherwise, there will be no make-up exams.

## Exam Dates

- **Midterm I:** Thursday February 22 During the class time
- **Midterm II:** Thursday April 11 During the class time
- **Final Exam:** 7:00-10:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 8 in room: TBA

**Final Exam Conflict Policy:** From the University's final exam policy:

- Any student having more than two consecutive final examinations is entitled to rescheduling as follows if he or she takes the following action no later than the last day of classes:
- The student must investigate whether a conflict examination is being held at another time for any of the examinations involved.
- If a conflict examination has been scheduled for any of the courses, the student must take one or more of these conflict examinations. If conflict examinations are offered for more than one course, the student must take the conflict for the course that has the largest number of students.
- If no conflict examinations have been scheduled, the student must contact the instructor of the course having the largest number of students. The contact must be made no later than the last day of classes, and that instructor must provide a makeup examination.

The University's final exam policy is available at: <https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3/part2/3-201/>

**Emergency Response Recommendations:** The university maintains guidelines for emergency responses. A list of recommendations when to evacuate and when to find shelter are available at:

<https://police.illinois.edu/em/run-hide-fight/>

**Statement on Disability Accommodations:** To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES you may visit 1207 S. Oak Street, Champaign, call 333-4603 (V/TTY), or email a message to [disability@illinois.edu](mailto:disability@illinois.edu).

**Academic Integrity:** "The University has the responsibility for maintaining academic integrity so as to protect the quality of education and research on our campus and to protect those who depend upon our integrity. *Expectations of Students*. It is the responsibility of each student to refrain from infractions of academic integrity, from conduct that may lead to suspicion of such infractions, and from conduct that aids others in such infractions. Students have been given notice of this Part by virtue of its publication. Regardless of whether a student has actually read this Part, a student is charged with knowledge of it. Ignorance is not a defense."

The University's full academic integrity policy is available at: <https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1/part4/1-401/>

**Community of Care:** As members of the Illinois community, we each have a responsibility to express care and concern for one another. If you come across a classmate whose behavior concerns you, whether in regards to their well-being or yours, we encourage you to refer this behavior to the Student Assistance Center (217-333-0050 or <http://odos.illinois.edu/community-of-care/referral/>). Based on your report, the staff in the Student Assistance Center reaches out to students to make sure they have the support they need to be healthy and safe. Further, we understand the impact that struggles with mental health can have on your experience at Illinois. Significant stress, strained relationships, anxiety, excessive worry, alcohol/drug problems, a loss of motivation, or problems with eating and/or sleeping can all interfere with optimal academic performance. We encourage all students to reach out to talk with someone, and we want to make sure you are aware that you can access mental health support at the Counseling Center (<https://counselingcenter.illinois.edu/>) or McKinley Health Center (<https://mckinley.illinois.edu/>).

For mental health emergencies, you can call 911 or walk into the Counseling Center, no appointment needed.

**Disruptive Behavior:** Behavior that persistently or grossly interferes with classroom activities is considered disruptive behavior and may be subject to disciplinary action. Such behavior inhibits other students' ability to learn and an instructor's ability to teach. A student responsible for disruptive behavior may be required to leave class pending discussion and resolution of the problem and may be reported to the Office for Student Conflict Resolution for disciplinary action.

**Religious Observances:** The Religious Observance Accommodation Request form is available at <https://odos.illinois.edu/community-of-care/resources/students/religious-observances/>. Submit the form to the instructor and to the Office of the Dean of Students ([helpdean@illinois.edu](mailto:helpdean@illinois.edu)) by the end of the second week of the course; in the case of exams or assignments scheduled after this period, students should submit the form to the instructor and to the Office of the Dean of Students as soon as possible.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):** Any student who has suppressed their directory information pursuant to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) should self-identify to the instructor to ensure protection of the privacy of their attendance in this course. See: <https://registrar.illinois.edu/academic-records/ferpa/> for more information on FERPA. Student information and records will not be released to anyone other than the student unless the student has provided written approval or as required by law.

**Sexual Misconduct Reporting Obligation:** The University of Illinois is committed to combating sexual misconduct. Faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct to the University's Title IX and Disability Office. In turn, an individual with the Title IX and Disability Office will provide information about rights and options, including

accommodations, support services, the campus disciplinary process, and law enforcement options. A list of the designated University employees who, as counselors, confidential advisors, and medical professionals, do not have this reporting responsibility and can maintain confidentiality, can be found here: <http://www.wecare.illinois.edu/resources/students/#confidential>.

Other information about resources and reporting is available here: <http://wecare.illinois.edu/>

## **Student Support**

The Counseling Center is committed to providing a range of services intended to help students develop improved coping skills in order to address emotional, interpersonal, and academic concerns. Please visit their website to find valuable resources and services: <http://counselingcenter.illinois.edu/>

*Counseling Center Information:* Location & Phone: Room 206, Student Services Building (610 East John Street, Champaign IL); 217-333-3704

*McKinley Mental Health Information:* Location and Phone: 3rd Floor McKinley Health Center 1109 South Lincoln, Urbana, IL, 217-333-2705

*Emergency Dean:* The Emergency Dean may be reached at (217) 333-0050 and supports students who are experiencing an emergency situation after 5 pm, in which an immediate University response is needed and which cannot wait until the next business day. The Emergency Dean is not a substitute for trained emergency personnel such as 911, Police or Fire. If you are experiencing a life threatening emergency, call 911. Please review the Emergency Dean procedures: <https://odos.illinois.edu/community-of-care/emergency-dean/>