

THE ART OF THE GAME

Spring 2018

Facilitators: George Nacouzi, Taejin Hwang

Time and Location: Wed 6:30–8:30, 891 Evans

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Course Description:

This course is designed for anyone with an interest and love for strategy games. It is made for people with the ambition to build their game skills regardless of prior experience. Students who are new to the game have the opportunity to learn the basics and rules of the game. Students with prior experience have the opportunity to refine their skills. The course covers a variety of games, mainly focused on standard deck card games.

Course Expectations:

In the first 10 minutes of class, we will have a quiz testing whether or not you have done the assigned readings. The next 15-20 minutes will be a brief review of game rules and strategies. The remaining time up until the last 15 will be spent playing the actual games. The last 15 minutes will be spent analyzing individual play from the games.

Course Readings: Readings will be on the course webpage.

Coures Webpage: <https://artofthegame.github.io>

Grading Distribuiton:

Attendance & Participation: 55%

- Please contact prior to class if you will be absent so we can plan ahead.
- Each absence after will result in a 5.5% penalty.
- More than 4 absences will result in failure of the course.

Quizzes: 20%

- Please come to class with a basic understanding of the rules/strategy of a particular game.
- Weekly quizzes will be assigned to ensure readings were complete (Course Readings are mandatory, further readings are heavily suggested.)

Final Essay: 15%

- A comprehensive analysis of your favorite game and the strategy around it.

Final Presentation: 10%

- In-class presentation of a game you would like to see in a future offering of the course.

Schedule:

| Week | Date | Topic | Homework |
|------|---------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | 2/7/18 | Intro, Rat Slap, Spoons, Forks | None |
| 2 | 2/14/18 | Texas HoldEm | Instructions |
| 3 | 2/21/18 | Texas HoldEm | Strategies/Video |
| 4 | 2/28/18 | Hearts | Instructions/ Strategy |
| 5 | 3/7/18 | Bridge | Instructions |
| 6 | 3/14/18 | Coup | Instructions |
| 7 | 3/21/18 | Settlers of Catan | Instructions |
| 8 | 4/4/18 | Catan / The Resistance: Avalon | Instructions/ Strategy |
| 9 | 4/11/18 | The Resistance: Avalon | |
| 10 | 4/18/18 | In-class Final Presentation | Final Paper |

UC Berkeley Honor Code:

As a member of the UC Berkeley community, I act with honesty, integrity, and respect for others.