

Class Syllabus
EC327 - INTRO TO GAME THEORY
CRN: 11733
Fall 2025
Date modified: October 1, 2025

Lecture time:	8:30-9:50 am	classroom:	McKenzie 240C
Instructor:	Dante Yasui	email:	dyasui@uoregon.edu
office hours:	Mon 10am & Wed 1pm	location:	Tykeson 352
Grader:	Eugene Mensah	email:	emensah@uoregon.edu

Course Description

This course introduces the field of game theory, which involves the analysis of strategic situations; where the consequences one person's choice depend on the actions of others. The examples of settings we may discuss range from simple games like rock, paper, scissors; to more complicated games of incomplete information in the market for used cars.

We will introduce the general concept of equilibrium and explore the different forms of equilibria in different settings. Students will learn through in-person lectures and discussions, and build their own skills through participation in in-class activities.

This elective is suitable for economics majors and anyone interested in understanding the strategic dynamics that shape our decisions.

1 Course Details

1.1 Course Pages:

- **Canvas:** The class Canvas page will be where you submit graded assignments and where you can check your current grade.
- **Course Website:** danteyasui.org/EC327

This website will be kept up to date with the current class schedule, activities, assignments, and slides.

1.2 Prerequisites:

One of EC101 or EC201.

The most important prerequisite skills you will need for this class are mainly college-level algebra and working with simple systems of equations. If it has been a while since your last math class, it may be helpful to review concepts like linear equations, graphing of equations, and factoring quadratics (for example units 1-5 of the [Khan Academy course](#)).

1.3 Objectives:

This course aims to help you to understand the fundamental principles of game theory, become familiar with basic classes of games, practice the mathematical skills to solve for the appropriate equilibria, apply game theoretic models to real-world interactions, and recognize limitations and critiques of the theory.

1.4 Textbook:

- *Games of Strategy* by Avinash Dixit, Susan Skeath, and David McAdams, **5th edition**.

The most recent edition of the E-book is available from the [publisher](#). If you have an older or newer edition of this book, please make sure that the chapters align with the topics on the class schedule. Any other readings I assign (for example articles, news stories, etc.) will be posted on the course website.

1.5 Attendance:

This is an in-person class that will meet at the times specified in the UO Class Schedule. Regular attendance and active participation is expected. You will demonstrate your attendance by participating in regular in-class [activities](#) and group discussions.

If you are unable to attend class for any reason, you are responsible for keeping track of whatever activities, discussions, and lecture material we cover in your absence. Please ask your classmates and check the website to see what you may have missed. If you miss more than two or three classes in the term, you should meet with the instructor to see what options are best for you to meet the class expectations.

1.6 Office Hours:

There will be two in-person office hour sections each week during which you will have the opportunity to meet with the instructor to ask for further clarification on class concepts, homework assignments, etc. These times are most effective if you come prepared with specific questions or topics that you want to discuss. Because my office space is limited, unless otherwise stated, office hours will be held in the [Tykeson 352](#), on the third floor next to the blackboards. As office hour times are subject to change, please check the Canvas page for the most up to date schedule.

If you are unable to attend the scheduled office hour times, I am also available to meet by appointment.

2 Grading Policies:

Activities/Discussions	10%
Quizzes	10%
Homework	20%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

2.1 Activities/Discussions

This class uses interactive learning in the form of in-class discussion and group activities. Your Activities grade will be determined by your participation (i.e., were you present, respectful, and engaged) as well as a short written report which you will submit to canvas. Depending on what we do in class, the report will outline the discussion you had with your classmates and/or record the data from the game you played.

If you are unable to attend class when we have an activity, you may make up for your lost participation by designing an alternative activity which you can complete on your own time in consultation with the instructor. Only up to 2 missed activities may be substituted for per quarter.

2.2 Quizzes

There will also be a number of quizzes posted on Canvas which are mostly designed to keep you up to date with the reading. There will be one quiz for each assigned chapter and they will be due on the Friday of the week we cover that chapter in class. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

2.3 Homework

To help practice your understanding of the material, you will complete a written homework assignment covering the corresponding chapter every week. You will post your submissions as *a single pdf file* including all work. Answer keys will be automatically posted on the due date in Canvas, so no late submissions will be accepted. However, your lowest grade will be dropped at the end of the term.

Your submissions will be graded not only on how well they match the rubric, but also on how clearly your submission demonstrates your understanding of the material.

2.3.1 AI use policy

For this class, you may find it helpful to use ‘artificial intelligence’ (AI) software tools like ChatGPT to brainstorm, create outlines, or summarize readings. However, any written content you submit for homework *must be in your own words* and demonstrate your own understanding of the material.

If you use any AI generated content to help you write your submission, your submission must also provide the following: ¹

1. **AI Tool Details:** What specific model, version, website provider did you use?
2. **Prompt:** State the specific prompts you used when generating text, images, etc.
3. **Alignment:** Describe what steps you took or how you edited the generated content to align with the rubric guidelines. This may include refining prompts, cross-referencing with lecture notes, or seeking clarification for ambiguous responses.
4. **Demonstrate Comprehension:** Along with your answer, briefly evaluate how useful the AI tool was for your submission by highlighting what it got right and what you needed to correct.

2.4 Exams:

Exams will be in-person and closed-note.

There will be one midterm exam on week 5 and one final exam administered at the time specified in the Registrar’s final exam schedule. Each exam will have a multiple-choice section (based on quiz questions) and some long-answer questions (based on homework). You are allowed to bring a 3x5 inch handwritten notecard (front and back sides).

If you cannot attend the midterm due to extreme circumstances, you may choose to move the weight that would have been applied to the midterm score to your final exam instead. To qualify for re-weighting, a request must be submitted to the instructor no later than two days after the midterm.

¹For example, this policy section was written with the help of ChatGPT with the prompt linked here: <https://chatgpt.com/share/11d117ab-6a5e-4115-9bd8-605f59df70f1>. I edited the generated content for brevity. I found it useful for organizing my thoughts, but it’s original text was a little too wordy.

University Policies:²

The UO Economics Department welcomes and respects diverse experiences, perspectives, and approaches. Both nationwide and at the University of Oregon, disproportionately few women and members of historically underrepresented racial and ethnic minority groups graduate with degrees in economics. All class participants are expected to communicate with respect and to avoid behaviors or contributions that undermine, demean, or marginalize others based on race, ethnicity, gender, sex, age, sexual orientation, religion, ability, or socioeconomic status.

I believe that everyone deserves an equal access to higher education. If you believe that you face specific barriers to your learning that make it more difficult to keep up with your peers, there are resources at UO to help you.

Accessible Education

The **Accessible Education Center (AEC)** provides services such as:

- Testing accommodations such as reduced-distraction environments and official requests for longer time to take exams if necessary.
- Other classroom accommodations like peer note-taking, accessible technology, etc.

If you have or think you have a [disability](#) or an obstacle to your learning, please contact the AEC to discuss appropriate accommodations or support:

- Visit 360 Oregon Hall or <https://aec.uoregon.edu/> for more information.
- Call AEC at 541-346-1155 or email to uoaec@uoregon.edu.

Mandatory Reporter Status:

I am a **Designated Reporter**. This means that I must report any alleged incident of discriminatory misconduct to the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (OEOA) if I become aware of them.

- For the difference between designated reporters and confidential employees, please refer to the Employee Reporting Obligations on the [Office of Investigations and Civil Rights Compliance \(OICRC\) website](#).

If you are experiencing sex or gender-based discrimination, harassment or violence:

- Call the 24-7 hotline 541-346-SAFE [7244] or visit safe.uoregon.edu

If you are experiencing *any* form of prohibited discrimination or harassment:

- contact the Dean of Students Office at 541-346-3216
- or the non-confidential Title IX Coordinator/OICRC at 541-346-3123.

Additional resources are available at UO's [How to Get Support webpage](#).

²Adapted from UO TEP's starter syllabus

Academic Integrity:

UO's [student code of conduct](#) defines **plagiarism** as; "Presenting another's material as one's own, including using another's words, results, processes or ideas, in whole or in part, without giving appropriate credit."

A (non-exhaustive) list of acts which can be considered **academic misconduct** in this class:

- Taking a quiz or exam for another person, or providing answers to a quiz or exam question to someone else.
- Providing the work of another classmate, tutor, or online poster from Chegg, Course Hero, Stack Exchange, etc. as your own without proper attribution.
- Providing an answer which was generated by an AI large language model (like ChatGPT) without a clear explanation of how it was generated.

See this class's [AI tool use policy](#) for more details

Your Wellbeing and Basic Needs:

Students often feel overwhelmed or stressed, experience anxiety or depression, struggle with relationships, or just need help navigating challenges in their life. If you're facing such challenges, you don't need to handle them on your own—there's help and support on campus. As your instructor I am here to support you, and I will refer you to appropriate resources if I believe you may need support outside of what I can provide. Getting help is a courageous thing to do—for yourself and those you care about.

- **University Health Services:** (located in the EMU on the ground floor) Help students cope with difficult emotions and life stressors. You can talk to a specially trained Peer Wellness Advocate about problems you are facing.
- **University Counseling Services (UCS):** Offers free and confidential clinical counseling services, wellbeing assessments, in-person, hybrid, or teletherapy options. Call 541-346-3227 if UCS is closed to access the After-Hours Support and Crisis Line.
- **UO Basic Needs:** They have information on food, housing, healthcare, childcare, transportation, technology, finances (including emergency funds), and legal support.
- If your need is **urgent**, contact the [Care and Advocacy Program](#) by calling **541-346-3216**, filling out the Community Care and Support form, or by scheduling an appointment with an advocate.

Accommodations for Religious Observances:

If you need to be absent from a class period this term because of a religious obligation or observance, please fill out the Student Religious Accommodation Request [fillable PDF form](#) and send it to me within the first weeks of the course so we can make arrangements in advance.

Acknowledge and Sign

I agree that I have read and understand the syllabus and that all work submitted will be my own or appropriately cited/attributed when appropriate.

Sign Here

Date