

Course Descriptions NonDegree 2018-2019

Course Title	Behavioural Economics							
Course Code	EBC2094							
ECTS Credits	6,5							
Assessment	None							
Period	Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	2	29-10-2018	21-12-2018	X			X	
Level	Intermediate							
Coordinator	Thomas Meissner For more information:t.meissner@maastrichtuniversity.nl							
Language of instruction	English							
Goals	The goal of the course is to provide the students with the necessary sensitivity when applying theoretical models. After the course students should be able to identify the most important reasons why humans deviate from behaviour predicted by the commonly used model of the homo oeconomicus. Moreover they should be able to understand formal modelling of deviant behaviour.							
Description	<p>The traditional model of the homo economicus is ubiquitous in microeconomic theory. Economic agents are assumed to be rational utility maximisers with self-regarding preferences and unlimited processing capacities. Common sense and the results of economic experiments show that this is not always the case. Often people behave differently than predicted by theory. In this course, we will deal with the following problem statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) When does microeconomic theory apply and when does it lose its predictive power? 2) If it does not apply, what concepts and models can be use to either extend or to substitute the current theory in order to describe human behaviour? <p>Specifically, we will discuss the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Non-expected utility theory · Intertemporal choice · Social preferences · Reciprocity · Levels of analytical reasoning · The role of mistakes <p>In addition, we will touch on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Mental accounting · Heuristics · Neuroeconomics 							
Literature	There is no one textbook that will cover the course. References and papers will be made available to the students at the beginning of the course.							
Prerequisites	<p>Microeconomics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ability to think analytically · Basic game theory is not necessary but helpful: simple equilibrium concepts such as (pure and mixed strategy) Nash equilibrium and subgame perfect Nash equilibrium. · Exchange students need to major in Economics <p>an advanced level of English</p>							
Teaching methods	PBL							
Assessment methods	Final Paper / Participation / Written Exam							
Evaluation in previous academic year	For the complete evaluation of this course please click http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM							
This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation	Bachelor Economics and Business Economics - Economics		Economics Electives					
	Bachelor Econometrics and Operations Research		Business & Economics Electives					
	SBE Exchange Bachelor		Bachelor Exchange Courses					
	SBE Exchange Master		Bachelor Exchange Courses					
	SBE Non Degree Courses		Bachelor Courses					