Economics 816

Topics in Economic Theory: Syllabus and Reading List

Course Objectives: This course will provide you with useful tools for understanding current research and performing your own research on theoretical economic models. The focus will be on models of perfect and imperfect competition, where demand may be uncertain.

Course Requirements: Students will be required to present one of the papers to the class and to write a short (5 page) referee's report on a (different) relevant paper. The presentation and referee's report each will make up 50% of the final grade. If there is not enough time for everyone to present a paper, then a take-home final exam will be given to those who do not present a paper.

I. Rational Expectations


II. Shapley-Shubik Market Game Models


### III. Information Cascades


### IV. Search Models


### V. Models of Price-Quantity Competition with Demand Uncertainty: Zero Search Cost
VI. Models of Price-Quantity Competition with Demand Uncertainty: Infinite Search Cost


VII. Bank Runs and Financial Crises


VIII. (Time permitting) Speculation and Sunspot Equilibria


This publication/material is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact Michelle Wilgenburg (410-F Arps Hall, 292-6702) for further information. Students with disabilities are responsible for making their needs known to the instructor and seeking assistance in a timely manner.