

ECON 3111H

Irrational Economics: Why We Make Bad Decisions: Honors

Model contributed by Rojhat Avsar

We may not be the rational calculating machines maximizing their satisfaction to perfection, as economists would like to believe. This course sheds lights on the psychological and evolutionary foundation of our apparently irrational economic decisions. A more nuanced understanding of the intricacies of our decision-making process could potentially inform an array of policies that would improve our well-being. This is an Honors class. In addition to other possible pre-requisites, students need a minimum G.P.A. of 3.50 or higher to enroll.

Class schedule and format

The following is the hybrid instruction plan I am planning to implement for an Honors course with 16 students.

- Split the class into two equally sized groups of **8**.
- Meet with Group 1 on the odd and Group 2 on the even weeks—except for final exam week. There will be 7 in person meetings with each group. Each session lasts 75 minutes. (Possible modifications: you can increase the number of groups but meet less frequently)
- On the day of the Final Exam (scheduled for Week 15), both groups will be on campus but in different rooms. (you can have Midterm in class as well.)

Course-specific organization, examples and dates

- While one group is attending in-person session, the other group could watch the session live streamed via Zoom.
- Remote students will be on mute but can ask questions or participate by “raising” their hands.
- For activities that require group discussions, “break out” rooms on Zoom will be used for remote students.