Topics in Microeconomics (21931)
UPF, Spring 2015
Ramon Caminal

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Office hours: TBA and by appointment

Lectures: Thursday and Friday, 18:00-19:30. Room 40.150 (Roger de Llúria)
Seminars: Tuesday, 14:30-16:00. Room 13.108 (Ramon Turró).

Course objectives
This course covers two broad areas: bargaining and internet economics. In both areas we will review formal theoretical models as well as empirical and experimental evidence.

Course Information
This course is taught in English. There will be three problem sets. Grades will be based on the final exam (60%) as well as on class participation and problem sets (40%). There will be also a make-up exam on July 10th.

Outline and references

PART I: Bargaining theory and applications

1. Introduction
   NON-COOPERATIVE BARGAINING
2. Two-person games with complete information
3. Social preferences
4. Deadlines
5. Asymmetric information: delays
   COOPERATIVE GAME THEORY
6. Nash-bargaining solution
7. Delegation in wage bargaining
8. The Shapley value
9. The core
10. Simultaneous bilateral negotiations: merger proposals and policy implications
General references:


Additional readings:


PART II: Internet Economics

11. Introduction
12. Search costs, consumer welfare and price dispersion
13. The costs of searching on the internet: price effects
14. Obfuscation strategies
15. The reliability of monopolistic search engines
16. The "Long tail" effect
17. Advertising and social networks

General references:


The Economist (2011), Google, the new General Electric.
Burguet, R. (2014), Comercio Online. Economia Industrial 393, 41-50

Additional readings:


Seminars: Tentative schedule:
April 14
April 28
May 12
May 26
June 9
June 16