

DSC3017: GAME THEORY AND ITS APPLICATION

Effective Term

Semester A 2026/27

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Game Theory and Its Application

Subject Code

DSC - Data Science

Course Number

3017

Academic Unit

Data Science (DS)

College/School

College of Computing (CC)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

(MA1503 Linear Algebra with Applications or MA2503 Linear Algebra)
and
(MA2506 Probability and Statistics or MA2510 Probability and Statistics)
and
MA2508 Multi-variable Calculus

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

SDSC3017 Game Theory and Its Application

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to introduce game theory with applications in artificial intelligence. Students will learn how to think and act strategically at a system level. Students will master the basic ideas of games including dominance, backward induction, Nash equilibrium, etc. At the end of this course, students will be able to use game theory to solve simple practical AI problems with course project. Students will be familiar with latest applications of game theory in various AI topics.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Explain the basic concepts of game theory	20	x		
2	Model real world problems as games and multi-agent simulation models.	20	x	x	
3	Solve simple game problems in a real-world scenario with game theory	30	x	x	
4	Apply game theory to AI topics	30	x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lecture	Learning through teaching is primarily based on lectures.	1, 2, 3	33 hours/semester
2	Tutorials	Learning through tutorials is primarily based on interactive problem solving and hand-on computer exercises allowing instant feedback.	2, 3, 4	6 hours/semester

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Hand-in assignments	2, 3, 4	30	The assignments enable students to demonstrate their skills and understanding of concepts and methods for game theory.	Yes
2	Course Project^	2, 3, 4	30	The course project provides students the chance to demonstrate their achievements on practical use of game theory methods learned in this course for practical problems.	Yes

Continuous Assessment (%)

60

Examination (%)

40

Examination Duration (Hours)

2

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

30

Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)

30

Additional Information for ATs

Note: To pass the course, apart from obtaining a minimum of 40% in the overall mark, a student must also obtain a minimum mark of 30% in both continuous assessment and examination components.

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Hand-in assignments

Criterion

1.1 Ability to learn the basic concepts of game theory, including static and dynamic games with complete and incomplete information.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Hand-in assignments

Criterion

1.2 Capability to apply game theory models to solve AI-related problems.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Course Project

Criterion

Ability to solve real-world AI problems using game theory models.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Examination

Criterion

Ability to explain the basic concepts of game theory Ability to solve simple game problems in a real-world scenario with game theory

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

- What is a game? Why we need a theory about games? Introduction to a variety of real-world games.
- Thinking and acting strategically at the system level.
- Solving static games
 - Games with complete information, rationalizability and Nash equilibrium
 - Games with incomplete information, Bayesian Nash equilibrium
- Solving extensive-form games
 - Backwards induction, subgame perfection, bargaining, iterated conditional dominance
- Equilibrium for games with imperfect information
- Signal and forward induction
- Cooperative games
- Dynamic games
- Agent-based systems
- Intelligent agents and the emergence of intelligence from multi-agent systems
- Applications of game theory in AI

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	S Tadelis, Game Theory: An Introduction, Princeton University Press, ISBN: 9780691129082, https://press.princeton.edu/titles/10001.html

Additional Readings

Title	
1	AK Dixit and BJ Nalebuff, The Art of Strategy, W. W. Norton & Company, ISBN: 9780393062434, http://www.artofstrategy.net/