Course Title: Fundamentals of Social Choice Theory
Course Number: Economics 411
Instructor: John Duggan, Dunning 318
Teaching Assistant: Chunling Liu, MC A505

COURSE OUTLINE (updated November 1, but subject to change):

9/14 introduction, diagnostic exam
9/16 mathematical preliminaries
9/21 mathematical preliminaries
9/23 preference theory
9/28* preference theory, choice theory
9/30 choice theory
10/5* the social preference framework
10/7 majority rule, May’s theorem, Condorcet’s paradox
10/12 McGarvey’s theorem, conditions on social preferences
10/14 Arrow’s theorem
10/19** EARLY TERM EXAM
10/21 more impossibility theorems
10/26 impossibility theorems, economic domains
10/28* no class (homework due Oct. 31)
11/2 single-peaked preferences, the median voter theorem
11/4 the social choice function framework, Condorcet’s principle
11/9* a menu of social choice functions
11/11 impossibility theorems
11/16** LATE TERM EXAM
11/18 manipulation of social choices
11/23 the Gibbard-Satterthwaite theorem
11/25* Nash equilibrium
11/30 monotonicity, Nash implementation
12/2 no class (course evaluations)
12/15** final exam
* homework due
** test scheduled

Each mid-term counts toward 25 % of the final grade, the final exam counts toward 40 %, and homework counts toward 10 %.