Introduction to Experimental Economics

Module Code: ECO00014I  Credits: 10  Year: 2  Terms: 1
Contact Hours: 9 one-hour Lectures, 2 two-hour Seminars (13 contact hours)
Module Organiser: Professor J Hey

Overview:
Overview of the Lectures: The course is, as its title suggests, an introduction to experimental economics. The course is structured around a series of topics - each of which stands fairly alone from others, and which are exciting in and of themselves. This is partly because the course is being offered in the first term of the second year, and consequently students have not yet been exposed to more advanced economics. It is also partly because I feel that a topic-based approach is more suitable for undergraduate students - who are unlikely to embark immediately on their own experiments. For students who are also interested in more methodological aspects, I can suggest the Graduate course in Experimental Economics, which I also teach. This is more suitable for those students who want to carry out their own experiments.

While the new structure of the course is now in place, I would nevertheless be happy to have suggestions from the students registered on the course for alternative topics that we might study.

Overview of the Seminars: The seminar programme will partly involve students participating in experiments and partly in designing their own.

Aims:
- To expose the students to the subject of Experimental Economics and to give an overview of some of its uses in different areas of Economics. The course will not attempt to give a comprehensive overview but will instead give a serious of illustrations through particular topics

Objectives:
On completing the module a student will be able to:
- Know the terminology used in Experimental Economics
- Be knowledgeable of the use of experimental methods in different areas of Economics
- Know how to use experimental methods to study an economic question
- To get some feeling of the types of topics in economics that can be studied using experimental methods

Assessment:
There will be a 2-hour unseen examination in Week 1 of the Spring Term. The format for examinations taken from 2010-2011 onwards will be slightly different from the format in previous years. A specimen paper in the new style can be found on the VLE site
Alternatively students can opt to be assessed by a Group Project, in which self-selected groups prepare a project, under my supervision, and submit it for assessment. All students in any one group get the same mark.
The deadline for submission of the Group Projects is Monday of week 5 of the Summer Term.
Pre-requisites:
Economics 1 (ECO00001C)

Co-requisites:
Microeconomics 2 (ECO00001I)

Main References (none of which are compulsory. Advice on reading is given on the VLE site):