COURSE : INFORMATION ECONOMICS / ECONOMIE DE L’INFORMATION

MASTER 1 IN ECONOMICS

Year 2004/2005

Lecturers :
Dr. B. DUMONT (University of Rennes I, CREM-CNRS, Beatrice.Dumont@univ-rennes1.fr)
Dr. E. MALIN (University of Rennes I, CREM-CNRS, eric.malin@univ-rennes1.fr)

Description :
This course is designed to give students an understanding of the issues related to economical impacts of production and utilisation of information and value of information in managing businesses. Another objective is to familiarize the students with most central economic theories used to understand the impacts of information systems in business. This will be achieved through topical articles where these theories are applied. This integrating advanced level course is accomplished through readings and discussion, and independent studying is of great importance.

Required courses :
Basic knowledge of economics (intermediate microeconomics, industrial organisation and some notions of econometrics).

Teaching method :
The lectures will be complemented by class room games on individual interactions (experimental economics).

Study load :
24 hours + 6 hours tutorial. The course will take place every Friday from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm (Fall 2004), Amphii V.

Assessment method :
Written examination 2 hours

Course materials :
The case book for this course is :

Supplemental reading:

1. Productivity in the Service Sector

2. The specificities of information goods

3. Property rights in information

4-5-6. Pricing information products and services

7. Auctions and contests

8-9a. Network Issues I: Externalities and Access
   - Nicholas Economides, "The Economics of Networks," available at: http://www.stern.nyu.edu/networks/top.html

8-9b. Network Issues II: Battles of Technical Standards

Background stories:

10. Lock-in and Network Externalities

11. The Internet and Electronic Commerce

Further materials and links
- [http://www.stern.nyu.edu/networks/top.html](http://www.stern.nyu.edu/networks/top.html)
- [http://pub.utdallas.edu/~liebowit/netwextn.html](http://pub.utdallas.edu/~liebowit/netwextn.html)
- [http://www.sims.berkeley.edu/resources/infoecon/](http://www.sims.berkeley.edu/resources/infoecon/)

Course content:
The course will be illustrated through extensive use of case studies and reference to recent research papers on the topic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th>Topic covered</th>
<th>Study load</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. DUMONT</td>
<td>1 – Introduction to the “information rules” (measuring the information economy, etc…)</td>
<td>2H</td>
<td>17/09</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. DUMONT</td>
<td>2 – The specificities of information goods</td>
<td>4H</td>
<td>24/09, 1/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. DUMONT</td>
<td>3 – Information goods and IPRs</td>
<td>2H</td>
<td>8/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. MALIN</td>
<td>4-5-6 - Differentiation and pricing</td>
<td>6H</td>
<td>15/10-22/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. DUMONT</td>
<td>7 – Auctions and contests</td>
<td>2H</td>
<td>29/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. MALIN</td>
<td>8-9 – Compatibility and standards</td>
<td>6H</td>
<td>5/11-12/11-19/11-26/11</td>
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<tr>
<td>T. PENARD</td>
<td>11 – The economics of Internet</td>
<td>2H</td>
<td>3/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>L. DENANT-BOEMONT/D. MASCLET</td>
<td>12 – Tutorial</td>
<td>6H</td>
<td>in Nov./Dec. (to be determined)</td>
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