Summary
The course is an introduction to information economics and its strategic ramifications. The main objectives are to use economic theory to understand strategic interactions in the presence of uncertainty, estimate the value of information, and analyze competitive strategy in an information economy.

Content
Readings and cases are used to discuss the following topics:

1. Competition and Market Power
2. Product Differentiation
3. Pricing Methods
4. Externalities and System Effects
5. Moral Hazard and Incentives
6. Markets and Intermediaries
7. Imperfect Competition: Search Markets
8. Auctions and Bargaining
9. Prediction Markets
10. Special Topics

Keywords
Asymmetric information, market imperfections, mechanism design

Learning Prerequisites
Recommended courses
Principles of Microeconomics (MGT-454) or equivalent course

Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

• Recognize strategic significance of informational asymmetries
• Represent strategic interactions in simple economic models
• Analyze market imperfections
• Construct business models for market intermediaries
• Optimize pricing for differentiated products
• Create economic mechanisms
• Transpose concepts to concrete application (project)

Transversal skills
• Plan and carry out activities in a way which makes optimal use of available time and other resources.
• Use a work methodology appropriate to the task.
• Communicate effectively with professionals from other disciplines.
• Identify the different roles that are involved in well-functioning teams and assume different roles, including leadership roles.
• Use both general and domain specific IT resources and tools
• Collect data.
• Make an oral presentation.
• Write a scientific or technical report.

Assessment methods
Continuous assessment combining:
20% Homework (problem sets)
40% Team project
30% Written exam (midterm)
10% Class participation

Resources
Bibliography
Reading bulkpack

Ressources en bibliothèque
• Competitive Solutions / McAfee
• Information Rules / Shapiro

Websites
• http://econspace.net/MGT-431.html