HE 411: CURRENT TOPICS IN ECONOMICS

Course Description and Scope
The aim of the course is to provide an understanding of the theoretical foundations of “The Economics of Uncertainty and Asymmetric Information.” The in-class discussion will pay particular attention to real world examples.

The scheduling of topics is as follows:

Uncertainty, Asymmetric Information and the Labor Market

Week 1: Decision making under Uncertainty.
Week 2: Examples and case studies of adverse selection.
Week 3: Examples and case studies of moral hazard.
Week 4: Efficiency wages and related issues.
Week 5/6: Information issues in the labor market.
Week 5/6: Group presentations.
Week 7: Group presentations.
Week 8: Recess
Week 9: Group presentations.
Week 10: Group presentations.
Week 11: Group presentations.
Week 12: Group presentations.
Week 13: Group presentations.

Course Material
Class presentation slides will be provided, as well as a collection of published papers for selection and presentation by students.

Method of Instruction
Lectures: 3 hours per week

Assessment
Part 1: Coursework component (class group presentation) – 50%.
Part 2: Final Exam: 50%