

Honors Tutorial-Contract Bridge

HN 310Z – (two credits) CRNs

Spring 2020

Instructor: Dr. Atul Rai

Department: Accounting; School of Accountancy; Barton School of Business

Office: 336 Clinton Hall

Office Phone: (316) 978-6251

Email: atul.rai@wichita.edu

Live Office Hours: 2:30 p.m. -4:00 p.m. M; and by appointment.

Virtual Office Hours: By appointment.

Class Location: To be determined (TBD)

Web-site: <http://blackboard.wichita.edu>

Prerequisites: Cohen Honors College student or permission of Cohen Honors College

Teaching Assistant: TBD

Class Meeting Time: TBD

How to Use this Syllabus

This syllabus provides you with information specific to this course, and it also includes and provides information about essential university policies. This document should be viewed as a course overview; it is not a contract and is subject to change as the semester evolves. Any changes to this syllabus will be communicated via the Blackboard site.

General Information

All students are encouraged to express themselves in online class discussion. All students will be treated with equal respect by both the instructor and fellow students. Professional as well as ethical conduct is expected in interaction including online chats and discussion forums. Participation is crucial. "Participation" involves reading the assignments thoroughly, reading any handouts provided for the week, watching any videos (including updated videos I may add throughout the semester), contributing to class discussions, and completing online assignments. To be successful in this class, you should be checking your student email daily and logging in to our course at least 3 times a week.

Course Description

In *The Theory of Gambling and Statistical Logic*, Richard Epstein notes that "Contract Bridge is likely the most challenging game extant; it is certainly the most obsessive for its ranks of zealous followers" (1995, pg. 252). The course will introduce students to the game of contract bridge. Contract Bridge is a trick-taking game played with standard 52-card deck that can help hone skills like memory, communication, quantitative reasoning, and strategy. It is a game for a lifetime. Students will participate in two sessions during the semester at a local bridge club to actually play the game in a real setting.

Required Items and Materials

- A prescribed book for learning bridge (TBD, a sample is “Bridge in 21st Century” by Audrey Grant)
- A deck of cards
- Internet access for online practice and instructions.
- Several instructional videos will be posted in Blackboard.

Recommended Books

- Bidding for the 21st Century By Bill Root
- Play of the hand by Luis Watson
- Kantar on Defense Play by Edwin Kantar

Learning Goals

- Develop a learning community centered on a friendly and competitive activity
- Acquire the meta-level cognitive skills activated by the playing of contract bridge, such as problem-solving and inferential logic.
- Learn to think critically by asking what, how and why?
- Know the basics (and some finer points) of bridge card-play and the Standard American bidding system

Measurable Student Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to

1. Explain how the game of bridge is played
2. Know the basic rules, and scoring.
3. Learn basics of bidding, declarer play, and defense.
4. Recall basic strategies of the game
5. Learn to apply statistical concepts in devising and selecting strategies.
6. Learn ethics of the game and actively apply them

My Personal Objective

My personal goal for teaching this course is to kindle a lifelong interest in the game of bridge in students so that they can play and enjoy it for the rest of their lives at whatever level they wish to pursue it whether to play socially with friends and family, or to play in clubs as a leisure activity, or to play competitively in tournaments.

Course Workload

Students will get an Honors Experience for learning how to play. Participants in this experience will attend weekly meetings with two key components: lecture and practicum. Lectures will focus on aspects of bridge rules, bidding, card-play technique, scoring, table presence, and tournament bridge culture. Skills of the game help in memorization, concentration, communication, contingency planning, quantitative reasoning, probabilities, and analytics. The course will also highlight famous ethical scandals of the game, and students will be asked to reflect why people cheat in sports. Students should expect to spend about 90 hours on this course. This includes approximately 30 hours of in-class instructions, and 60 hours of learning by playing bridge on an online portal, as well as participating in a local bridge game/tournament towards the end of the course.

Definition of a Credit Hour

The expectation for each unit credit hour for a fifteen-week semester is that students will spend a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction and preparation/studying or course related activities. Using this as a guideline, a student should expect to spend approximately 90 hours for this two credit course. Go to: <http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=academicaffairs&p=/definitionandassignmentofcredithours/> for the policy and examples for different types of courses and credit hour offerings.

Important Academic Dates

For spring 2020 semester, important dates including exams and project due dates are:

EVENT	DATE(S)
Classes begin	March 21, 2020
The last date to drop a class and receive a W (Withdrawn) instead of F (Failed)	TBD
Other important dates	TBD

Assignments/Elements of Course Grade:

Item	Grade
Attendance in class sessions	400
Assignments	400
Participation in Club/Tournament	200 The grade will be based on participation and not on the performance in the game/tournament
TOTAL	1,000 points

Weekly Assignments

Students will complete weekly assignments to learn various aspects of the game. These will include, but not limited to bidding, declarer play, defense, and ethics of the game. You will not be graded on how well you master to play the game, but rather on specific requirements of the assigned work.

Grading Scale

WSU uses a +/- grading scale for final grades and to calculate grade point averages. In this class, grades are assigned according to the following chart. The grading scale will not be curved at the end of the semester.

Letter Grade	Course Grade Percentage	Grade Score
A	93% to 100%	930 to 1,000
A-	90% to 92.9%	900 to 929

Letter Grade	Course Grade Percentage	Grade Score
B+	87% to 89.9%	870 to 899
B	83% to 86.9%	830 to 869
B-	80% to 82.9%	800 to 829
C+	77% to 79.9%	770 to 799
C	73% to 76.9%	730 to 769
C-	70% to 72.9%	700 to 729
D+	67% to 69.9%	670 to 699
D	63% to 66.9%	630 to 669
D-	60% to 62.9%	600 to 629
F	Below 60%	0 to 599

Weekly Lesson Plans and Assignments

Week	Topic	Assignment
1	Introduction Getting Started; Objectives; Set-up of the game; Scoring	Play Deals 1 to 30
2	Declarer Play Card Play; Making a Plan; Developing Tricks – Promotion and Length; Developing Tricks – the Finesse; Watching Out for Entries; Watching Out for the Opponents; Eliminating Losers – Trumping and Discarding; Managing the Trump Suit; Putting It All Together	Play Deals 31 to 70
3	Statistics and Probabilities in Bridge Introduction to combinations; Fundamentals of Probabilities Alternative lines of play; Assessing the best alternative	Assignment 1; Play Deals 71 to 110
4	Bidding-Opening Bids Minor-Suit Openings and Responses; Major-Suit Openings and Responses – Part 1; Major-Suit Openings and Responses – Part 2; No Trump Openings; Weak Two-Bids; Strong 2 Club Opening	Play Deals 111 to 150
5	Bidding-The Subsequent Auction Responses to an Opening Bid of One in a Suit; Rebids by Opener;	Assignment 2; Play Deals 151 to 200

	Rebids by Responder; Responses to No Trump Opening Bids	
6	Bidding-In Competition Overcalls and Advances; Takeout Doubles and Advances; The Negative Double; Other Doubles; Two-Suited Overcalls	Play Deal 201 to 240
7	Bidding-Conventions The Stayman Convention; Jacoby Transfers; Blackwood and Gerber-Finding Key Cards; Two-Over-One: A modern alternative to traditional bidding system	Play Deals 241 to 280; Assignment 3
8	Defensive Card Play Making a Plan; Leads and Signals; Opening Leads against Notrump Contracts; Opening Leads against Suit Contracts; Third-Hand Play; Second-Hand Play; Defensive Signals; Developing Defensive Tricks; Interfering with Declarer	Play Deals 281 to 320; Assignment 4; club/tournament play

Academic Integrity

Students at Wichita State University are expected to uphold high academic standards. WSU will not tolerate a lack of academic integrity. Students are responsible for knowing and following the Student Code of Conduct http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch8_05.htm and the Student Academic Honesty policy http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch2_17.htm. When the faculty member determines sanctions are warranted for violations of academic integrity, regardless of severity, the faculty member must report the infraction to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. If you need more information about the process or wish to appeal a decision, please visit https://www.wichita.edu/about/student_conduct/AcademicDishonesty.php.

Disabilities Assistance

If you have a physical, psychiatric/emotional, or learning disability that may impact on your ability to carry out assigned course work, I encourage you to contact the Office of Disability Services (DS). The office is located in Grace Wilkie Annex, room 150, (316) 978-3309 (voice/tty) (316-854- 3032 videophone). DS will review your concerns and determine, with you, what academic accommodations are necessary and appropriate for you. All information and documentation of your disability is confidential and will not be released by DS without your written permission. Any students who are testing in DS **must** take their exam on the same day as the rest of the class. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

Counseling & Prevention Services

The WSU Counseling & Prevention Services (CAPS) provides professional counseling services to students, faculty and staff; administers tests and offers test preparation workshops; and presents

programs on topics promoting personal and professional growth. Services are low cost and confidential. They are located in room 320 of Grace Wilkie Hall, and their phone number is (316) 978-3440. The Counseling & Testing Center is open on all days that the University is officially open. If you have a mental health emergency during the times that the Counseling & Testing Center is not open, please call COMCARE Crisis Services at (316) 660-7500.

Diversity and Inclusion

Wichita State University is committed to being an inclusive campus that reflects the evolving diversity of society. To further that goal, Wichita State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age (40 years or older), ancestry, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260, telephone 316-978-3187.

Intellectual Property

Wichita State University students are subject to Board of Regents and University policies (see http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch9_10.htm) regarding intellectual property rights. Any questions regarding these rights and any disputes that arise under these policies will be resolved by the President of the University, or the President's designee, and such decision will constitute the final decision.

Shocker Alert System

Get the emergency information you need instantly and effortlessly! With the Shocker Alert System, we will contact you by email the moment there is an emergency or weather alert that affects the campus. Sign up at <http://www.wichita.edu/alert>.

Student Health Services

WSU's Student Health Services (SHS) provides professional medical care and health education to enrolled students by licensed health care providers. General health care services are available ranging from routine and preventive care to managing acute illnesses and minor injuries. SHS offers convenient onsite laboratory and medication services including vaccinations. Staff are available to provide health education on a variety of topics, both in and out of the classroom setting. SHS is located in 209 Ahlberg Hall and will move to the new YMCA/Student Wellness Center in January 2020. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and the phone number is (316) 978-3620. Check out www.wichita.edu/shs for health information and access to myShockerHealth, the online patient portal where students can schedule appointments, send a secured message to a healthcare provider, check immunizations and more. All services are confidential.

The Heskett Center and Campus Recreation

Whether you are wanting to be active on campus, relieve the stress from classes or take care of your body, Wichita State Campus Recreation is the place for you. Campus Recreation, located inside the Heskett Center, contributes to the health, education, and development of Wichita State University students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members by offering quality programs and services. With many programs and facilities which are free to all students and members, Campus Recreation

offers its members limitless opportunities. For more information about our services see www.wichita.edu/heskett.

Video and Audio Recording

Video and audio recording of lectures and review sessions without the consent of the instructor is prohibited. Unless explicit permission is obtained from the instructor, recordings of lectures may not be modified and must not be transferred or transmitted to any other person, whether or not that individual is enrolled in the course.

CARE Team:

Wichita State University is committed to the safety and success of and cares about all members of the University community. If you or someone you know needs support, is distressed, or exhibits concerning behavior that is interfering with their own or others' academic or personal success or the safety of members of our community, resources and assistance are available. As your Faculty, I may seek support for you. If you or another member of our campus community is in need of help, please submit a concern at www.wichita.edu/ubit or call any CARE team member listed on that webpage. In case of emergency, please call the University Police Department at (316) 978-3450 or 911.

Concealed Carry Policy

The Kansas Legislature has legalized concealed carry on public university campuses. Guns must be out of view, concealed either on the body of the carrier, or backpack, purse or bag that remains under the immediate control of the carrier. Gun owners must familiarize themselves with WSU's Concealed Carry Policy at: http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=wsunews&p=/weapons_policy_documents and the Kansas Board of Regent's policy at: http://www.kansasregents.org/about/policies-by-laws-missions/board_policy_manual_2/chapter_ii_governance_state_universities_2/chapter_ii_full_text#weapons. If you believe that there has been a violation of this policy, please contact the University Police Department at (316) 978-3450.

Names and Pronouns

Everyone has the right to be addressed as and referred to by the name and pronouns (including non-binary pronouns) that they choose and that correspond to their gender identity. Class rosters have a student's legal name and do not include pronouns, therefore, all students will be asked in class to indicate the names and pronouns they use for themselves. A student's chosen name and pronouns are to be respected at all times in the classroom.

First Generation Students

A first-generation (FGEN) college student is a student whose parents did not complete a four-year college degree. WSU strongly supports First Generation students and offers the following resources https://www.wichita.edu/student_life/firstgen/index.php.