

		The 3 rd International IPSA – HSE Summer School for Methods of Political & Social Research Course Syllabus
Course title:		Political game theory
Instructor:		Ivan S. Grigoriev
ECTS / academic hours		2 ECTS / 72 academic hours: 36 contact hours, 36 self – study hours
Brief course description (up to 100 words):		Game theory is maths applied to describe, model and predict various economic, social and political phenomena. The subject area of game theory itself is fairly extensive, starting with some very basic models that can be successfully used as research heuristics that simplify and schematize certain phenomena of interest to the researcher, and to the more sophisticated models that involve advanced mathematics. This course is a basic introduction. It covers games of complete information, both dynamic and static. It also introduces the students to games of incomplete information and repeated games.
Indicative concepts (up to 10):		Static and dynamic games; games of perfect and imperfect information; repeated games; signaling games
Workshops overview:	Day 1	Introduction to the course: what is game theory? Extensive games with perfect information
	Day 2	Static games: dominance and best responses Static games: best responses and coordination games. Focal points.
	Day 3	Static games with continuous strategies Static games with mixed strategies
	Day 4	Combining simultaneous and sequential games Simple bargaining models.
	Day 5	War of attrition. Repeated games Asymmetric information and signalling
Assessment techniques to receive graded certificate:		The final test is a problem set consisting of problems similar to the ones solved throughout the course.
Essential readings:		Dixit, Avinash K, and Susan Skeath. 2015. <i>Games of Strategy: Fourth International Student Edition</i> . WW Norton & Company. McCarty, Nolan, and Adam Meirowitz. 2007. <i>Political Game Theory: An Introduction</i> . Cambridge University Press.
Contacts:		Ivan S. Grigoriev Higher School of Economics in St.Petersburg Department of applied politics / Center for comparative studies of governance igrigoriev@hse.ru