CMSC 858F: Algorithmic Game Theory
Fall 2010
Course Agenda

Instructor: Mohammad T. Hajiaghayi
Scribe: Ateeq Sharfuddin

September 1, 2010

1 Overview

This document details the administrative portion of the lecture from the first day of class. Particularly, this document describes the handouts provided, and the discussions about grading, homeworks, scribe notes, exam, paper presentation, project, and communication.

2 General Information

- Course Website: http://www.cs.umd.edu/ hajiagha/AGT10.html.

- Physical Location: CSI Building, Room# 2118

- Time: Wednesdays, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM (with a 10 to 15 minutes break mid-class).

- Office Hours: The hour after class (confirm it in the class though), or by appointment.

3 Reference Book

Though the following book can be used as the main reference for this course, everything covered in class will not be in this book, and vice-versa.

- Nisan, Noam et al. *Algorithmic Game Theory*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

The author provides a non-printable version of the book online that can be found here.

4 Handouts

Two handouts were provided in class. These were:

1. A printout of the class website: CMSC858F: Algorithmic Game Theory, Fall 2010. This website will be updated periodically (weekly).

2. A printout containing project ideas from a similar course taught by Dr. HajiAghayi at Rutgers: Advanced Algorithms: Topics in Game Theory

5 Requirements

Grading for this course can be broken down into the following categories:

Two Homework Assignments:	15%
Class Discussions:	10%
Scribe Notes:	10%
Exam:	20%
Presentation:	15%
Project:	30%

6 Homework

Almost every week a homework assignment will be given:

- Each student should choose two homeworks to get more involved and do some research on them. These two homeworks ARE to be submitted and each must be two to three pages in length. However thinking about all assignments and discussing them in the class are parts of class discussion.

7 Scribing Instructions

Each lecture will be scribed, and these will be posted onto the course website. Scribes need to send their work before Tuesday of the next week of the lecture date. Since there are more students than the number of days this class will be held, not all students will be able to take on the role of a scribe. In lieu of becoming a scribe, some students will be assigned other tasks. Scribes, please coordinate with vliaghat@umd.edu and the instructor. Name your files as "scribe-dd-mm-yyyy", e.g. for Sept 1, 2010, use "scribe-01-09-2010".

8 Exam

The exam will be based on what is covered in class. If you learn what is covered in the class notes and you understand the theory, you should be okay.

9   Paper and Project

You are to present a published paper specific to what we cover in this course. It is encouraged for the presented paper to be linked to the topic you are researching for your project, though this is not mandatory. Projects may be done in groups of two or three, though exceptions can be made. Please start working on the project early, and email jay@cs.umd.edu, who will coordinate projects. The presentation itself should be an hour long: half the time should be spent presenting the topic, and the remaining half should be used to present your project. The project paper to be submitted should be 20 pages in length: The first six pages should be a nice lecture notes of your paper presentation; and the remaining 14 pages should contain a general background about the topic you are researching and details of your new findings. A strong project can easily help other sections of your grade as well.

10   Communication

An email was sent out to everyone who registered for the course. The instructor's email address is: hajiagha@cs.umd.edu. Please add the following to the subject line when emailing the instructor:

- "cmsc858f" or "cs858" (all lowercase) for course related emails.

- "scribe" (all lowercase) for scribe related emails.

- "project" (all lowercase) for project related emails.

Also, feel free send the instructor an email with any suggestions you have for the class.