Psychology 410 Decision making Spring, 1989

Professor: Deborah Frisch

Text: Thinking and deciding, Jonathan Baron, Cambridge
University Press, 1988

Meeting time: 142 Straub, 9:30-10:50, Tuesday and Thursday

| <u>Week</u> | <u>Date</u> | Topic | Readi | ng | |
|-------------|-------------|--|----------------|------|-----|
| I | 3/30 | Introduction | Baron | Ch | 1 |
| II | 4/4 | Rationality/good thinking | Baron | Ch | 2,3 |
| | 4/6 | Probability theory | Baron | Ch | 11 |
| III | 4/11 | Heuristics and biases in probability judgments | Baron PAPER | | 12 |
| | 4/13 | Hypothesis testing | Baron PAPER | | 13 |
| IV | 4/18 | Hypothesis testing | TWITH | π 4. | |
| | 4/20 | Correlation/covariation | Baron PAPER | | 14 |
| Λ | 4/25 | Biases in thinking | Baron PAPER | | 15 |
| | 4/27 | MIDTERM | | | |
| VI | 5/2 | Utility theory | Baron | Ch | 16 |
| | 5/4 | Prospect theory | Baron PAPER | | 17 |
| VII | 5/9 | Framing effects | PAPER | #6 | |
| | 5/11 | Emotions in decision making | Baron | Ch | 21 |
| VIII | 5/16 | Utilitarianism | Baron | Ch | 19 |
| | 5/18 | Moral dilemmas | | | |

| IX 5/23 | | Social dilemmas | Baron | Ch | 20 |
|---------|------|---|-------|----|----|
| | 5/25 | Cross cultural research ****DECISION ANALYSIS DUE**** | PAPER | #7 | |
| X | 5/30 | Discussion of decision analyse | es | | |
| | 6/1 | Discussion of decision analyse | es | | |

Reading assignments: In addition to the textbook, there are several required reading assignments. These readings are available at the reserve desk of the library and at the EMU Copy Center.

PAPER #1: Kahneman and Tversky, On the psychology of prediction

PAPER #2: Tschirgi, Sensible reasoning: A hypothesis about hypotheses

PAPER #3: Chapman and Chapman, Test results are what you think they are

PAPER #4: Lord, Ross & Lepper, Biased assimilation and attitude polarization: The effects of prior theories on subsequently considered evidence

PAPER #5: Kahneman and Tversky, Choices, values and frames

PAPER #6: Thaler, Toward a positive theory of consumer choice

PAPER #7: Scribner, Modes of thinking and ways of speaking: culture and logic reconsidered

Grading

| Midterm | | 1/3 |
|----------|----------|-----|
| Decision | analysis | 1/3 |
| Final | | 1/3 |