Course Mechanics — Introduction to Multiagent Systems

Course #67715 Department of Computer Science Hebrew University, 2003–2004

Course meetings:

Wednesday, 11:00am - 12:45pm, Sprinzak 116

No targil meetings. No programming assignments. (Relatively) lots of reading.

Instructor:Prof. Jeffrey S. RosenscheinOffice:Ross 209Telephone:658-5353Office hour:Tuesday, 2pm – 3pm

Web site: <u>http://www.cs.huji.ac.il/~imas</u> Everything is there; check it out.

Course email: <u>imas@cs.huji.ac.il</u>

The course will be given in English.

Course Readings:

This course is an introduction to multiagent systems. We are using the new Michael Wooldridge textbook, *An Introduction to Multiagent Systems*, John Wiley & Sons, 2002. Copies of this textbook are in the library, and copies should also be available for sale in the Acadamon.

The course will be given with the aid of slides, prepared by Wooldridge for use with the course (with supplementary material I will slip in). Wooldridge's slides are available online (in several formats) at the course Web site. You can print them out, but may find it more cost-effective to buy a booklet containing his slides at the Acadamon. Students usually find it helpful to have the slides in front of them during lectures (even when the actual slides I'm using may differ somewhat).

There will be additional weekly reading assignments, announced in class and also on the course Web site. **These weekly assignments are an important part of the course (see below).** They will (when possible) be available online, and when that's not possible will be available in hardcopy in the library.

I will be posting additional reading recommendations on the course Web site, for those who are interested. One excellent follow-on book is Gerhard Weiss' collection of essays, entitled *Multiagent Systems: A Modern Approach to Distributed Artificial Intelligence*. We will be using that book as a basis of our Advanced Seminar on Artificial Intelligence next semester (Course 67550).

The class has no formal course prerequisites – however, it is assumed that you are taking Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (Course 67842, taught by Prof. Daniel

Lehmann) in parallel, if you have not taken it in the past. Some background in logic is definitely useful (both for this course and for Intro. to AI).

Next semester, the Advanced Seminar on Artificial Intelligence (Course 67550) will be a kind of "continuation" of the material we will be seeing this semester. Although new students can officially join the seminar next semester without taking this semester's course, I will ask them to supplement their readings so that they can catch up.

Weekly Assignments:

The course will not have programming assignments, nor will there be weekly written assignments. However (as mentioned above), there will be weekly **reading** assignments:

- 1. Students will be expected to complete a reading of one chapter in the Wooldridge textbook;
- 2. Students will be expected to complete an outside reading of an article (announced in class and posted on the course Web site).

Sometimes, we will have class discussions on the reading assignments, so it's a good idea to actually read the articles and be prepared! In addition, in the middle of the course (Week 7), we will have a quiz on the prior lectures and reading material. The quiz will cover the first 6 weeks of material, and the final exam will cover *all* the course material.

The only way to prepare for the exams is to attend lectures, review lecture slides, read the course textbook, and read the weekly readings.

Grading Policy:

The final grade will be a combination of your grade on the midterm quiz (35%) and on the final exam (65%).