

Contract Bridge is a trick-taking game played with standard 52-card deck that can help hone skills like memory, communication, and strategy—and you can earn an Honors Experience this year for learning how to play! Participants in this experience will attend weekly meetings with two key components: lecture and practicum. Faculty will lecture on aspects of bridge rules, bidding, card-play technique, scoring, table presence, and tournament bridge culture. Faculty will also show how the skills of the game— memorization, concentration, communication, contingency planning, analytics, etc.— have applied to their own research and/or teaching.

Experience Details

- Fulfills one non-course Honors Experience
- Space for up to 48 students
- Meets every Monday of Spring '17 semester from 5:30–7:30pm in the Middlebrook Hall Terrace Room
- Capstone competition at end of semester
- Short, final paper detailing thoughts on game skills and application to your field(s) of study
- We hope to revivify the UMN bridge club (including non-UHP students) and to eventually field nationally competitive teams!

Participating Faculty

- Matt Bribitzer-Stull, Music
- Paul Gutterman, Accounting
- Eric Hendrickson, Biochemistry
- Leon Hsu, CEHD Curriculum and Instruction
- Nita Krevans, Classics
- Glen Meeden, Statistics
- Harry Sapienza, Business

Shared Honors Duplicate Bridge Experience Planning Sheet

Mondays 5:30-7:30pm
Middlebrook Hall - Terrace Room

All *Bidding*, *Play*, and *Defense* segments refer to the materials in the ACBL books. For each segment, we'll hit high points of the chapter, take questions, and go through some practice hands (at the white board and/or at tables if one of us has time to make up hands in advance.

Mini-lectures will either be by one of the professors, relating a bridge concept and/or thinking skill to his/her discipline, line of research, and/or teaching. OR, these will be supplements to the material in the ACBL materials on broader themes that have relevance outside of bridge— themes like: sacrifice, negative inference, timing, partnership harmony, and so forth.

January 23:

Introductions, everyone (15 minutes)
Semester Overview, MPBS (10 minutes)
Why is Duplicate Special?, PG (10 minutes)
Why We Play and a Favorite Story, everyone (25 minutes)
Bidding, Chapter 1 (“Getting Started”) (60 minutes) PGG
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: MPBS; PGG; EAH; GM, HJS

January 30:

Bidding, Chapter 2 (“Objectives”) (50 minutes) MPBS
Play, Chapter 1 (“Making a Plan”) (50 minutes) HJS
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: MPBS; PGG; EAH; LH, HJS

February 6:

Bidding, Chapter 3 (“Responses to 1NT Opening Bids”) (50 minutes)
Mini-lecture: Partnership Harmony and Emotion at the Bridge Table, MPBS (20 min.)
Play, Chapter 2 (“Developing Tricks—Promotion and Length”) (50 minutes)
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: MPBS; EAH; GM, HJS

February 13:

Play, Chapter 3 (“Developing Tricks—The Finesse”) (50 minutes) PGG
Mini-lecture: ??? (20 min.) Ethics at the Bridge Table and the Director Call PGG
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: MPBS; PGG; EAH; LH

February 20:

Defense, Chapter 1 (“Opening Leads Against Notrump Contracts”) (50 minutes) EAH
Defense, Chapter 2 (“Opening Leadings Against Suit Contracts”) (50 minutes) PGG
Mini-lecture: ??? (20 min.)
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: PGG; EAH

February 27:

Bidding, Chapter 4 (“Responses to Opening Bids of One in a Suit”) (50 minutes) PGG
Bidding, Chapter 5 (“Rebids by Opener”) (50 minutes) MPBS
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: MPBS; PGG

March 6:

Play, Chapter 4 (“Developing Tricks—Eliminating Losers, Ruffing and Discarding”) (50 minutes)
Mini-lecture: The Meaningfulness of Rare Sequences: Tarnhelm Progressions and Splinter Bids, MPBS (20 min.) (20 min.)
Defense, Chapter 3 (“Third-Hand Play”) (50 minutes)
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: MPBS; PGG; EAH; GM

March 20:

Bidding, Chapter 6 (“Rebids by Responder”) (50 minutes) GM
Mini-lecture: Bridge and Statistics GM (20 min.)
Defense, Chapter 4 (“Second-Hand Play”) (50 minutes) MPBS
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: MPBS; EAH; GM, HJS

March 27:

Play, Chapter 5 (“Watching out for Entries”) (50 minutes) LH

Mini-lecture: Problem solving, LH (20 min.)
Play, Chapter 6 (“Watching out for the Opponents”) (50 minutes) PGG
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: PGG; EAH; LH; GM

April 3:

Play, Chapter 7 (“Managing the Trump Suit”) (50 minutes) LH
Mini-lecture: Conflict-- Function and dysfunction, HJS
Defense, Chapter 5 (“Defensive Signals”) (50 minutes) HJS
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: MPBS; EAH; LH; GM, HJS

April 10:

Bidding, Chapter 7 (“Overcalls and Bids by the Advancer”) (50 minutes) PGG
Bidding, Chapter 8 (“Takeout Doubles and Responses”) (50 minutes) LH
Mini-lecture: The nature of expertise, LH (20 min.)
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: PGG; EAH; LH; GM

April 17:

Play, Chapter 8 (“Putting it All Together”) (50 minutes) PGG
Mini-lecture: Accounting (numbers) and law (reasoning) (20 min.) PGG
Defense, Chapter 6 (“Developing Defensive Tricks”) (50 minutes) MPBS
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: MPBS; PGG; EAH

April 24:

Defense, Chapter 7 (“Interfering with Declarer”) (50 minutes) EAH
Mini-lecture: ??? (20 min.) EAH
Defense, Chapter 8 (“Making a Plan”) (50 minutes) MPBS
Optional Extra Play Time (60 minutes)
Instructors present: MPBS; EAH; HJS; PGG

May 1:

All (Bidding), Chapters 9 (Intros to Stayman, Jacoby, and Negative Doubles) (50 minutes)
Final Duplicate Mini-Tournament and Wrap Up
Instructors present: MPBS; PGG; EAH; LH; GM, HJS