Game theory for political scientists

Increasingly, political scientists are using game theory to analyze strategic interactions across many different settings. Each of the sub-fields, to differing degrees, has seen game theoretic concepts enter its vocabulary, and students entering the profession will need to understand the potential and limits of game theory. This course aims to give students an entry-level understanding of the basic concepts of game theory, and how these concepts have been applied to the study of political phenomena. Because an important component of game theory in political science and political economy is the Game theory is a mathematical theory of strategy which assumes that there are at least two players whose choices determine an outcome. Insofar as the players have conflicting preferences, their conflict may not be total – it is not necessarily the case that what one player wins the other loses (as in most sports). Their conflict may only be partial, wherein both players can win or lose simultaneously. He was a political scientist, but he thought like a game theorist. However, an understanding of game theory can be helpful in carefully analyzing situations in which the outcomes depend on the choices—and their interaction—of more than one person. Open Questions. New questions arise all the time in fields like economics, politics, and biology that game theory can help to illuminate. Start by marking "Game Theory for Political Scientists" as Want to Read: Want to Read saving… Want to Read. Until recently, however, its usefulness in political science has been underappreciated, in part because of the Game theory is the mathematical analysis of strategic interaction. In the fifty years since the appearance of von Neumann and Morgenstern's classic Theory of Games and Economic Behavior (Princeton, 1944), game theory has been widely applied to problems in economics. Until recently, however, its usefulness in political science has been underappreciated, in part because of the technical difficulty of the methods developed by economists. This book is the first comprehensive attempt to