

Labor Economics

Econ 233

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The Objective of this course is to introduce students to the basic ideas of labor economics and the resulting policy analysis. I assume that all students have taken an intermediate microeconomics course and have some knowledge of elementary calculus. Let us hope it is a fun class.

I will use Labor Economics by George Borjas as the textbook. Indeed, I plan to work systematically through the book.

I plan grade students as follows:

- (a) 3 midterms (25% each of the total mark).
- (b) 1 takehome examination (10% of the total mark)
- (c) An essay (15% of the total mark)

Note, there is no final examination.

Below I outline when I plan to cover the subject areas. Of course, I may go faster or slower than I predict. I will keep students informed of my progress.

Week: 1/11/17

Chapter 1

Why labor economics?

Week : 1/16/17

Chapter 2

Labor Supply

Budget constraints and work/hour decisions

Week: 1/23/17

Chapter 2 and Chapter 3

Welfare Programs,. Labor Demand

Week: 1/30/17

Chapter 3.

Employment decision is the short-run and long-run.

First take home examination handed out on Thursday Choice .

Week : 2/6/17

Chapter 3 and Chapter 4

Non-Competitive labor markets Labor market equilibrium. Policy.

Take home examination handed back in class Tuesday

Week : 2/13/17

Chapter 4.

Migration First Midterm Examination on Thursday

Week: 2/20/17

Chapter 5

Compensating Wage Differentials

Health Insurance

Week:2/27/17

Chapter 6

Human Capital..

Week:3/6/17

Spring Break

Week :3/13/17

Chapter 6 and Chapter 7

Signalling and Inequality

Essay handed out

Week: 3/20/17

Chapter 8,

Labor mobility

Week: 3/27/17

Chapter 9.

Discrimination

Week: 4/3/17

Chapter 9

Statistical Discrimination

Week: 4/10/17

Chapter 11.

Piece Rates

Essay handed in on Thursday

Week 4/17/17

Chapter 12

Unemployment

Week: 4/24/15

Third Midterm. Class ends