ECON 3100-02: Labor Economics

**Course Syllabus**

**Summer-2012**

**Instructor: Behroz Baraghoshi**

**Department:** Economics

**Department information:** OSH 343, (801) 581-7481

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Prerequisite:** None

**Class Hours:** 6:00pm – 9:00pm, T and TH

**Location:**  Main Campus, OSH 203

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Instructor’s Office:** OSH 376

**E-mail:** [behroz.baraghoshi@economics.utah.edu](mailto:behroz.baraghoshi@economics.utah.edu)

**Course description**  Labor- market economics, wage theory, labor mobility, human-resource development, unionism, collective bargaining, employment, and public policy.

## Course content

The class will be constructed to build up – on the top of principles level of knowledge in microeconomics. The narrative of the course is structured around developing the core concepts (e.g. determination of wages and employment) and techniques (e.g. graphing and regression) that students need to understand the resulting distribution of income among individuals and households. Students will also be encouraged, where possible, to see the connections between theory and actual economic practice.

**Course objectives**

At the end of the semester, students

* will be able to specify functional relationships between wages and employment.
* will be able to understand collective bargaining and its effects on wages and employment.
* will be able to project the macroeconomic outcomes of human- resource development.
* will be able to compare different approaches (e.g. neoclassical vs. institutional) to the evolution of labor market theory.
* will be able to apply their knowledge to real world cases where applicable.

**Course Materials**

Fundamentals of Labor Economics by Hyclak (required), The Economics of Labor Markets by Kaufman and Hotchkiss (optional), and selected papers to be announced in the class.

**Course Outline and Schedule:**

* Week 1 (June 21)

Course overview

Syllabus handout

Chapter one

**Topic:** The Study of Labor Economics

Week 2 (June 26 and 28)

Chapter two

Chapter three

Assignment

**Topic:** The Demand for Labor and Topics in Labor Demand

Week 3 (July 3 and 5)

Chapter four

Chapter five

Assignment

**Topic:** Labor Force Participation and The supply of Labor

Week 4 (July 10 and 12)

Chapter six

Chapter seven

Assignment

**Topic:** Human Capital Analysis and labor market Equilibrium

Week 5 (July 17 and 19)

***Test one***

Chapter 8

Assignment

**Topic:** Information and Job Search

Week 6 (July 24 and 26)

Chapter 9

Chapter 10

Assignment

**Topic:** Monopsony and Minimum Wages and Internal Labor Market

Week 7 (July 31)

***Test two***

**Topic:**

**Course Website**:

I will post important announcements, course materials and grades on CANVAS.

**Homework and presentation:**

Homework will be posted on Canvas on Wednesdays and is due the following Monday. . I will announce the posting of the homework in the class. Research paper has 15 points and I will post the details on research paper as soon as I assign the topics.

**Grading**:

Research paper 15 Points

Homework 15 Points

Midterm 25 Points

Final Exam 35 Points

Participation 10

**Grade scale**

Your final grade will be determined from the following scale:

A Excellent 93% and above

A- Excellent 90% to 92%

B + Good 87% to 89%

B Good 83% to 86%

B- Good 80% to 82%

C+ Standard 77% to 79%

C Standard 73% to 76%

C- Standard 70% to 72%

D+ Substandard 65% to 69%

D Substandard 60% to 64%

D- Substandard 55% to 59%

**Disability Policy:**

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services (CDS), 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

**Note:**

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus. Any necessary changes to the syllabus will be announced in class in advance of their practice.

You can work in groups for homework. All homework and term paper are to be submitted in hard copy in class. Please make sure to write your name on your assignment, before you submit them to me.

If you cannot take an exam at the scheduled time, it is your responsibilities to let me know ASAP. A make-up exam can be taken at the Testing Center (Student Bldg) within 48 hours of the original scheduled time.

In order to incorporate fair grading, late work on the assignment will only be accepted up to one day after the due date at an automatic 50% loss of credit. No email submission of homework or papers is accepted.

If you have special needs, please inform me of how I can assist you as soon as possible.

**U of U Withdrawal Policy:**

The last day to drop this class is Saturday June 30. The last day to withdraw from the class is Friday, July 13.