

# Extended Syllabus

<b>Course Title</b>	Labor Economics	<b>Semester</b>	Spring 2023
<b>Credit</b>	3	<b>Course Number</b>	
<b>Class Time</b>	Wed, Fri 9:00-10:15	<b>Enrollment Eligibility</b>	

<b>Instructor's Photo</b>	<b>Name:</b> Taehyun Ahn	<b>Homepage:</b>
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	<b>Office:</b> GN722	
	<b>Office Hours:</b> Wed, Fri 10:30-12:30, Thu 10:00-12:00	
	<b>TA info:</b> Sang Woo Park (psw199010@gmail.com)	

## I. Course Overview

### • Description

This is a one semester course in labor economics for undergraduate students. Labor economics is the study of labor markets. We will survey a broad range of topics: labor supply and demand, labor market equilibrium and the theory of compensating differences, wage structure, human capital and education production, labor mobility, labor market discrimination, and the evaluation of social programs. We will also discuss applications of economic theory to important public policy issues such as minimum wage laws, welfare reform, and affirmative action. In addition, this course will have a significant empirical component.

### • Prerequisites

- Intermediate microeconomics, Economic Statistics, Introductory Econometrics (recommended)

### • Course Format

Lecture	Discussion	Experiment/Practicum	Field study	Presentations	Other
90%	10%	%	%	%	%

### • Evaluation

mid-term Exam	Final exam	Quizzes	Presentations	Projects	Assignments	Participation	Other
40%	40%	%	%	%	10%	5%	5%

## II. Course Objectives

The major focus of this course is theoretical and empirical analysis of wage and employment determination in the labor market. Most of us allocate a substantial fraction of our time to the labor market. Our action on the labor market influences many aspects of our life: our wealth, the goods we consume, whom we associate with, where we vacation, etc. In this course, we explore the ideas economists use to understand how labor markets work. This will aid our understanding of topics such as education and training, discrimination and the impact of anti discrimination programs, changes in wage inequality over time, unions, unemployment, and poverty.

## III. Course Format

The course will largely follow the required textbook: Labor Economics, by George J. Borjas. We will go over applied papers, which provide empirical evidence for the economic theory, as needed. The exams cover material from both the textbook and the additional readings.

## IV. Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

- Exams:
  - Exams will be closed book, closed notes exams. They will test your knowledge of the reading materials and class discussions. No make up exams will be scheduled. Students need to have a certified certificate from a medical or legal authority to justify the reason for having missed the exam. Otherwise a missed exam counts 0 towards the final grade.
- Homework:
  - Late homework will not be accepted for ANY reason.
  - Homework is graded (10), (5), and (0). When determining course grades, the homework is recorded as a 100% for a (10), a 50% for a (5), and 0% for a (0) (or if not handed in).

## V. Course Policies

- Attendance and Participation
  - I will follow FA systems faithfully. If you have documents to get excused for your absence, submit your documents to the office of Humanities (J614).
  - The repetition of the following behaviors will be penalized (1-5% deduction): sleeping, using a mobile phone, refusing to answer, not participating or other distracting behaviors.

## VI. Materials and References

- Required textbook:  
George J. Borjas, Labor Economics, Irwin McGraw Hill, recent edition (any edition is a close substitute).

Additional recommended textbook:

Ronald G. Ehrenberg and Robert S. Smith, Modern Labor Economics, Pearson Addison Wesley, 11th edition  
Derek Laing, Labor Economics: Introduction to Classic and the New Labor Economics, Norton & Company  
Boeri, T. and van Ours, J.: The Economics of Imperfect Labor Markets, Princeton University Press.

\* Course website: Sogang Cyber Campus, <http://cyber.sogang.ac.kr/>

You can use your directory ID and password to access copies of this syllabus and course materials.

## VII. Course Schedule (\* Subject to change)

### • Week 1

- Learning Objectives: Introduction to Labor Economics
- Topics: Introduction, Labor Supply, Basic Measures and Facts
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 1, 2
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

### • Week 2

- Learning Objectives: Labor Supply
- Topics: Neoclassical Model of Labor/Leisure Choice
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 2
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

### • Week 3

- Learning Objectives: Labor Supply
- Topics: Labor Supply: Policy Applications
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 3
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

### • Week 4

- Learning Objectives: Labor Demand
- Topics: Labor Demand
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 4
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

### • Week 5

- Learning Objectives: Labor Demand
- Topics: Labor Demand: Policy Applications, Minimum Wages
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 4
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

### • Week 6

- Learning Objectives: Labor Market Equilibrium
- Topics: Labor Market Equilibrium, Policy Applications, Noncompetitive labor market
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 5
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

#### • Week 7

- Learning Objectives: Compensating Wage Differentials
- Topics: Compensating Wage Differentials
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 6
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

#### • Week 8

- **Midterm exam**

#### • Week 9

- Learning Objectives: Human Capital
- Topics: Education and Schooling, on the Job Training
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 7
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

#### • Week 10

- Learning Objectives: The Wage Structure
- Topics: Earnings Distribution and Inequality
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 8
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

#### • Week 11

- Learning Objectives: Labor Mobility
- Topics: Labor Mobility, Immigration
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 9
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

#### • Week 12

- Learning Objectives: Labor Market Discrimination
- Topics: Labor Market Discrimination
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 10

- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

#### • Week 13

- Learning Objectives: Labor Unions
- Topics: Labor Unions
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 11
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

#### • Week 14

- Learning Objectives: Incentive Pay
- Topics: Incentive Pay
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 12
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

#### • Week 15

- Learning Objectives: Unemployment
- Topics: Unemployment
- Class Work(Methods): Lecture/Discussion
- Materials(Required Readings): Chapter 13
- Assignments: Required Readings and Preparation for the Class

#### • Week 16

- **Final exam**

### **VIII. Special Accommodations**

- Students with disabilities that have been certified by SCSD (Sogang Center for Students with Disabilities) will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs.

### **IX. Aid for the Challenged Students**

- The contact information for SCSD and OIA is as follows.
  - SCSD (02-705-7800), C building B104
  - OIA (02-705-8118), J building J402