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| Title of course | **M6.A Labour Economics** |
| Responsible instructor | Prof Dr Wiebke Störmann |
| Learning outcomes | * Understand the traditional set of labour economic models as well as selected set of recent and advanced models of labour markets * Transfer the conclusions from the labour market models to the sphere of practical labour market policy * Identify and structure the most important labour market problems in a worldwide perspective * Identify and characterize the actors involved and the effects of their actions in a political economy context * Understand the relationship between labour market policy and other fields of policy * Identify the institutional structures and processes of labour market adjustment in selected countries from different continents * Compare strategies for labour market improvements in a worldwide perspective * Evaluate several case studies in a worldwide perspective * Assess labour market policy reform approaches in terms of their allocative and distributive effects * Characterize effective and efficient reform concepts depending on the respective framework conditions * Develop policy recommendations for selected labour markets which are politically feasible under the given political and economic conditions |
| Course contents | 1. Introduction    1. What Labour Economics is about    2. Contemporary patterns of Labour Markets 2. Static Labour Supply    1. Static Labour Supply Models: Incentives to work, effect of transfers, taxes on labour supply    2. Policy discussion: Universal Basic Income – The Future of Social Protection? 3. Dynamic Labour Supply    1. Human Capital and Educational Choice: human capital theory, signalling model and labour Supply in the life cycle    2. Policy discussion: Germany’s apprenticeship scheme – How successful is replication? 4. Labour Demand    1. Short-Run and long-run labour demand: Labour Productivity and Wages, Outputs markets, input markets and wages, employer discrimination,    2. Policy discussion: Structure of Wages and Inequality of Earnings – How successful are policies on minimum wage? 5. Matching    1. Equilibrium and Disequilibrium, Unemployment, imperfect versus incomplete information, search and matching, effects of labour migration    2. Policy discussion: Active labour market programs - Do they work? 6. Institutions of the Labour Market    1. Labour Union Models (Monopoly Union Model, Right to Manage Model, Efficiency Bargaining, Efficiency Wage Model)    2. Policy discussion: Is Organised labour a relic of the past or should trade unions be revitalized? 7. Labour market problems in a global perspective with corresponding case studies    1. Home sweet home: Home office and employee's performance during the Covid-19 pandemic    2. Labour markets in the platform economy: Digitalisation of the economy and its impact on labour markets    3. Automation and the digital transition: Job polarisation in local labour markets    4. Green jobs: implications of the transition to a green economy on employment    5. Population ageing and shrinking labour force: attraction of new residents in order to offset an ageing population    6. Labour market integration of new immigrants: Analysis and policy evaluation    7. Bilateral labour migration agreements: Analysis and policy evaluation    8. Workplace discrimination, harassment and bullying: Empirical findings and effective measures    9. Social protection for women and men of working age: Empirical findings and successful reforms    10. Child labour: Sectors, topics and actions    11. Shadow economy: Main drivers and policies to fight against it |
| Teaching methods | * Lectures * Exercises * Hermeneutic discourses * Maieutic discourses * Discussion * Student presentations * Self-study |
| Prerequisites | There are no formal requirements |
| Suggested reading | * Cahuc, P., S. Carcillo and A. Zylberberg (2014), Labor Economics*,* Cambridge, MA, MIT Press. * Ehrenberg, R. G., R. Smith and K.F. Hallock (2021), Modern Labor Economics, Theory and Public Policy, London, 14th New edition, Routledge. * Further references will be given during the classes. |
| Applicability | This course is in particular applicable to the following Master programmes: International Business and Economics (M.A., “IBE”), Finance (M.Sc.).  This course is also applicable to other business-oriented Master programmes offered by Schmalkalden University of Applied Sciences. |
| Workload | Total workload: 150 hours, of them:   * Lecture: 45 * Self-study: 105, of them: * Course preparation (in particular reading): 30 * Follow-up: 15 * Preparation for academic research project: 30 * Exam preparation: 30 |
| ECTS credit points and weighting factor | 5 ECTS credit points; weighting factor: 5/120 (IBE) or 5/90 (Finance), respectively |
| Basis of student evaluation | * Comprehensive written examination, 90 minutes (67%) * Student research projects (33%) |
| Time | First academic year |
| Frequency | Each academic year |
| Duration | One semester |
| Course type | Elective course |
| Remarks | Teaching language is English. |