



23021 Labour Economics

Session 1 - 28 October 2020



Agenda

1. Introduction
2. SLO and Graduate Attributes
3. Learning goals
4. Topics
5. Exam
6. Disclaimer
7. Resources
8. Goals today



Introduction

1. Degree
2. Most proud achievement
3. Favourite subject at UTS



SLO

1. **DESCRIBE** institutions and historical trends relevant to Australian labour markets as well as sources of individual differences in wages and employment
2. **APPLY** formal microeconomic frameworks to analyze a range of labour market phenomena
3. **CRITICALLY** on government policies with respect to their effects on wages and employment

Graduate Attributes

1. Business knowledge & concepts
2. Critical Thinking, creativity, **analytical skills**
3. **Communication** and interpersonal skills
 - Persuasive (stakeholder buy-in)
 - Non-technical audience
 - Subject matter expert
 - Consulting, government policy, leadership



Your Learning Goals

1. Discuss labour economics
2. Learn content and models
3. Gain confidence in answering practice questions and **tutorials**
4. Revision of unfamiliar material



Topics - prioritize importance (small chunks)

1. Supply of labour
2. Demand for labour
3. Labour market equilibrium
4. Gender, race, ethnicity in the labour markets
5. Pay and productivity
6. Unemployment
7. Trade Unions
8. Worker Mobility



Exam Preparation

- Tutorials
- MC
- Problem-solving
- Essay type questions



Disclaimer

- I am here to facilitate
- Labour Economics at University of Sydney
- Exam Tips



Resources

Exam Tips

- Learning style?
 - Review tutorial questions and solutions
 - Review Quizzes
 - Review Lecture slides (problems and solutions)
 - Suggested Readings
 - Summarize lecture notes into your own words
 - Highlight notes, post-it tabs
 - Review past exam papers as some exam questions are from tutorial or past papers
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- Energy - morning or evening
 - Take short breaks
 - Mindfulness to relax, switch off
 - Set small achievable goals 2-3 topics per day until exam period



UTS Resources

Exam Tips

- <https://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/news/top-tips-ace-your-exams>
- <https://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/news/exam-time-essentials>
- https://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/student-learning-hub/events/exam-time-laptop-set-drop?utm_source=sfmc&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=InternalCommunicationsUnit&utm_term=&utm_content=setting+up+your+computer

Essay writing:

<https://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/helps/self-help-resources/academic-writing/essay-writing>

2 Topics - Goals today

Overview of the Topics

1. **Introduction** to Labour Economics, Basic Australian Labour Market Facts
2. **The Supply of Labour** : trends in the labour force participation and hours of work in Australia; a theory of labour/leisure choice; labour supply elasticity; theory of household production, life-cycle labour supply
3. **The Demand for Labour**: labour demand in competitive markets in the long- and short-run; elasticity of labour demand
4. **Labour market equilibrium and role of labour market policies**
5. **Education and Training** - investing in human capital, effects of education on earnings; returns to education in Australia, the theory of signalling
6. **Gender, race and ethnicity** in the labour markets: **theories of market discrimination**; measuring discrimination; trends and sources of the gender pay gap in Australia
7. **Pay and productivity** – how firms and workers negotiate modes of payment when worker's work effort is imperfectly observable by employer
8. **Unemployment** – theories of unemployment; unemployment in Australia; the role of unemployment insurance
9. **Worker Mobility: Migration, Immigration, and Turnover**: Australian immigration policy and history; determinants of migration decisions; impact of immigration on local labour markets
10. **Economic Inequality**: Definition of inequality, International and Australia's trends of inequality; determinants of inequality, economics and social consequences of inequality, reasons behind the growth of economic inequality in the past decades.



- Numeric, graphs, interpretation
- Difficult questions for
- Less on welfare subsidy (winners losers)