

**Department of Economics
Carleton University**

ECON 3360A – Labour Economics

2022 Summer

Instructor: Dr. Xiaoyi Yan
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TA: TBD
Lectures: Recordings (asynchronously)
Classroom: Virtual
Office Hours: Mondays 18:00-18:30 EST (virtual)

Prerequisites

Prerequisites: ECON 1001 and ECON 1002, or ECON 1000 or FYSM 1003, as outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Precludes additional credit for ECON 3506 (no longer offered). Credit will not be given if taken concurrently with or after ECON 4305 (no longer offered) or ECON 4306 (no longer offered) or ECON 4360. Students who believe they have taken a similar background course or courses from another university should provide appropriate documentation to the Department of Economics Undergraduate Administrator renee.lortie@carleton.ca to check that credit may be given for all courses."

Objective

The course introduces basic principles of labour economics including market, institutions and socio-economic drivers. Topics of interest are: technology and labour demand, wage and labour supply, labour market outcomes such as human capital, wage structure, market discrimination, female labour-force entry, wage determination, wage-price spiral, household labour supply, and labour market institutions such as organized labour and unions.

Learning outcome:

By the end of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Describe the fundamental concepts and basic theories of labour economics
- Apply analytical tools to explore relevant questions
- Critically appreciate the framework of labour market economics
- Converse about current issues in labour economics

Evaluation

Each student's final grade in this course will be calculated as a weighted average of scores for the following assessment instruments:

Assignment 1: Problem set	15%	Posted	Due: July 20 11:59pm
Mid-term exam (online 2 hours)	25%	July 20 18:00-20:00 EST	
Assignment 2: Problem set	15%	Posted	Due: Aug 10 11:59pm
Final exam (online 3 hours)	45%	Aug 22 18:00-21:00 EST	
Total	100%		

The assignment received after the due dates will be granted a grade of zero.

The mid-term exam (2 hours) will take place online on the date and time shown above. Students who can document a compelling reason for missing the mid-term examination will be excused and their final grade will be based on their performance in the rest of the course i.e., the weight of each of the remaining evaluation instruments will rise by a factor of $100/(100-25)$ (e.g., the final examination weight will become $45\% \times 100/75 = 60\%$). Students *must* inform the instructor with proof of such an absence in advance, if possible.

The final exam (3 hours) will take place online on the date and time shown above.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean. Application to write a deferred final examination must be made at the Registrar's Office.

Textbook and Readings

Labour Market Economics, 8th Edition, Benjamin, Gunderson, Lemieux and Riddell, McGraw Hill Education, 2017. ISBN-13: 978-1-25-903083-3 ISBN-10: 1-25-903083-0

Wooley (1993) "The Feminist Challenge to Neoclassical Economics", Cambridge Journal of Economics, 17(4), pp485-500

Borjas (1994) "The Economics of Immigration", Journal of Economic Literature, XXXII (December 1994), pp1667-1717

This course is structured to follow the chapters of the above course textbook/readings. Lectures delivered online will cover main subjects. Students are responsible for all materials in the chapters/readings covered in lectures and are encouraged to read beyond the textbook/readings about the subjects. The textbook can be purchased at the CU bookstore or ordered online from the CU bookstore website: (<https://www.bkstr.com/carletonstore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials>). The bookstore is offering free shipping on all print copies of textbooks.

Course Outline: Topics and Readings

Lectures will be delivered asynchronously, recorded in BigBlueButton and posted on the course website in Brightspace. PowerPoint slides will also be posted.

Brightspace will be used for the following: All course announcements and email; assignments and exercises; lecture slides; recorded lectures; lecture attendance; and Midterm Exam and Final Exam.

Part I: Labour Supply and Demand

Lecture 1-5 Introduction, labour supply and demand Chapters 1-6

Lecture 6 Midterm exam (2 hours) online on July 10, 2022 18:00-20:00 EST

Part II: Wages and Markets

Lecture 7-10 Wage determination, employment, labour market outcome Chapters 7-13

Part III: Organized Labour and Labour Market Impact

Lecture 11-13 Unions, wage and nonwage outcomes, unemployment Chapter 14-17

Final exam (3 hours) online on August 22, 2022 18:00-21:00 EST

Academic Accommodation

Students needing special academic accommodations are required to contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre (PMC) to complete the necessary letters of accommodation. The student must make an appointment to discuss their needs at least two weeks prior to the exams. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline of submitting completed forms to

the PMC for University-scheduled examinations. For more information, please consult <http://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>.

For religious and special needs such as pregnancy, students should consult with the instructor and equity services (ext. 5622 or www.carleton.ca/equity).

Academic support is also available at the [Centre for Student Academic Support \(CSAS\)](https://carleton.ca/csas/) - a centralized collection of learning support services designed to help students achieve their goals and improve their learning. CSAS offers academic assistance with [online student success](#), course content, academic writing and skills development. For more details, visit the [CSAS website \(https://carleton.ca/csas/\)](https://carleton.ca/csas/).

Plagiarism

Please be aware that plagiarism is a serious offence at Carleton and should be recognized and avoided. For further information on how to do so, please see “Academic Integrity and Offenses of Conduct” at:

<https://carleton.ca/economics/courses/writing-preliminaries/academic-integrity-and-offenses-of-conduct/>

Intellectual Property

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).