



Carleton University Department of Economics

Winter 2024

ECON 4360A

Labour Economics

The Instructor

Instructor: Dr. Xiaoyi Yan

Email Address: xiaoyi.yan@carleton.ca

Office Location: Loeb B842

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1-2pm

The Course

Course Location/Delivery: In person

Course Day and Time: Wednesdays 2:35pm-5:25pm

Brightspace Course Page: <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/232876>

Course Description

The application of price theory to the labour market. Topics include models of labour supply and labour demand, human capital and the economics of education, and unions and their impact on the labour market.

Learning Outcomes

This course is intended to provide students with the knowledge and expertise of labour market economics, including economic theory and empirical analyses. By the end of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Understand the economic theory related to the determinants of labour market outcomes;
- Appreciate empirical analyses on public policy questions;
- Extend the theoretical framework in order to adapt to new economic contexts and generate appropriate policy responses.

Preclusions and Prerequisites

Prerequisites: [ECON 2030 with a grade of C- or higher, and ECON2220 \(or equivalent\) with a grade of C- or higher](#), as outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Precludes additional credit for ECON 4305 (no longer offered) and ECON4306 (no longer offered). 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 economics@carleton.ca to check that credit may be given for all courses."

Lecture Topics

Lectures will be delivered in person. Topics include:

1. Introduction
2. Labour supply
3. Labour demand
4. Employment and labour market outcomes
5. Human capital
6. Unemployment and job search
7. Organized labour and labour market impact
8. International migration

Brightspace will be used for the following: All course announcements and email, assignments and exercises.

Textbooks and Readings

Background text (Reading of the texts relevant to the above 8 topics recommended):
Labour Market Economics, 9th Edition, Benjamin, Gunderson, Lemieux, Riddell and Schirle, McGrawHill Education, 2021. ISBN-13: 978-1-25-965484-8 ISBN-10: 1-25-965484-2

Journal articles (Reading of articles required):

Up to 15 journal articles will be assigned for reading over the course of the term.

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	20%	Due January 31	
Mid-term (in-person close-book 2 hours)	20%	February 14 from 2:35 to 4:35pm	
Assignment 2	20%	Due March 20	
Final exam (in-person close-book 3 hours)	40%	During the University final exam period	
Total	100%		

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

Mid-term Exam (2 hours) will take place during class time in the week before the reading week. 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 $100/(100-20)$ (e.g., the final examination weight will become $40\% \times 100/80 = 50\%$). Students must inform the instructor in advance with a [Self-declaration for Academic Accommodations Form](#).

Final Exam (3 hours) will take place during the final examination period at a time and place set by the University. The final exam is cumulative and will include topics covered before the mid-term.

Satisfactory Performance Criteria

Students must fulfill all of the course requirements, including the final exam, in order to achieve a passing grade (D- or higher).

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.

Deferred Finals

Students who do not write the final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control may apply for to write a deferred final examination by contacting the Registrar's Office no later than three working days after the original final examination was scheduled. In the event that a student writes a deferred examination, the deferred examination will carry the same weight as the final examination in determining the course grade. Any deferred examination will not be identical to the original final examination.

Deferred finals (which must be applied for at the RO) are only available if the student is in good standing in the course, so if there is a minimum standard a student must meet in order to be in good standing, and entitled to write a deferred final exam, this standard must be stipulated here.

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.

Plagiarism, Resources and Mental Health, Academic Accommodations

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/plagiarism-resources-and-accommodations/>

Intellectual Property

Materials created by the students or professor 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).

Academic Accommodation

Students needing special academic accommodation 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/).