



Carleton University Department of Economics

Winter 2025

ECON 5361

Labour Economics !

The Instructor

Professor: Dr. Louis-Philippe Beland

Email Address: louisphilippe.beland@carleton.ca

Office Hours: by appointment via zoom. Email me for an appointment.

The Course

Course Location/Delivery: Online synchronous/asynchronous via Zoom

Course Day and Time: Tuesday !4:35-5:25 pm or online videos.

Brightspace Course Page: <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/283700>

Course Description and Learning Outcomes

The study of the labour market. Topics include labour supply and labour demand, human capital and the economics of education, unemployment, immigration and discrimination.

Empirical tools, including approaches to causal identification will be introduced. We will then read a selection of academic papers that make use of these tools, applied to labour economics.

Brightspace will be used for the following: All course announcements and email; links to the course documents; Exams announcement; Submission of exams.

Course Outline (subject to change):

1. Empirical tools for research
2. Human Capital and Education
3. Labour supply, household, gender, and fertility
4. Labour demand, Minimum wage and Technological changes
5. Wage determination, Inequality & Discrimination
6. Immigration and mobility

Tentative Schedule: (subject to changes!)

March 4 – Exam 1

April 1st – Exam 2

April 20: Research Proposal Submission (no extension possible)

Makeup exams will be provided for only very special circumstances. It is expected that the students have read the assigned material prior to class for the background necessary to properly participate in the discussion and think critically about the concepts addressed. As a general policy, for each hour you are in class, you (the student) should plan to spend at least two hours preparing for the next class. Since this course is for three credit hours, you should expect to spend at least six hours outside of class each week reading or writing assignments for the class.

Textbooks and Readings

Textbooks:

- Pierre Cahuc, Stéphane Carcillo, André Zylberberg, Labor Economics, second edition
- Angrist, J.D. and J-S. Pischke. Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist's Companion. Estimated cost: 170\$ (subject to changes, second-hand version available at lower costs)

Books available here: CU bookstore website

(<https://www.bkstr.com/carletonstore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials>).

Evaluation

Evaluation

Course Requirements: The course involves lectures and discussions. Course grade will be based on exams, class participation, and a research proposal.

Class Participation (10%): Students are expected to participate in class by coming prepared to discuss the assigned material(s). Students must have read assigned papers prior to class and be prepared to discuss the papers.

Presentations (20%): Students will present a paper of their choice on the reading lists (bold below).

Exams (50%): Two exams accounting for 25% each of the course grade. All exams will be online. Please note that tests and examinations given online in this course may use e-Proctoring, a remote proctoring service provided by Scheduling and Examination Services. More information may be obtained at <https://carleton.ca/ses/e-proctoring/>.

Research Proposal and Literature review (20%): Students will write one research proposal for a topic on a labour economics. The proposal should clearly specify the research question and include a critical review of the existing literature, the contributions of your project to the literature and a description of the data set along with the econometric methodology to be used in the project. Students are expected to discuss the research proposal idea with me and getting approval by no later than February 29. Subject to my approval, you can start working on the proposal project. A preliminary outline of the project is due March 21. Students will be asked to present it in class on April 8th (date subject to changes) The submission deadline for the project is on April 21st (no extension possible).

Brightspace will be used for the following: All course announcements and email; Assignments of paper presentation; links to the course slides. The class will be via zoom. Students will present assigned papers during class time. Other students will comment and discuss these papers.

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 shown above. Students who can document a compelling reason for missing the mid-term examination will be excused and the weight of that exam will be moved to the final exam.

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.

Information About Exams and Assignments

All exams will be on Brightspace and need to be submitted via Brightspace. In case of issues with Brightspace, email the TA (and copy me) the exam or assignment before the deadline.

Any use of generative AI tools to produce assessed content is considered a violation of academic integrity standards as per our statement on Plagiarism.

All exams and assignments must be completed alone.

Late Policies

Excuses for missed exams must be pre-approved except when this is not possible in an emergency. If you miss a mid-term examination for a documented compelling reason, the weight of the midterm will be reallocated to the final exam. I reserve the right to request a Self-Declaration form or PMC letter of accommodation depending on the length of incapacitation. No makeup will be offered. If you are sick, I should get an email about it before the exam. Any late Problem Set will receive a grade of zero. There are no make-ups for problem sets. All work needs to be completed alone.

Midterm/Test Policies

- If you are absent for a midterm, email me as soon as possible. **The weight of the midterm will be reallocated to the final exam.** No makeup will be offered. If you are sick, I should get an email about it before the exam.
- **Any late Problem Set will receive a grade of zero. There are no make-ups for problem sets.**

Final Exam

The final exam will be online. Students are not to make travel plans during the exam period as that is not a valid reason for missing a final exam.

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).

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.

E-Proctoring

Please note that tests and examinations in this course may use a remote proctoring service provided by Scheduling and Examination Services or other. You can find more information at <https://carleton.ca/ses/e-proctoring/>.

Plagiarism, Resources and Mental Health, Academic Accommodations

You are responsible for reading and knowing the information about plagiarism, Carleton University resources, and academic accommodations found [HERE](#).