

Economics 131 - Labor Economics Spring 2007

Instructor

Anna Aizer

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office hours: Monday 10:00 – 11:30

302A Robinson Hall

TA

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Basement of Robinson Hall

Class Times and Location

Mondays and Wednesdays 8:30 – 9:50 am Smith-Buonanno G01

Sections

C01 Wed. 1:00-1:50 CIT 265

C02 Wed 7:00-7:50p.m. CIT 265

Course Overview

This course focuses on the theoretical and empirical analyses of wage and employment determination. Topics to be covered include labor supply and demand, earnings inequality, human capital, immigration, unions, discrimination and crime.

Prerequisites are Economics 111 or 113 as well as 162 or another statistics/biostatistics course.

Readings

The textbook is Modern Labor Economics, (8th Edition) by Ehrenberg and Smith.

Additional readings will be available on the course website.

Course Requirements

There will be 2 midterms and 1 final exam. Homework involving data analysis using STATA will be assigned. These will make up 25% of the grade. Analytic homework will also be assigned – but are not to be turned in – they are for you to practice for the exams. Solutions will be discussed in TA section. Each midterm is worth 15% and the final is worth 30%. 15% of the grade will be based on class participation. There will also be 1 experiment in class. Your score during the experiment will not count towards your grade, unless you are on the margin – then it could move you up (or down) a grade.

There are no make-ups or early exams, except in the case of a family emergency or medical absence confirmed by a dean. Other scheduling problems **MUST** be brought to my attention in the first two weeks of class.

ECON 131 SCHEDULE SPRING 2007

DATE	TOPIC	SECTION
W, Jan 24	Introduction (Ch 1 and 2)	No section
M, Jan 29	Labor Demand (Ch 3 and 4)	CIT 265
W, Jan 31	Labor Demand (Ch 3 and 4)	
M, Feb 5	Labor Supply (Ch 6 and 7)	CIT 265
W, Feb 7	Labor Supply (Ch 6 and 7)	
M, Feb 12	Compensating Differentials (Ch 8)	Section replaced by
W, Feb 14	Midterm #1	midterm review Mon night
M, Feb 19	No class – Holiday	CIT 265
W, Feb 21	Human Capital (Ch 9)	
M, Feb 26	Human Capital (Ch 9)	CIT 265
W, Feb 28	Education (supplemental readings)	
M, Mar 5	Mobility and Immigration (Ch 10)	CIT 265
W, Mar 7	Pay and Productivity (Ch 11)	
M, Mar 12	Pay & Productivity (Ch 11)	CIT 265
W, Mar 14	Unions (Ch 13)	
M, Mar 19	Unions (Ch 13) and Review for Midterm	Section replaced by
W, Mar 21	Midterm #2	midterm review M or Tu
M, Mar 26	No class – Spring Break	
W, Mar 28	No class – Spring Break	
M, Apr 2	Discrimination (Ch 12)	CIT 265
W, Apr 4	Discrimination (supplemental readings)	
M, Apr 9	Inequality (Ch 14)	CIT 265
W, Apr 11	Unemployment (Ch 15)	
M, Apr 16	Unemployment Insurance (Ch 15)	CIT 265
W, Apr 18	Crime (supplemental readings)	
M, Apr 24	Crime (supplemental readings)	CIT 265
W, Apr 25	Conclusion, review	