Syllabus

Course description

Course title: Labor Economics
Course code: 27224
Scientific sector: SECS-P/03
Degree: Bachelor Economics and Social Sciences (L-33)
Semester and academic year: 1st semester 2020-21
Year: 3rd year
Credits: 7
Modular: No
Total lecturing hours: 42
Total lab hours: --
Total exercise hours: 21

Attendance: Highly Recommended, but not required
Prerequisites: Previous attendance of an introductory course in microeconomics is strongly suggested, to properly follow the lectures.

Course page: https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/bachelor-economics-social-sciences/

Specific educational objectives: The course belongs to the scientific area of labor economics and is a typical educational activity for any degree in Economics. The course gives a general overview on the subject and related scientific research. The course aims to link knowledge and understanding on labor economics through the application of basic skills in economic analysis.

Students will develop the capacity to understand economic, social, cultural, and policy issues related to the labor market, as well as human capital acquisition. They will learn about how to apply economic concepts in the field and how to relate their knowledge to real world economic issues.

Lecturer: Steven Stillman, Office E3.03, steven.stillman@unibz.it, tel. 0471 013132, www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/36390-steven-stillman

Scientific sector of the lecturer: SECS/P-03
Teaching language: English
Office hours: 21 hours Prof. Stillman
Cockpit – students’ zone – individual timetable
Webpage: https://www.unibz.it/en/timetable/?department=26&degree=12833%2C13016

Lecturing assistant: None
Teaching assistant


Teaching format

Lectures, discussions, small group projects, exercises, etc.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding:
Students should know how analytical tools are used in labor economics and acquire knowledge on the theory of labor demand, labor supply, labor market equilibrium, and human capital acquisition.

Applying knowledge and understanding:
Students should be able to comprehend and apply research contributions. They will learn how to interpret theoretical ideas and applied research results such as how individual labor market decisions are impacted by government policies.

Making judgments:
Student should be able to reflect on specific problems and formulate judgments that include a critical reflection on the relevant social and economic issues involved.

Communication skills:
Students should be able to communicate content, key concepts, research ideas, problems and solutions as well as research results to both a specialist and non-specialist audience.

Learning skills:
Students are able to link economic theory and specific economic problems related to labor markets. They are expected to extend their knowledge acquired during the course autonomously by reading and understanding scientific research and analysis and to continue to undertake further study in order to do a literature review and to frame a proper research question.

Assessment

A voluntary midterm and obligatory final exam, both written. Non-attendees are allowed to take the midterm exam. The midterm grade can be reject in which case you will take the full final exam.

For the midterm and final exam neither textbooks, nor other teaching materials, nor any electronic devices are
allowed in the examination room. Dictionaries without notes and simple calculators are permitted.

**Assessment language**

English

**Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks**

The final grade will be a weighted average of the written midterm exam (50%) and the written final exam (50%). Students that do not take the midterm or reject their midterm grade will be given a longer final that will count for 100% of the final grade.

The textbook, “Labor Economics” by George J. Borjas, additional reading materials made available to the class and the in-class slides of the instructor will form the basis for the material covered in the exams and will be made available to the students online.

Criteria are standard: in exams correct procedure and solution counts. In addition, solutions to problems require the ability to summarize, evaluate, and establish relationships between topics, and skills in critical thinking.

**Required readings**


Selected articles will be uploaded to the reserve collection as required readings.

**Supplementary readings**

