



## Department of Economics Course Outline

		<b>Term:</b>	Fall 2005
<b>Course:</b>	Economics 431 [The Canadian Labour Market]	<b>Section:</b>	01
<b>Time:</b>	MWF 11:00 ? 11:50	<b>Place:</b>	SA 124A (subject to change)
<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. C. J. Bruce		
<b>Office:</b>	SS 414	<b>Telephone:</b>	220-4093
<b>Office Hours:</b>	MW 15:00 ? 16:30	<b>E-Mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:cjbruce@ucalgary.ca">cjbruce@ucalgary.ca</a>

### Textbook(s):

Bruce, Christopher, Economics of Employment and Earnings, 2nd Edition, Nelson, Toronto, 1995.

### Book(s) on Reserve:

Ashenfelter, Orley and Richard Layard (eds.), Handbook of Labour Economics, Vols. 1 and 2, North-Holland, 1986.

Ehrenberg, R. and R. Smith, Modern Labour Economics, Scott, Foresman, 5th ed.

Hirsch, Barry and John Addison, The Economic Analysis of Unions, Allan and Unwin, 1986.

Gunderson, M. and W.C. Riddell, Labour Market Economics, McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 3rd ed., 1993.

McConnell, C.R. and S. Brue, Contemporary Labour Economics, McGraw-Hill, 1986.

### Course Outline:

Labour economics can roughly be divided into two sections: the determination of earnings and the supply of labour. This course deals with the latter.

We will consider the factors which influence: education, hours of work, division of family responsibilities, fertility, migration, immigration, and retirement. In addition we will investigate the determinants of the level of unemployment and will ask whether unemployment can be reduced without causing inflationary pressures. At each stage, the economic theory will be related to policy issues, such as whether university education should be funded by the government or whether

immigrants increase the welfare of the inhabitants of a country.

### **Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:**

There will be two midterm exams worth 20% each, a term paper worth 35%, and a final exam worth 25%. To calculate your final letter grade I will sum your marks on your midterm exams, term paper, and final exam, to get a mark out of 100.

Tests and final exams are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, then converted to letter grades. The course grade is then calculated using the weights indicated above. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+	90.0 ? 100	B	73.5 ? 76.4	C-	60.0 ? 63.4
A	83.0 ? 89.9	B-	70.0 ? 73.4	D+	56.5 ? 59.9
A-	80.0 ? 82.9	C+	66.5 ? 69.9	D	50.0 ? 56.4
B+	76.5 ? 79.9	C	63.5 ? 66.4	F	00.0 ? 49.9

If, for some reason, the distribution of grades determined using the aforementioned conversion chart appears to be abnormal the instructor reserves the right to change the grade conversion chart if the instructor, *at the instructor's discretion*, feels it is necessary to more fairly represent student achievement.

A passing grade on any particular component of the course is not required for a student to pass the course as a whole.

Non-programmable and/or programmable calculators will be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations.

The final examination will be scheduled by the Registrar and held in a classroom. It will be of two hours' duration. Term papers will be returned to students at the Final Exam. The midterm examinations will be held in a classroom during regular class time.

Tests and exams will not involve multiple choice questions.

Students? Union Vice-President, Academic

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Society of Undergraduates in Economics (S.U.E.)

[www.fp.ucalgary.ca/econ](http://www.fp.ucalgary.ca/econ)

**Notes:**

- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor *within* fifteen days of the work being returned to the class.
- Make-up examinations and deferred examinations will not be given except in cases of extreme personal emergencies. Also, examinations will not be given before the indicated dates.
- **Blackboard:**

This course will make use of Blackboard - students who are registered in the course can log on at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login> . Please note that Blackboard features a class e-mail list that I will use. It is your responsibility to ensure that Blackboard uses the e-mail address of your choice. The default is your University of Calgary e-mail address.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333

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CJB:pst  
2005-08-03