



## Department of Economics Course Outline

		<b>Term:</b>	Winter 2007
<b>Course:</b>	Economics 433 [Wage Determination]	<b>Section:</b>	01
<b>Time:</b>	TR: 9:30-10:45	<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>	TR 15:30-17:00	<b>E-Mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:cjbruce@ucalgary.ca">cjbruce@ucalgary.ca</a>

### Textbook(s):

Bruce, C.J. *Economics of Employment and Earnings*, Second Edition, Toronto: Nelson, 1995.

### Book(s) on Reserve:

- Ashenfelter, Orley and Richard Layard (eds.), *Handbook of Labour Economics*, Vols. 1 and 2, North-Holland, latest edition.
- Ehrenberg, R. and R. Smith, *Modern Labour Economics*, Scott, Foresman, latest edition.
- Gunderson, Morley and Craig Riddell, *Labour Market Economics*, McGraw-Hill Ryerson, latest edition.
- Hirsch, Barry and John Addison, *The Economic Analysis of Unions*, Allan and Unwin, latest edition.

- McConnell, Campbell and Stanley Brue, *Contemporary Labour Economics*, McGraw-Hill, latest edition.
- Jacobsen, Joyce & Gilbert Skillman, *Labor Markets & Employment Relationships*, Blackwell Publishing, latest edition.

### Course Outline:

This is a course in applied microeconomics. Its purpose is to investigate the determination of wage rates and annual incomes. We will begin by reviewing a number of theories of the demand for labour, including: neoclassical, institutional, segmented labour market, and radical/Marxian theories.

In the first section we will also review the theory of labour-managed firms and the theory of the demand for labour by government agencies. In the second section of the course we will consider a number of specific issues in the theory of wage determination including: the effects of family background on adult earnings, sex discrimination, trade unions, and government programs to redistribute income.

We will cover Chapters 1, 2 and 9-17 in the textbook.

### Grade Determination and Final Examination Details:

240%
Midterm
Exams
@
20%
each
135%
Paper
125%
Exam
(Registrar
scheduled)
100%

To calculate your final letter grade I will sum the marks from your exams and essays 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 - B 73.5 - C- 60 -  
100 76.4 63.4

A 83 ? B- 70 - 73.4 D+ 56.5 -  
89.9 59.9

A- 80 - C+66.5 - 69.9 D 50 - 56.4  
82.9

B+ 76.5 - C63.5 - 66.4 F 0 - 49.9  
79.9

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 calculators will be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations.

There will be a Registrar scheduled final examination, lasting 2 hours.

Tests and exams WILL NOT involve multiple choice questions.

Students? Union Vice-President Academic:

Shannon O'Connor

Phone: 220-3911

E-mail [shvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:shvpaca@ucalgary.ca)

Students? Union Faculty Representative (Social Sciences)

Teale Phelps-Bondaroff

Phone: 220-3913 Office: MSC 251

E-mail [socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca) or [clmcdona@ucalgary.ca](mailto:clmcdona@ucalgary.ca)

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 two weeks 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; **and that the e-mail address recorded by the Registrar is correct.** (You can check your address on InfoNet.)

· It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333

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CJB/  
2006-10-26