Economics 611.33  Special Topics in Economics (Labour Economics II)

Instructor: Jean-William Laliberté  
Phone: 403 220-5291  
Email: jeanwilliam.lalibert@ucalgary.ca

Lecture Location: SS 423  
Lecture Days/Time: MF 11:00 - 12:15

Office: SS434  
Office Hours: MF 9:30-10:30  
Fall 2021

Course Description:
This is one of two courses in the labour economics sequence. This course aims to acquaint students with traditional and contemporary topics in labour economics and to encourage the development of independent research interests. Topics include labour supply, immigration, minimum wage policies, unions, education, intergenerational mobility, place effects and discrimination.

As part of this course, students are expected to attend departmental seminars.

Course Outcomes:
Be able to understand the determinants of labour market outcomes.  
Be able to utilize applied econometrics to understand the functioning of labor markets.  
By the end of the course students should be able to formulate interesting causal questions.

Course Outline:
See reading list below.

Prerequisites/corequisites:
Economics 301 or equivalent.

Please Note: In planning this course, I assume students are familiar with Stata or an equivalent software, which is required for this course. A programming tutorial will not be provided.

Required Textbook(s):
None.

Recommended Textbook(s):
Handbook of Labor Economics.

Books on Reserve:
None.
Desire2Learn:
This course will make use of the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform. Students who are registered in the course can log on at http://d2l.ucalgary.ca through their student centre. Please note that D2L features a class e-mail list that may be used to distribute course-related information. These e-mails go to your University of Calgary e-mail addresses only.

Grade Determination/Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (3)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research project</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade Determination and Final Examination Details
Department of Economics Criteria for Letter Grades. Economics professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Outstanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Excellent-superior performance, showing-comprehensive understanding of subject matter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>Very good performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>Good performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Satisfactory performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>All grades below “B-“ are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. Individual programs may require a higher passing grade.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letter grades will be determined of the following mapping:
A+: Greater or equal to 90
A: 85-89
A-: 80-84
B+: 70-79
B: 60-69
B-: 50-59
C+: 49 or below.

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

There will be a department scheduled final examination, held in a classroom, lasting 2 hours. Non-programmable calculators WILL be allowed during the writing of tests or final examinations.

Tests and exams WILL NOT involve multiple choice questions.
Absence from a Test/Exam

THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUP OR DEFERRED QUIZZES under any circumstances, nor may the quizzes be written early. Students unable to write the quizzes because of documented illness, family emergency, religious observance, or university-sanctioned event will have the weight shifted to the final examination; otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Department, they need to arrange for a deferred exam with the department.

Reappraisal of Grades:
For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2
http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html

For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3
http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html

Academic Misconduct:
Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students’ academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

Student committing academic misconduct during the final exam will not receive a passing grade for the course.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, Procedure and Academic Integrity, please visit: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html

Academic Accommodations:
Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:
Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy

Copyright Legislation:
See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course
Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

**Recording of Lectures:**
Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See [https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html](https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html).

**Important Dates:**
Please check: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html)

**Student Organizations:**
Faculty of Grad Studies website: [http://grad.ucalgary.ca/home](http://grad.ucalgary.ca/home)

Graduate Students Association: [http://gsa.ucalgary.ca/](http://gsa.ucalgary.ca/)

Professional Development for Grad Students
Workshops and resources can be found at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/mygradskills/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/mygradskills/)

Economics Graduate Association: [http://econ.ucalgary.ca/ega/](http://econ.ucalgary.ca/ega/)

**Student Support and Resources:**
- See [https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines](https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines) for information on campus mental health resources, the Student Ombuds Office, Student Success Centre, Safewalk, and Emergency Evacuation and Assembly.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Tower.

**Notes:**
Students are responsible for all assigned material, e.g., supplementary material posted on D2L, regardless of whether or not the material was covered in class.
Reading List

1. Labour Supply


2. Labour Demand


3. Supply, Demand and Inequality


4. Immigration


5. Minimum wages


6. Unions


7. Inequality: Intergenerational mobility


8. Inequality: Place effects


9. Inequality: Schooling


• Oreopoulos, Philip, and Uros Petronijevic. The remarkable unresponsiveness of college students to nudging and what we can learn from it. No. w26059. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2019.


10. Inequality: Gender gaps and Discrimination


