



ECO 330 Labour Economics

Winter 2024

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 56 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course discusses a great variety of topics related to labor economics, including labor supply and labor demand, wage determination, wage differentials, labor markets and labor force, employment and unemployment, as well as labor and economy. This course will also provide students with an in-dept insight into the problems associated with labor and economy, like the causes of poverty, how wage differentials develop and labor market discrimination.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain how wage structures and wage differential develop and how they have an impact on the labor market;
2. Describe the labor force involvement in the economy, and the measurement of labor productivity;
3. Analyze the causes of unemployment and labor market discrimination and use economic theories to suggest some solutions;
4. Analyze the role of the government in economy and in labor market.

PREREQUISITES

ECO 110 Microeconomics

GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:



ITEM	POINTS
Cases	20 Points
Assignments	20 Points
Midterm Exam	25 Points
Final Exam	35 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F.$$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Labor Economics by Pierre Cahuc, Stephane Carcillo, Andre Zylberberg, William McCuaig, 2nd Edition, The MIT Press, 2014.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<p>Topics: Topic 1: Topics on Labor Supply Topic 2: The Neoclassical Theory of Labor Supply Topic 3: Empirical Aspects of Labor Supply Topic 4: Topics on Labor Demand</p> <p>Assessments: Assignment#1</p>
Module 2	<p>Topics: Topic 5: Dynamic Labor Demand Topic 6: The Competitive Equilibrium Topic 7: Compensating Wage Differential and the Topic 8: Hedonic Theory of Wage</p> <p>Assessments: Case#1</p>



Module 3	Topics: Topic 9: The Theory of Human Capital Topic 10: Education Topic 11: Job Search Theory Topic 12: The Labor Contract Assessments: Assignment#2
Module 4	Topics: Topic 13: Incentive Topic 14: Labor Unions Topic 15: Bargaining Theory and Models Topic 16: Theories of Discrimination Assessments: Midterm Case#2
Module 5	Topics: Topic 17: Unemployment Topic 18: Discrimination Topic 19: Market Equilibrium and Matching Model Topic 20: Technology and Globalization Assessments: Final Exam

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.



LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a



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learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.