

ECO344H5: Labour Economics and Market Frictions

W, 11:00am-1:00pm, KN 137

Instructor: Laura Turner

Email: lmf.turner@utoronto.ca

Office hours: 1:30-4:00pm, W, Rm. 266, KN

REQUIRED COURSE READINGS:

Benjamin, Gunderson, Lemieux, Riddell. *Labour Market Economics*, 6th Edition

PREREQUISITES:

ECO200Y5/204Y5/206Y5,
220Y5/227Y5/STA(250H1,257H5)/STA(257H5,261H5)/STA(257H5,248H5/258H5)

Prerequisites are strictly enforced. Students who do not meet prerequisites can be removed at any time.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND READINGS:

Week 1 – Jan 4, 2012

Course introduction: Labor demand and supply in competitive labor markets

Week 2 – January 11, 2012

Union wage setting I

Week 3 – January 18, 2012

Union wage setting II

Week 4 – January 25, 2012

Wages and employment under monopsony

Week 5 – February 1, 2012

In class test #1 on unions and monopsony; Introduction to unemployment

Week 6 – February 8, 2012

Unemployment, wages and job search

Week 7 – February 15, 2012

Search and non- search theories of unemployment

SPRING BREAK

Week 8– February 29, 2012

Wage dispersion

Week 9 – March 7, 2012

In class test #2 on unemployment; Introduction to dynamic labor supply

Week 10– March 14, 2012

Term essay drafts due for feedback: Life cycle labor supply I: Income and substitution effects

Week 11– March 21, 2012

Life cycle labor supply II: Human capital

Week 12– March 28, 2012

Term essay due in class; Discussion/review: Are labour markets efficient?

APRIL 9-23: FINAL EXAM, DATE TBA

GRADING

In class tests (best one of two): 30%

Term essay: 35%

Final exam: 35%

A hard draft of the term essay may be handed in two weeks in advance of the due date (on March 14) for feedback on the writing and quality of the economic argument. Drafts, annotated with feedback, will be returned in class the following week. Late essays (essays submitted after midnight on March 28) will be penalized at a rate of 4% per day, including weekends. Final essays must be submitted through Turnitin (see below). Late essays can be submitted electronically at any time.

There is no requirement to write both term tests as only the higher mark will count toward the final grade. However, there is no option to re-write missed tests. If a student misses both tests, he/she will

receive a 0/30 with no exceptions. Students are strongly encouraged to attempt the first term test on February 1.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Students should note that copying, plagiarizing, or other forms of academic misconduct **will not be tolerated**. Any student caught engaging in such activities will be subject to academic discipline ranging from a mark of zero on the assignment, test or examination to dismissal from the university as outlined in the academic handbook. Any student abetting or otherwise assisting in such misconduct will also be subject to academic penalties. As a student it is your responsibility to ensure the integrity of your work and to understand what constitutes an academic offence. If you have any concerns that you may be crossing the line, always ask your instructor. Your instructor can explain, for example, the nuances of plagiarism and how to use secondary sources appropriately; he or she will also tell you what kinds of aids -- calculators, dictionaries, etc. -- are permitted in a test or exam. **Ignorance of the rules does not excuse cheating or plagiarism.** For more information regarding the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters please visit <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/regcal/WEBGEN121.html>

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

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