

Economics 475/675: Labor Economics

Summer 2009
T, Th 6:00-9:00

Professor Kosteas
E-mail: b.kosteas@csuohio.edu

Office: 1707 Rhodes Tower
Phone: 687-4526
Hours: by appointment

Textbook and Readings

Labor Economics, 5th Edition by George J. Borjas

I have also assigned additional readings which are available online at www.jstor.org.

Exams and Grading:

Midterm: June 18 (Chapters 1-6)	100 points
Final: July 16 (Chapters 7-12)	100 points
Problem sets and participation	50 points
Projects	50 points (20/30)

I will assign problems for you to solve. Your ability to solve the problem sets is the best indicator (exams aside) of how well you understand the material.

Students registered under 675 (graduate level) will receive more difficult exams and will occasionally have more advanced problems on problem sets.

Students registered under 475 will have two projects to turn in. I will provide more details on these projects in the coming weeks. **The first project is due in class on June 16 and the second is due on July 14.**

Students registered under 675 will work through projects using STATA. These projects will follow special lectures where I show you how to perform data work and empirical analysis using STATA. There will be two to three such lectures. **Each project will be due one week after it is assigned.**

Undergraduates are not required, but encouraged to attend these special lectures.

Course Outline and Reading List (Tentative):

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Homework</i>
<i>First half of the course:</i>		
Introduction to Labor Economics	Chapter 1	
Labor Supply	Chapter 2, Feyrer	2.3, 2.6
Labor Demand	Chapter 3	3.9, 3.10
Labor Market Equilibrium	Chapter 4	4.3, 4.9
Compensating Wage Differentials	Chapter 5, Ellingson	5.3, 5.8
Human Capital	Chapter 6	6.1, 6.10

Second half of the course:

The Wage Structure	Chapter 7	7.10, 7.11
Labor Mobility	Chapter 8, Davis	8.3, 8.8
Labor Market Discrimination	Chapter 9	9.3, 9.6
Labor Unions	Chapter 10	10.7, 10.10
Contracts Work Incentives	Chapter 11	11.3, 11.6
Unemployment	Chapter 12, Nicholson	12.3, 12.8

Reserve Readings (with study questions in bold):

Davis, S. J., R. J. Faberman and J. Haltiwanger (2006). "The Flow Approach to Labor Markets: New Data Sources and Micro-Macro Links," *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 20, No3.

Ellingson, T. and M. Johannesson (2008). "Paying for Respect," *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 21, No 4.

Feyrer, J., B. Sacerdote and A. D. Stern (2008). "Will the Stork Return to Europe and Japan? Understanding Fertility within Developed Nations," *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 22, No3.

Nicholson, W. and K. Needels (2006). "Unemployment Insurance: Strengthening the Relationship between Theory and Policy," *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 20, No3.