

ECON 3700 LABOUR ECONOMICS (3 credit hours)

Elmira College

SPRING 2025

Required Text:

George Borjas, (2020). *Labor Economics* (8th ed.). McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

Supplemental readings might be included to illustrate or expand on textbook readings.

Pre-requisites: ECON 2045 Microeconomic Theory II; ECON 1051 Introduction to Econometrics

Course Description

The main objective of the course is to foster a comprehensive understanding of the theoretical and empirical foundations of the labour market. This course uses many examples drawn from state-of-the-art studies in labor economics literature. The topics include labour supply, labour demand, labour market, union, wage structure, compensating differentials and Phillips curve.

Course Objectives and Goals

- Understand the critical principles and development of labour economics.
- Have the ability to apply the knowledge to the practice.
- Employ modern theoretical and empirical techniques to analyse research questions in labour economics.
- Conduct independent empirical analysis of data using micro econometric techniques common in labour economics.

Evaluation of Performance

Your grade will be based upon your performance on exams, assignments, and participation.

3 Quizzes	30%
3 Problem Sets	30%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

Grades will be assigned as follows:

A 93% and above	B- 80 - 82%	D+ 67 - 69%
A- 90 - 92%	C+ 77 - 79%	D 63 - 66%
B+ 87 - 89%	C 73 - 76%	D- 60 - 62%
B 83 - 86%	C- 70 - 72%	F 59% or below

Withdrawal Policy: Please see Elmira College Bulletin for information on this policy.

Academic Honesty: Please read the section on Academic Honesty in the [Code of Conduct](#). Briefly, academic dishonesty includes: cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism. Ask if you have any questions on whether something constitutes as academic dishonesty. All work must be original and new. Past assignments from current or other courses will not be accepted. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. It will result in zero on the assignment, and a report will be filed with the school. Continued practice will result in failure of the class. Institutional penalties may also apply with repeated acts of academic honesty.

Student Responsibility:

- It is your responsibility to keep track of assignments and due dates.
- You should ask questions concerning assignments and lectures, if you need any clarifications.
- If you are struggling in class, have concerns, and/or unsure about expectations, please stop by during office hours or make an appointment for another time.

Tentative Schedule of Topics

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Materials</u>	<u>Tasks & Evaluations</u>
The Actors in the Labor Market	Chapter 1	
Labor Supply	Chapter 2	Quiz 1
Household Production	Chapter 3	
The Budget Constraint	Chapter 4	
Labor Demand	Chapter 5	Problem Set 1
Factor Demand with Many Inputs	Chapter 6	
Labor Market Equilibrium	Chapter 7	
Policy Application: High-Skill Immigration	Chapter 8	Quiz 2
Education and Earnings	Chapter 9	
The Changing Wage Distribution	Chapter 10	Midterm Exam
Inequality Across Generations	Chapter 11	
Labor Mobility	Chapter 12	
Theory at Work: Power Couples	Chapter 13	Problem Set 2
Labor Market Discrimination	Chapter 14	
Labor Unions	Chapter 15	
Monopoly Unions	Chapter 16	Quiz 3
Incentive Pay	Chapter 17	
Efficiency Wages	Chapter 18	Problem Set 3
Unemployment	Chapter 19	
Compensating Differentials	Chapter 20	
The Phillips Curve	Chapter 21	Final Exam