Course Description
This course covers a broad range of topics in labor economics, including labor supply and demand, human capital, unemployment, discrimination and inequality. We will apply theories to study impacts of different policies. The course has an international perspective with a focus on Canada, exploring questions like: How does EI affect the Canadian labour market? Do minimum wages reduce employment? What is economic discrimination and does it exist in Canada? How well do immigrants fare in the Canadian labour market?

Course Prerequisites
Prerequisites: ECON 2200.03 or ECON 2210.03 or ECON 2220.03, and ECON 2201.03 (Minimum grade of C)

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of the course a student will be able to:

- Apply labor supply theory to analyze public policy questions like welfare programs and safety nets.
- Apply labor demand theory to analyze public policy questions like minimum wage and immigration policies.
- Integrate labor supply and demand theory to understand how equilibrium wages are determined and what causes inequality in the wage structure.
- Use search theory to understand the role of equilibrium unemployment and the labor market policies that affect it.
- Understand the role of investment in human capital in the labor market

Course Materials
Textbook: Labor Economics, George Borjas, 7th edition
Course website: Brightspace. Lecture notes, additional readings, assignments, solutions, grades, and announcements will all be posted on Brightspace.

Course Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight (% of final grade)</th>
<th>Date</th>
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Midterm 1 will cover Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. It will be on paper and contain multiple choice and short answer questions.

Final Exam: Final exam will cover Chapters 7, 8, 9 and 12. It will be on paper and contain multiple choice and short answer questions.

Homeworks: There will be 9 Homeworks, one after each chapter. They will contain multiple choice and short questions. Submit HW through Brightspace. HWs submitted through emails will not receive any grade. I will take your best 4 performances while calculating your HW grade. Late submissions will not receive any point.

Presentation: You are free to form groups of maximum number of 4. As a group, you will choose a date and sign up for the date in the link posted in Brightspace. There will be one presentation a week and whichever group signs up first gets the date. So, choose early. You will be presenting a paper from the reading list for the week. Details on the format, content and grading rubric of the presentation are posted separately on Brightspace.

Term Project: The term paper for this class aims to let you focus on a topic of your choice in labor, formulate your own research question, investigate the current state of the literature and summarize your findings in writing of about 1500-2000 words. Details are posted separately on Brightspace.

Other course requirements
Practice Problem Sets on every Chapter will be posted on Brightspace. I will be showing in class how to solve some of the exercises. They are for your practice and not graded but they will help you to understand the materials taught in class.

Conversion of numerical grades to Final Letter Grades follows the Dalhousie Common Grade Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>(90-100)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(85-89)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>(80-84)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>(77-79)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>(73-76)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>(70-72)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>(65-69)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>(60-64)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>(55-59)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>(50-54)</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>(&lt;50)</td>
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Course Policies
I expect you to attend classes regularly and to have an interactive class. You are encouraged to ask questions in class, especially if anything is unclear. If you are having difficulty understanding the materials, I strongly recommend you talk to me during my office hour. If my office hour is not suitable for you, you can email and schedule a different time to meet me.

You should bring your own calculator, Ipads/laptops or pencil/pen and will not be allowed to share.

To pass the course, you need to give the final exam. So, make sure that there is no conflict with the final exam. If you miss the final for some valid reason, inform me by email as soon as possible.
There will be no make-up for midterms. If you miss a midterm due to unavoidable circumstances, please inform me by email before the exam begins and submit the student declaration of absence form through Brightspace. If your absence is per policy of the University, the weight of the midterm will be given to the final exam.

All submitted work needs to be your own work. If you are caught using someone else’s work, it will be dealt according to Dalhousie’s Academic Integrity policy.

Tentative Course Content and Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Textbook Chapter</th>
<th>Additional Readings</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Compensating Wage Differentials</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>HW 4, Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Human Capital</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Human Capital</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>HW 5, Midterm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Inequality

Chapter 7

9


Inequality/Mobility

Chapter 7/Chapter 8

10


Mobility

Chapter 8

11


Doorley, Karina and Eva Sierminska. 2015. "Myth or fact? The beauty premium across the wage distribution in Germany," Economic Letters, 129

Discrimination

Chapter 9

12


Equilibrium

Chapter 12

13


Unemployment

Chapter 12

13
University Policies and Statements

This course is governed by the academic rules and regulations set forth in the University Calendar and by Senate.

Academic Integrity
At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all of our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility and respect (The Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, 1999). As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all of the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity.

Information: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html

Accessibility
The Advising and Access Services Centre is Dalhousie’s centre of expertise for student accessibility and accommodation. The advising team works with students who request accommodation as a result of a disability, religious obligation, or any barrier related to any other characteristic protected under Human Rights legislation (Canada and Nova Scotia).

Information: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html

Student Code of Conduct
Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don’t follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner—perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can’t be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution.


Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect
Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness.

Statement: http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html

Recognition of Mi’kmaq Territory
Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi’kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel and support.

Visit or e-mail the Indigenous Student Centre (1321 Edward St) (elders@dal.ca).

Information: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates)
https://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html

University Grading Practices
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html

Missed or Late Academic Requirements due to Student Absence (policy)
https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/missed-or-late-academic-requirements-due-to-student-absence.html

Student Resources and Support

Advising
General Advising: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html

Science Program Advisors: https://www.dal.ca/faculty/science/current-students/academic-advising.html

Indigenous Student Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Black Students Advising Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html

International Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre/current-students.html

Academic supports

Library: https://libraries.dal.ca/

Writing Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html

Studying for Success: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html

Copyright Office: https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html

Fair Dealing Guidelines: https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office/fair-dealing.html

Other supports and services

Student Health & Wellness Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness/services-support/student-health-and-wellness.html

Student Advocacy: https://dsu.ca/dsas


Safety

Biosafety: https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/biosafety.html

Chemical Safety: https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/chemical-safety.html

Radiation Safety: https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety.html

Scent-Free Program: https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html