



Course	ECON 3100-060 Hybrid Labor Economics – 3 Credit hours Summer 2015 - Murray Campus Fulfills University UI Requirement Tuesday/Thursday 6:00 – 9:00 pm
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Instructor	Rick Haskell Office: OSH 199M (149) Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 5:00 – 6:00 pm at Murray Campus and by appointment Cell Phone: 801-209-3546 Email: rick.haskell@utah.edu
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Course Materials	There is no required text for this course as all required and supplemental content is delivered online through Canvas. Students interested in Labor Economics may be interested in Modern Labor Economics: Theory and Public Policy. I rely heavily on the 11th Edition, but any edition is acceptable and can be purchased through the campus bookstore or can be found very reasonably through various online book sellers.
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Course Overview	<p>At its core, the discussion of Labor Economics is a discussion of microeconomic principles applied to labor markets and labor market policies in an effort to understand differences in outcomes experienced by various labor market participants. In other words, <i>labor economics simply seeks to explain why different people receive different wages.</i></p> <p>This course emphasizes the evaluation of economic models illustrative of modern labor markets and uses a combination of video content, quizzes, review problems, Reaction Papers and Research Projects, and exams. The course is organized into modules representing various labor economics topics and metrics, with 4-6 segments per module. The relevant modules must be completed in the order in which they're presented in Canvas and all quizzes and review problems must be completed before taking the exams covering their respective content.</p> <p>This course functions as a hybrid, or flipped, course in which students prepare for each class by completing the assigned modules and their respective segments, quizzes, and review problems before the scheduled class. During class we'll go over the review problem and work on a set of complementary in-class problems to illustrate the labor economics concepts and metrics and motivate important class discussions. The course includes two mid-term examinations, a final exam and a Research Project and Presentation group assignment.</p> <p>There are no specific prerequisites for this class. However, some knowledge of microeconomics (at the principles level) and basic algebra will be very helpful. We'll spend a significant amount of time analyzing graphs and doing algebraic calculations.</p>
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Canvas	This course heavily uses Canvas for communication, scheduling, assignments, discussions, and dissemination of critical course materials. If you haven't already set up Canvas to forward your Canvas email messages to your regular email you should do so immediately.
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Quizzes	There is a short graded quiz to be taken following each video segment, of which there are 4-6 per module.
Review Problems	At the end of each module there is a graded Review Problem covering some of the more important aspects of the module. These problems include a combination of objective, short answer and calculation questions/problems which are very similar to those to be found on the exams. You will prepare your responses to these Review Problems prior to attending the class in which the concepts will be discussed. During class we'll work through the Review Problems. Review problems are to be submitted via Canvas.
In-Class Problems	During each class we'll work through a graded In-Class Problem complementary to the Review Problems and material covered in the assigned module(s). The In-Class Problems are to be turned in at the end of class and cannot be made up if missed.
Research Project	At the beginning of the term you will be assigned to work on a research project with 2 other students, with each topic being specific to one of the various concepts addressed in this course. Your project will culminate in the formation of a short presentation and research poster to be presented online no later than 7/31/2015 . These presentations will not take place in class, but will be digital presentations including voice over recordings of the research poster and students.
Reaction Papers	You will be required to write three (3) Reaction Papers due 5/31/2015 , 6/14/2015 and 6/28/2015 . through the Canvas assignment submission function. These papers should be used to assist you in building the content for your research project. For each paper you are required to find two or more published journal articles specifically associated with your research topic, discuss them relative to your research topic, offer your personal reaction to the authors' arguments, methods and conclusions and present economic models illustrative of the concepts being addressed. These papers are to be no less than 750 words in length, must include appropriate economic graphic representation of the issue being addressed and will be graded on content, grammar, syntax and proper use of graphs and charts. It is important to note that economic graphics (models) are not simply charts, tables or graphs presenting values associated with the issue, but are specifically formatted graphs designed to present economic models with their temporal or equational dynamics.

Grading	Quizzes	10%
	Review Problems	10%
	In-Class Problems	10%
	Reaction Papers	15%
	Research Project	20%
	Mid-Term Exam	20%
	Final Exam	15%

Grading Scale	A > 93.9%	B- 80 - 83.9%	D+ 67 - 69.9%
	A- 90 - 93.9	C+ 77 - 79.9%	D 64 - 66.9%
	B+ 87 - 89.9%	C 74 - 76.9%	D- 60 - 63.9%
	B 84 - 86.9%	C- 70 - 73.9%	E <60%

Grades will be determined in accordance with the University of Utah's grading policies. Written feedback will be provided on some assignments and more detailed feedback will be provided at any time upon request. If you believe you have received an incorrect grade on

any assignment for this class, please bring it to my attention immediately.

Expectations

You can expect me to:

- Treat students and others with respect, expect that as adults we are each responsible for our decisions and actions, and ask “why” often.
- Grade and provide feedback on assignments within one week of the date they are submitted.
- Return email messages, texts and phone calls within 24 hours.
- Use Canvas to enhance student learning, communication, and convenience.
- Follow the syllabus and hold each class session as scheduled. In the event of an unsolvable conflict or emergency, I will make every effort to arrange for a qualified substitute to teach the class.
- Be readily available to meet with students, either during regularly-scheduled office hours or at any other time that works for both of us.
- Complete final grades and provide students with feedback on final grades within two weeks of the date the last course assignment is submitted.
- Bring drinks or some suitable recompense when I screw up in front of the class

I expect you to:

- Actively communicate and use Canvas regularly.
- Complete reading and homework assignments, take all quizzes and exams, participate in class discussions and ask “why” often.
- Attend each class session. In the event that you must miss a class, please notify me in advance and assume responsibility for the material you missed.
- Read the course syllabus, ensure you have a clear understanding of the course requirements and evaluation methods used in the course, and fulfill the course requirements.
- Come to class prepared and participate fully, honestly, and professionally in class discussions and online class activities.
- Learn about and abide by the University of Utah’s academic honesty policy. Specifically, I expect you to not engage in cheating, plagiarism and furnishing false or misleading information to any faculty or staff member.
- Immediately notify me in the event of an emergency that prevents you from submitting an assignment or completing the course.
- Ask questions if any expectations or assignments are unclear.
- Be courteous of others when using technology. Always give speakers your full attention and make sure that any use of technology during class enhances your learning and does not distract you or others from course content.

Class Participation

This course is designed to be highly participative and participation in class discussions is required. We will take time during most classes to discuss current domestic and international labor market issues. **There will be material covered in class that will not be part of the reading but for which students will be responsible on Mid-Term and/or Final exams.**

Supplemental Material

Supplemental videos and articles can be found on Canvas to assist you in your understanding of the concepts discussed in this course. Review of these materials is optional.

Late Assignment Policy

Late assignments will not be accepted for credit without prior permission.

ADA statement

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 801-581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. (www.hr.utah.edu/oeo/ada/guide/faculty/)

Syllabus changes

This syllabus is subject to change. Potential changes will be discussed in class and may be posted in Canvas.

Week	Date	Module	Topic
1	5/19	Module 1	The Labor Market
	5/21	Module 2	Labor Market Marginality
2	5/26	Module 3	Evaluating Labor Market Models
	5/28	Module 4	Labor Demand Characteristics
	5/31	Reaction Paper #1 due	
3	6/2	Module 5	Labor Supply Characteristics
	6/4	Module 6	Friction in the Labor Market
4	6/9	Module 7 Mid-Term Exam	Labor Demand Elasticity In-Class Exam
	6/11	Module 8 Module 9	Compensating Wage Differentials Human Capital Investments
	6/14	Reaction Paper #2 due	
5	6/16	Module 10 Module 11	Monopsony Worker Mobility and Migration
	6/18	Module 12 Module 13	Pay and Productivity Labor Market Discrimination
6	6/23	Module 14 Module 15	Labor Unions Income Inequality
	6/25	Final Exam	In-Class Portion of Final Exam
	6/28	Reaction Paper #3 due	
	7/3	Final Exam	Take Home Portion of Final Exam Due
	7/31	Research Projects/ Posters In-Class Presentations	