

School of Economics and Finance

ECON 433 LABOUR ECONOMICS

Trimester 1, 2014

COURSE OUTLINE

Names and Contact Details

Harold Cuffe (course coordinator)
Room: RH 309
Telephone: (04) 463-6708
Email: harold.cuffe@vuw.ac.nz
Office Hours: by appointment

Julie-Mary Boles de Boer (course administrator)
Room RH321
Email: julie-mary.bolesdeboer@vuw.ac.nz
Phone: (04) 463-6386

Trimester Dates

Teaching Period: Monday 3rd March – Friday 6th June
Study Period: Monday 9th June – Thursday 12th June
Examination Period: Friday 13th June – Wednesday 2nd July (inclusive)

Withdrawal from Course

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 14th March 2014.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 16th May. After this date, students forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control must apply for permission on an '*Application for Associate Dean's Permission to Withdraw Late*' including supporting documentation. The application form is available from either of the Faculty's Student Customer Service Desks.

Class Times and Room Numbers

Lecture Location: RWW128
Day: Wednesday
Time: 11:30 am – 13:20 am

Course Delivery

Course delivery takes the form of 12 approximately 1 hour 50 minute lectures.

Expected Workload

The workload for ECON 433 is intended to be similar to that for other 400-level ECON or FINA courses. The total expected workload is 150 hours, comprising 12-13 hours per week.

Prescription

This course provides alternative theories of labour markets, models and approaches to supply, demand and pricing of different types of labour.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Understand the principal empirical approaches to estimating key labour-market relationships;
2. Use static and inter-temporal labour supply models to explain the supply side of the labour market;
3. Understand and apply the productivity and signalling models of human capital theory;
4. Explain the presence of group differences in labour market outcomes and understand different ways of empirically measuring discrimination;
5. Understand how to measure neighbourhood effects and social interactions and the role of immigration and geographical mobility in the labour market

Readings

You will study and present journal articles and emerging scholarly work. Articles will be provided via Blackboard or available through the library.

Materials and Equipment

Non-programmable calculators or ones with the memory cleared will be allowed in the exam.

Assessment

From Trimester 1, 2014, a revised Assessment Handbook will apply to all VUW courses: see <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf>.

In particular, there will be a new grade scheme, in which the A+ range will be 90-100% and 50-54% will be a C-.

The final grade will be determined by four assignments (16%), two class presentations (10%), a replication project (24%), and a two-hour final exam (contributing 50%). Assignments will be collected prior to the start of class.

Assessment	Date	Learning Objectives	Total Grade Percentage	Time Allowed in Minutes
Assignment 1	26-Mar-14	1,2	4%	
Assignment 2	16-Apr-14	1,3	4%	
Assignment 3	21-May-14	1,4	4%	
Assignment 4	04-Jun-14	1,5	4%	
Class Presentation 1	Various	1,2,3,4,5	5%	
Class Presentation 2	Various	1,2,3,4,5	5%	
Replication Project	Various	1,2	24%	
Final Exam	tbd	1,2,3,4,5	50%	120
Total			100%	

Penalties

- Students, who do not present their assigned articles on the assigned dates, will receive a mark of zero.
- All assignments are due at the start of class with a 25% reduction for each 24 hour period late.
- If the student provides a satisfactory medical certificate to the instructor, then the student's
 - Presentation will be rescheduled without penalty,
 - Assignments will be accepted late without penalty, and
 - The due date of the Replication Project will be extended.

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and submitted to Turnitin. A copy of submitted materials will be retained on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

Examinations

Students who enrol in courses with examinations are obliged to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period. The final examination for this course will be scheduled at some time during the following period:

Friday 13th June – Wednesday 2nd July (inclusive)

Mandatory Course Requirements

Must receive at least 50% on the replication project.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details made available to VUWSA, the course coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the course coordinator on behalf of students.

Communication of Additional Information

Course documents and other information will be available on Blackboard. Announcements and presentations will be posted there.

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at
www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Link to general information

For general information about course-related matters, go to
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vbs/studenthelp/general-course-information>

Note to Students

Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and academic audit. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of VBS programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.
