



NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY

Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

Course Instructor Hal W. Snarr
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Course Information

Course Number ECON 501
Course Title Labor Economics
Term Spring 2013

General Information:

<i>Monday thru Friday Spring Break</i>	March 4-8, 2013
<i>Honor's Convocation (classes suspended from 3-5 pm)</i>	March 14, 2013
<i>Last day to withdraw from a course without grade evaluation</i>	March 26, 2013
<i>Last day to withdraw from the University without a grade evaluation</i>	April 5, 2013
<i>Final Examination</i>	May 6-10, 2013

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

Prerequisites: ECON 200, ECON 310

Course Description

This course introduces the student to the economic analysis of labor markets. Labor economics is a field in applied microeconomics, and draws upon basic microeconomic and statistical concepts. Topics to be studied include the demand for and the supply of labor, labor market equilibrium, compensating wage differentials, acquisition of human capital, education as a signal, migration, discrimination, unions, incentive pay, and unemployment.

Learning Objectives

Students will improve their critical thinking abilities by gaining a basic understanding of how to estimate and interpret regression models, and solving and analyzing models. Students will be familiar with global issues in labor economics, and general business and technology skills by being expected to perform various analyses using Microsoft Excel. The student may also be exposed to the ethical, diversity, and efficiency of decisions and policies in the global economy, while engaging/participating in Socratic discourse, and communicate the results of these analyses effectively.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Required Texts
Labor Economics (George Borjas)

Required Materials
Calculator

Course Policies

Academic Dishonesty

Cheating will not be tolerated. Any student suspected of cheating will face appropriate punitive action, including a loss of credit for an assignment or exam, a grade of 'F' for the course, or removal from the course, while repeated offenses can lead to dismissal from the University.

Office Hours

You must bring your textbook and completed lecture notes with you when seeking assistance during office hours. You must attempt assignment questions before seeking help on them:

Tue & Thur	12:30-4 pm
Wed	10 am-1:00 pm

Online reading assignments

All are posted to Blackboard and are ordered by due date. Each contains a reading from the text, and about 20 multiple choice questions. You get **ONE** chance to complete each.

Lectures

Lecture handouts are posted to www.halsnarr.com/teach.htm. Students should fill it out as I do in class.

Participation

Students will be given a name plate. Those who are on time with their nameplates displayed at the start of class, get ONE point. However, the point is lost if students (a) leave early, (b) fail the questions I pose in class, (c) drink, eat, or text, or (d) do not have paper, a pen or pencil, and a calculator.

Online homework

All are posted to Blackboard, and are ordered by due date. Some assignments are comprehensive. You will get **FIVE** attempts per homework assignment. Variations of these questions will be on exams.

Exams

The midterm will be given after chapter 4 is covered. The final is **comprehensive**, and will be given during finals week.

Grades

All grades for reading and homework assignments are posted in the CengageNOW grade book. Each carries the same weight. Points are distributed as follows.

Blackboard assignments	150
Midterm exam	150
Final exam	150
Participation	50
Total Points for the Course	500

Grades are assigned as follows:

A	if	points ≥ 450
B	if	$400 \leq \text{points} < 450$
C	if	$350 \leq \text{points} < 400$
D	if	$300 \leq \text{points} < 350$
F	if	points < 300

Course Outline

1. Introduction to labor and Regression Analysis
2. Labor Supply (chapter 2)

3. Labor Demand (chapter 3)
4. Labor Market Equilibrium (Chapter 4)
5. Compensating wage differentials (Chapter 5)
7. Human Capital (Chapter 6)
8. Labor market discrimination (Chapters 9)
9. Labor unions (Chapter 10)
10. Unemployment (Chapter 12)

Chapters may be added at the discretion of Professor.

Technical Support

If you experience any problems with your A&T account you may call Aggie Tech Support (formerly Help Desk) at (336) 334-7195.

Other Policies (e.g., copyright guidelines, confidentiality, etc.)

Student Handbook: http://www.ncat.edu/deanst/student_handbook.pdf

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act: http://www.ncat.edu/~registra/ferpa_info/index.htm

Student Conduct & Discipline

North Carolina A&T State University has rules and regulations that govern student conduct and discipline meant to ensure the orderly and efficient conduct of the educational enterprise. It is the responsibility of each student to be knowledgeable about these rules and regulations. Please consult the undergraduate bulletin http://www.ncat.edu/~acdaffrs/Bulletin_2010_2012/toc.htm and the student handbook http://www.ncat.edu/deanst/student_handbook.pdf for detailed information about specific policies such as academic dishonesty, cell phones, change of grade, disability services, disruptive behavior, general class attendance, grade appeal, incomplete grades, make up work, student grievance procedures, withdrawal, etc.

Parts of this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.