

Economics 4616-100 Labor Economics

University Of Colorado at Boulder

Professor: Joe Craig

Office:

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Office hours: MTWR 1100-1230 and by appointment

Lecture: MTWRF 1245-1420, Econ 117

“Required Text”: • **McConnell, Bruce and Macpherson, (2010), Contemporary Labor Economics, ISBN-13: 978-0073375953, McGraw –Hill Irwin Publishers** – I would suggest looking for used/new copies online before buying at the bookstore to compare prices. Also, the best strategy for doing well in class and understanding the material is to read the corresponding textbook chapters before class. I follow the book topics fairly closely but will add a few additional things as I see fit.

Course Description: An introduction to the functioning of the market for labor through the interaction of workers and employers. This course will cover topics of why wage differences exist for differing demographics, such as sex, ethnicity, age etc. Special consideration will be given to labor decisions such as when to go to college, how many children to have and why you might work less if you're paid more.

Lectures: In lecture, new material will be presented that will follow topics from the textbook, but may differ in emphasis.

Grading: Your course grade will be based on the breakdown below. I reserve the right to curve any scores on any assignment up, but will never curve scores down.

Assignment	Value
Attendance/Participation	10%
Exams (3)	45%
Homework	15%
Final	30%

Grades will be assigned based on the following:

92.5-100	A
89.5-92.4	A-
87.5-89.4	B+
82.5-87.4	B
79.5-82.4	B-
77.5-79.4	C+
68.5-77.4	C
58.5-68.4	D
0-58.4	F

Attendance/Participation: This will be based on my subjective perception of your contribution to the class

Examinations: The exams will take place during regular class time in the regular class room on the dates listed below. Exam dates are tentative. They will be a combination of multiple-choice questions and short answer questions. You'll probably also want to bring a calculator (*no cell phone calculators or any calculators capable of storing information i.e. graphing calculators*). Exam questions will be based on material covered in lecture and the homework sets. I'll talk more about each exam as the exam date approaches. You must show all work on Exams!

Make-ups for any exam are allowed only under compelling circumstances. Under such a compelling circumstance, you are almost always required to make prior arrangements before the exam. Typically a make-up exam will be administered prior to the actual exam date and never later than 2 days past the exam date. Any make-up exam given after the exams have been returned will be an oral exam.

Homework: Homework will be assigned at the end of chapter/sections. Homework will be graded on a 10 point scale. You will receive 5 points for completing the assignment and I will grade 5 questions. Because of this make sure to check your responses against the Keys that will be posted. If I can't read/understand it, I can't grade it.

Final: The final will be cumulative.

Tentative Schedule

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Date	7-8	7-9	7-10	7-11	7-12
Assignment	No class				
Date	7-15	7-16	7-17	7-18	7-19
Assignment				Exam 1	
Date	7-22	7-23	7-24	7-25	7-26
Assignment					
Date	7-29	7-30	7-31	8-1	8-2
Assignment	Exam 2				
Date	8-5	8-6	8-7	8-8	8-9
Assignment			Exam 3		Final