LABOUR ECONOMICS – BARGAINING
ECONOMICS 2156A-001
Department of Economics
Western University

Hyeongsuk Jin                May 2015

Office:   SSC 4048
Phone:    (519) 661-2111 ext. 85268
E-mail:   hjin32@uwo.ca
Office Hours:  Monday / Tuesday, 1:30 – 2:30PM
Classroom meeting time(s) & location: Mon / Tue / Wed 9:30 – 11:30AM, SSC 3026
Course website:  https://owl.uwo.ca/portal
Undergraduate inquiries:  519-661-3507 SSC Room 4075 or econugrd@uwo.ca

Registration

You are responsible for ensuring you are registered in the correct courses. If you are not registered in a course, the Department will not release any of your marks until your registration is corrected. You may check your timetable by using the Login on the Student Services website at https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm. If you notice a problem, please contact your home Faculty Academic Counsellor immediately.

Prerequisite Note

The prerequisites for this course are Economics 1021A/B and 1022A/B; or, Economics 1020; or, Economics 2001A/B

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an anti-requisite course. Lack of pre-requisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed.

If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

Course Objectives

The goal of this course is to understand how the labour market works. The focus is on explaining differential wages among workers with bargaining theory.
Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will

- understand the neoclassical models of labour supply and demand;
- be able to analyze how various policies and institutions affect labour market;
- be able to explain why individual workers have different wages;
- understand the bargaining theory;
- be able to analyze the interaction between unions and employers;
- interpret empirical evidences within the context of the theories;

Text


Course Outline

Topics

1. Review concepts of supply, demand, and equilibrium in the labour market (Chapter 1)
2. Theories of labour supply (Chapter 2, 3, 4)
3. Theory of labour demand (Chapter 5, 6)
4. Theories of wage differentials (Chapter 8, 9, 12)
5. Union in the labour market (Chapter 14, 15, 16)

Tentative schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week (Date)</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 (May 11 - 13)</td>
<td>Theory of labour supply</td>
<td>No class on Victoria Day (May 18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 (May 19, 20)</td>
<td>Labour supply</td>
<td>Quiz 1 on May 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 (May 25 - 27)</td>
<td>Labour demand</td>
<td>Midterm test on May 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 (June 1 - 3)</td>
<td>Wage differentials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 (June 8 - 10)</td>
<td>Bargaining Theory</td>
<td>Quiz 2 on June 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 (June 15 - 17)</td>
<td>Unionization in the labour market</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grading

The final grade will be determined by four components: two quizzes which worth 10% each, one midterm test worth 35%, and a final examination worth 45%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 1</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>May 20 (in class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm test</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>May 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>June 10 (in class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>Scheduled by the Office of the Registrar</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Both quizzes will be modular; the exams will be comprehensive. Specific material covered by a quiz or an exam will be announced in class prior to the test day.

In the test, you are responsible for the relevant chapters of the textbook as well as material covered in class that may not appear in the text.

You must write a quiz / an exam on the specified date to get a mark. If you cannot demonstrate a valid reason for your absences, you will receive a mark of zero for the quiz / exam.

Policy on missed quiz
There will be no make up for missed quizzes.
If you missed one of the quizzes for a valid reason (e.g., medical issue) with demonstrating documents, marks from the other quiz will substitute the missed one. If you missed both quiz for a valid reason, your grade will be determined using 40% of midterm and 60% of final exam marks.

Policy on makeup exam
If you cannot write midterm test or final examination on the announced date, you must contact your home Academic Counselling office as soon as possible. Once they approve you for accommodation, you may write a makeup.

Policy on a request for relief
A request for relief against a mark must be initiated within a week since the mark is issued.

Important Dates

- May 11 – First day of class
- May 18 – Victoria Day holiday (No class)
- May 20 – Quiz 1
- May 27 – Midterm test
- June 10 – Quiz 2
- June 17 – Last day of class
- Date of the final examination will be announced by the Office of the Registrar
Please Note

Remember that the University expects all students to take responsibility for their own academic programs. Also remember to check your registration to make sure you are enrolled in the correct courses.

1. Guidelines and policies for the Faculty of Social Science and the Department of Economics are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca.


3. **Cheating as an academic offence:** Students are responsible for understanding what it means to “cheat”. The Department of Economics treats cheating incidents very seriously and will investigate any suspect behaviour. Students found guilty will incur penalties that could include a failing grade or being barred from future registration in other economics courses or programs. The University may impose further penalties such as a notation on your official academic transcript, suspension or expulsion.

4. **Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge it by using quotation marks where appropriate and referencing with footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the current UWO Academic Calendar at http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg113.html.

   The University of Western Ontario uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form. Those found guilty will have penalties imposed as noted in point 3.

5. It is Department of Economics policy that **NO** assignments be dated, stamped or accepted by staff. Students are responsible for submitting assignments in class or to the instructor during office hours.

6. When appealing a mark, students should refer to the University’s Procedures in the current UWO Academic Calendar (http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg112.html). Please note the relevant deadlines.

   The Department will not consider any appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter first with your instructor. If after this discussion you remain dissatisfied with a grade or other decision, you may proceed with a written appeal (e-mails are not acceptable) to the Undergraduate Director in Economics, stating the reasons for your appeal. A useful form and checklist is provided at

   http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_counselling/responsibilities_policies.html#a ppeals
7. Systematic adjustments of a class grade distribution (either up or down) can occur in Economics courses. The fact that grades have been adjusted is not grounds for an appeal.

8. Note the following add and drop deadlines:

Dates for adding courses in the summer:
- Last day to add a Distance Studies Course: Friday, May 8, 2015
- Last day to add an Intersession Course: Tuesday, May 12, 2015
- Last day to add a first term half course Summer Evening: Friday, May 8, 2015
- Last day to add a second term half course Summer Evening: Friday, June 19, 2015

Dates for dropping Courses in the summer:
- Last day to drop a Distance Studies Course: Friday, May 29, 2015
- Last day to drop an Intersession Course: Thursday, May 21, 2015
- Last day to drop a first term half course Summer Evening: Friday, May 15, 2015
- Last day to drop a second term half course Summer Evening: Friday, June 26, 2015

9. Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading an exam schedule is not an excuse for a make-up. This rule applies to all mid-term tests and final exams in the Department of Economics.

**Policy Regarding Makeup Tests and Final Examinations**

*Academic Accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. You must demonstrate by documentation that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds before academic accommodation will be considered.*

If you decide to write a test or an examination, you must be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations, or having the value of the test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis, is not permitted. Book airline flights after you know the dates of your final examinations. Airline flights must not conflict with test or final exams.

If you are requesting a makeup test for a midterm or a final examination, unless medically incapable, notify your instructor by email or phone, preferably prior to the scheduled date of the test, but definitely within 24 hours of the date of the test or exam. Failure to follow this procedure may result in denial of a request for academic accommodation or result in a grade of zero. Set up an appointment as soon as possible to meet personally with your instructor. If the instructor is not available, you may send an email message, copying the Undergraduate Coordinator at econugrd@uwo.ca (Social Science Room 4075). Notifying your instructor of a missed test or exam does not automatically entitle you to a makeup test.

Students who seek a makeup test or examination must provide medical or other relevant verification that their absence from a regularly scheduled test or examination is beyond their control. Documentation must support your reasons. Medical documentation should be given to the Academic Counselling Office of your home Faculty as soon as possible (preferably within 24 hours of the test) if you know you may not be able to write your final examination on the scheduled day and time.
Failure to follow this procedure, or to provide supporting documentation, may result in denial of a request for academic accommodation or result in a grade of zero. If your documentation is not acceptable, you will be given a zero for the missed test.

For personal illness, if you consult Student Health Services regarding your illness or personal problem, you should request a Student Medical Certificate from the physician. If you were seen by an off-campus doctor, obtain a certificate from his/her office at the time of your visit. The off-campus medical certificate form must be used and can be found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf. Notes stating "For Medical Reasons" are not considered sufficient.

For any other circumstances, if you are not sure what documentation to provide, ask your Academic Counselor. If your documentation is judged sufficient, the academic counselor will issue a Recommendation for a Special Examination (a single form for midterms or a triple color form for final examinations). Once you have this form, contact your instructor ASAP to make arrangements. Even if approved from your home faculty Academic Counsellor, there is no guarantee that you will be allowed to write the makeup test and exam.

For final examinations, you need permission from your home Faculty Counsellor, your instructor, and the Department Chair. Failure to follow this procedure may result in an examination grade of zero. You must ensure that the Special Examination form has been signed by the instructor and Department Chair and that the form is returned to the Academic Counseling Office for approval without delay. Make-up final examinations, if permitted, will be written within one month of the end of the exam period.

Policies Regarding Academic Accommodation

Information about the Faculty of Social Science’s policies regarding academic accommodation is found on its website at http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp or in Social Science Room 2105. Your “Academic Rights and Responsibilities” are also outlined in the current UWO Calendar at http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg111.html. Claiming that “you didn’t know what to do” is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated procedures.

Policy Regarding Class Attendance

If your instructor views your class attendance as unsatisfactory, you can be debarred from writing the final examination. If there is intent to make use of this University policy, you will be notified in writing.

Statement on Mental Health and Support Services

If you or someone you know is experiencing emotional/mental distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for more information and a complete list of resources, as well as how to obtain help.