NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course Canvas site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus.

Course Name: Labor Economics and Social Policy
Course Number: ECON 480
Credits: 4
Instructor name: Dell Champlin
Instructor email: dell.champlin@oregonstate.edu

Course Description
Interaction of workers and firms in labor markets, social policy and its effects on labor markets, human capital theory and education policy, discrimination and other sources of wage differentials, immigration, unemployment, inequality. PREREQS: ECON 311 [D-] or ECON 411 [D-] and /or equivalent such as ECON 517 Microeconomics for MPP students.

Course Method
This is a distance education course. Students will rely upon online lectures, the textbook, online readings, practice exercises, exams and the course discussion to gain an understanding of the macroeconomy. Course materials are located in Canvas. Information on registering for the course, obtaining an ONID account and gaining access to Canvas can be found here.

Communication
Please post all course-related questions in either the Questions about Course Content or the Questions and Current Issues discussion boards so that the whole class may benefit from our conversation. Please email your instructor for matters of a personal nature. If you have a specific question or comment for me, please feel free to send me an e-mail message (Dell.Champlin@OregonState.edu). I check my e-mail regularly and will respond to your messages promptly – usually within 24 hours.

Technical Assistance
If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

Learning Resources

Note to prospective students: Please check with the OSU Bookstore for up-to-date information for the term you enroll (OSU Bookstore Website or 800-595-0357). If you purchase course materials from other sources, be very careful to obtain the correct ISBN.
Canvas
This course will be delivered via Canvas where you will interact with your classmates and with your instructor. Within the course Canvas site you will access the learning materials, such as the syllabus, class discussions, assignments, projects, and quizzes. To preview how an online course works, visit the Ecampus Course Demo. For technical assistance, please visit Ecampus Technical Help.

Course Objectives
- To understand how economists and other scientists approach the issue of labor.
- To review the basic theory of perfectly competitive labor markets.
- To develop an understanding of imperfect labor markets and the role of labor market institutions.
- To examine key issues and controversies in the field of labor economics and to develop an historical perspective on these issues.
- To develop international perspective on labor markets by examining such issues as labor standards, global production, and immigration/migration.

Measurable Student Learning Outcomes
- Derive a labor supply curve from a microeconomic model of individual behavior.
- Derive a labor demand curve from a microeconomic model of firm behavior.
- Demonstrate how public policies, such as the minimum wage, child care subsidies, and transfer payments alter labor market outcomes.
- Model individual decisions about education, migration, and job training using economic theory.
- Analyze how factors such as immigration, discrimination, and technology affect labor market outcomes.

Evaluation of Student Performance
- Quizzes – Students will take quizzes each week on the textbook and other reading. The quizzes are multiple choice and are taken online in Canvas. These quizzes are designed to encourage students to test comprehension. They also serve to provide some familiarity with typical questions found on the midterm and final exams.
- Homework – Students will be required to complete six (6) homework assignments given through Canvas. These are non-technical assignments including: data collection; and watching videos and completing a short video report. These assignments are designed to provide a broader context to the theoretical and, at times, abstract approach used in this text.
- Midterm Exam – This exam will be multiple choice and given online through Canvas.
- Final Exam – The final is not comprehensive, although materials in later chapters may rely on concepts from earlier chapters. This exam will be multiple choice and given online through Canvas.

Grades
10 Weekly Quizzes = 23%
6 Homework Assignments: 27%
Midterm = 25%
Final Exam: 25%

Grading Scale
A= 93-100        B= 80-82        D+= 67-69
A− = 90-92       C+= 77-79       D= 63-66
B+= 87-89        C = 73-76       D−=60-62
B= 83-86         C−= 70-72       F= 0-59

This course is offered through Oregon State University Extended Campus. For more information, contact:
Web: ecampus.oregonstate.edu   Email: ecampus@oregonstate.edu   Tel: 800-667-1465
## Course Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignments</th>
<th>Learning Activities</th>
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</table>
| 1    | Introduction and Overview | **Chapter 1:** Introduction  
**Chapter 2:** Overview of the Labor Market | Quiz on Chapters 1 & 2  
Data Homework: Labor Force Stats |
| 2    | The Demand for Labor  
Labor Market Frictions | **Chapter 3:** The Demand for Labor  
**Chapter 5:** Frictions in the Labor Market | Quiz on Chapters 3 & 5 |
| 3    | The Supply of Labor  
Household Chores | **Chapter 6:** Supply of Labor to the Economy: The Decision to Work  
**Chapter 7:** Labor Supply: Household, Production, The Family, and the Life Cycle | Quiz on Chapters 6 & 7  
Data Homework: CPS Earnings |
| 4    | Wage Differentials  
Wage Differentials within the Firm | **Chapter 8:** Compensating Wage Differentials and Labor Markets  
**Chapter 11:** Pay and Productivity: Wage Determination within the Firm | Quiz on Chapters 8 & 11 |
| 5    | Human Capital | **Chapter 9:** Investments in Human Capital: Education and Training | Quiz on Chapter 9  
Report on Video: “College, Inc.” |
|      | Midterm Exam (covers chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11 – Does not include Chapter 9) |
|      | 6      | Immigration  
Gender, Race and Ethnicity | **Chapter 10:** Worker Mobility: Migration, Immigration, and Turnover  
**Chapter 12:** Gender, Race, and Ethnicity in the Labor Market | Quiz on Chapters 10 & 12  
Report on Video: “Rape in the Fields” |
| 7    | Unions & Collective Bargaining | **Chapter 13:** Unions and the Labor Market | Quiz on Chapter 13  
Report on Video: “Triangle Fire” |
| 8    | Unemployment | **Chapter 14:** Unemployment | Quiz in Chapter 14  
Data Homework: Unemployment |
| 9    | Inequality | **Chapter 15:** Inequality in Earnings | Quiz on Chapter 15 and Census Bureau report |
| 10   | International Labor Topics | **Chapter 16:** The Labor-Market Effects of International Trade and Production Sharing | Quiz on Chapter 16 and ILO Slides |
|      | Final Exam (Covers Chapters 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16) |

**Guidelines for a Productive and Effective Online Classroom**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g., on discussion boards, email) in compliance with the university’s regulations regarding civility. Civility is an essential ingredient for academic discourse. All communications for this course should be conducted constructively, civilly, and respectfully. Differences in beliefs, opinions, and approaches are to
be expected. In all you say and do for this course, be professional. Please bring any communications you believe to be in violation of this class policy to the attention of your instructor.

Active interaction with peers and your instructor is essential to success in this online course, paying particular attention to the following:

- Unless indicated otherwise, please complete the readings and view other instructional materials for each week before participating in the discussion board.
- Read your posts carefully before submitting them.
- Be respectful of others and their opinions, valuing diversity in backgrounds, abilities, and experiences.
- Challenging the ideas held by others is an integral aspect of critical thinking and the academic process. Please word your responses carefully, and recognize that others are expected to challenge your ideas. A positive atmosphere of healthy debate is encouraged.

Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities
Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by Disability Access Services (DAS). If you, as a student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098 or at http://ds.oregonstate.edu. DAS notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations.

Expectations for Student Conduct
Student conduct is governed by the university’s policies, as explained in the Student Conduct Code.

Academic Integrity
Students are expected to comply with all regulations pertaining to academic honesty. For further information, visit Student Conduct and Community Standards or contact the office of Student Conduct and Mediation at 541-737-3656.

OAR 576-015-0020 (2) Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty:

a) Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty is defined as an act of deception in which a Student seeks to claim credit for the work or effort of another person, or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic work or research, either through the Student's own efforts or the efforts of another.

b) It includes:
   i) CHEATING - use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information or study aids, or an act of deceit by which a Student attempts to misrepresent mastery of academic effort or information. This includes but is not limited to unauthorized copying or collaboration on a test or assignment, using prohibited materials and texts, any misuse of an electronic device, or using any deceptive means to gain academic credit.
   ii) FABRICATION - falsification or invention of any information including but not limited to falsifying research, inventing or exaggerating data, or listing incorrect or fictitious references.
   iii) ASSISTING - helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty. This includes but is not limited to paying or bribing someone to acquire a test or assignment, changing someone's grades or academic records, taking a test/doing an assignment for someone else by any means, including misuse of an electronic device. It is a violation of Oregon state law to create and offer to sell part or all of an educational assignment to another person (ORS 165.114).
   iv) TAMPERING - altering or interfering with evaluation instruments or documents.
v) **PLAGIARISM** - representing the words or ideas of another person or presenting someone else’s words, ideas, artistry or data as one’s own, or using one’s own previously submitted work. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to copying another person’s work (including unpublished material) without appropriate referencing, presenting someone else’s opinions and theories as one’s own, or working jointly on a project and then submitting it as one’s own.

c) **Academic Dishonesty** cases are handled initially by the academic units, following the process outlined in the University’s Academic Dishonesty Report Form, and will also be referred to SCCS for action under these rules.

**Conduct in this Online Classroom**

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g., on discussion boards, email postings) in compliance with the [university's regulations regarding civility](#).

**Tutoring**

[NetTutor](#) is a leading provider of online tutoring and learner support services fully staffed by experienced, trained and monitored tutors. Students connect to live tutors from any computer that has Internet access. NetTutor provides a virtual whiteboard that allows tutors and students to work on problems in a real time environment. They also have an online writing lab where tutors critique and return essays within 24 to 48 hours. Access NetTutor from within your Canvas class by clicking on the Tools button in your course menu.

**OSU Student Evaluation of Teaching**

Course evaluation results are extremely important and are used to help me improve this course and the learning experience of future students. Results from the 19 multiple choice questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and department heads. Student comments on the open-ended questions are compiled and confidentially forwarded to each instructor, per OSU procedures. The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. You will log in to “Student Online Services” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted.