

Economics 460: Labor Economics  
Department of Economics, Finance and Legal Studies  
University of Alabama  
Spring, 2018

Professor: Daniel J. Henderson  
Lecture: W 6:30 – 9:00 pm, Bidgood 15  
Office: 262 Alston Hall  
Office Hours: W 1:00 – 2:00 pm, or by appointment  
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Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the study of labor economics. It provides an overview of labor supply and labor demand models, with partial and general equilibrium. The focus then shifts to human capital models as well as models of wage determination and extensions such as the effects of unions, and performance-based pay.

Textbooks:

Labor Economics, 7th edition  
Borjas, McGraw-Hill, 2015, ISBN: 978-0078021886

The Economics of Earnings  
Polachek and Siebert, Cambridge, 1993, ISBN: 052136728X

Prerequisites:

Economics 308

Grading Policy:

The course will consist of several homework assignments, two midterm examinations, and one comprehensive final examination. The course grade will be determined according to the following formula:

Homework	15%
Midterm I	25%
Midterm II	25%
Final Exam	35%

Note that no late assignments will be accepted. Further, no make-up exams will be given. If a student misses a midterm examination for any reason, the weight of that examination will be added to that of the final examination (e.g. missing Midterm I would make the final worth 65% of the course grade).

## Course Outline:

### Labor Supply

- Labor Supply Theory
- Topics in Labor Supply

### Labor Demand

- Labor Demand Theory
- Topics in Labor Demand

### Midterm I

#### Labor Market Equilibrium

- Partial Equilibrium
- General Equilibrium
- Compensating Wage Differentials

#### Human Capital

- Life-Cycle Human Capital Model
- Schooling
- Post-School Investment

### Midterm II

#### Income Inequality

- Measures
- Income Mobility

### Final Exam

Note that the schedule is subject to change depending on the pace of the course.

### Policy on Academic Misconduct

All students in attendance at the University of Alabama are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. Academic misconduct includes all acts of dishonesty in any academically related matter and any knowing or intentional help or attempt to help, or conspiracy to help, another student.

The Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy will be followed in the event of academic misconduct.

## Disability Statement

If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary. If you have a disability, but have not contacted the Office of Disability Services, please call (205) 348-4285 or visit 133-B Martha Parham Hall East to register for services. Students who may need course adaptations because of a disability are welcome to make an appointment to see me during office hours. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services, 133-B Martha Parham Hall East, before receiving academic adjustments.

## Severe Weather Protocol

In the case of a tornado warning (tornado has been sighted or detected by radar, sirens activated), all university activities are automatically suspended, including all classes and laboratories. If you are in a building, please move immediately to the lowest level and toward the center of the building away from windows (interior classrooms, offices, or corridors) and remain there until the tornado warning has expired. Classes in session when the tornado warning is issued can resume immediately after the warning has expired at the discretion of the instructor. Classes that have not yet begun will resume 30 minutes after the tornado warning has expired provided at least half of the class period remains.

UA is a residential campus with many students living on or near campus. In general classes will remain in session until the National Weather Service issues safety warnings for the city of Tuscaloosa. Clearly, some students and faculty commute from adjacent counties. These counties may experience weather related problems not encountered in Tuscaloosa. Individuals should follow the advice of the National Weather Service for that area taking the necessary precautions to ensure personal safety. Whenever the National Weather Service and the Emergency Management Agency issue a warning, people in the path of the storm (tornado or severe thunderstorm) should take immediate life saving actions.

When West Alabama is under a severe weather advisory, conditions can change rapidly. It is imperative to get to where you can receive information from the **National Weather Service** and to follow the instructions provided. Personal safety should dictate the actions that faculty, staff and students take. The Office of Public Relations will disseminate the latest information regarding conditions on campus in the following ways:

- Weather advisory posted on the UA homepage
- Weather advisory sent out through Connect-ED--faculty, staff and students (sign up at myBama)
- Weather advisory broadcast over WVUA at 90.7 FM
- Weather advisory broadcast over Alabama Public Radio (WUAL) at 91.5 FM

- Weather advisories are broadcast via WUOA/WVUA-TV, which can be viewed across Central Alabama. Also, visit [wvuatv.com](http://wvuatv.com) for up-to-the-minute weather information. A mobile Web site is also available for your convenience.

### Make-up final exams

If a legitimate conflict exists you may request a make-up exam from the instructor. If you choose to request a make-up exam for this course, you must do so (in writing) before the drop deadline. It is the student's responsibility to learn from the instructor if the request has been approved. Only students who are approved may take a make-up final exam. Students who have not requested a make-up exam in this course by the drop deadline will be required to resolve conflicting exams with the instructor in one of their other courses.

### UAct:

The University of Alabama is committed to an ethical, inclusive community defined by respect and civility. The UAct website ([www.ua.edu/uact](http://www.ua.edu/uact)) provides extensive information on how to report or obtain assistance with a variety of issues, including issues related to dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, sexual violence or other Title IX violations, illegal discrimination, harassment, child abuse or neglect, hazing, threat assessment, retaliation, and ethical violations or fraud.