



ECON 630 – Advanced Labor Economics – Spring 2023
Sabancı University, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Instructor: Abdurrahman Aydemir
E-mail: aaydemir@sabanciuniv.edu
Office/Phone: FASS 1047 / 483 9344
Office Hours: tba

Lectures: 1:40 - 4:30 pm Tuesday

Disclaimer

We may have to revise the course plan according to the reassessment to be made country-wide, regarding higher education, at the beginning of April. The content to be delivered is as stated below but the method of course delivery, the number and dates of exams, and some other details are subject to change.

Course overview

This course covers economic theory and econometric analysis of labor market outcomes. The course includes selected topics from labor demand, labor supply, labor market equilibrium, human capital, intergenerational mobility, migration, and minimum wages. Through these topics the course aims to introduce students to important theoretical and empirical methods in the field. Course evaluation will consist of assignments, reviews of literature, discussion and presentation of articles, and a research paper proposal.

Mode of teaching and exams

The lectures will be synchronous taught in class physically and will also be available via zoom. However, there will be no video recordings and uploading of video recordings to SuCourse. All exams will be physical, on campus.

If you have to attend any of the course components online: you must attend the synchronous Zoom lectures, recitations, etc. with your SU email account.

There is no textbook for the course. Note that the course content, requirements and policies are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Requirements and grading

Course requirements include (i) weekly readings, (ii) paper presentations, (iii) critical reviews, and (iv) a research proposal.

Weekly readings will be assigned around the topics covered in the course. Students are expected to read the assigned articles in advance, participate in class discussions and present articles during the class.

Course grade will be based on above assignments that are intended to prepare students to research in the field. In particular, the weight of above assignments will be: In class presentations (15 %), participation to class discussions (15 %), critical reviews (25 %) and research proposal (45 %).

Critical reviews will summarize the assigned topic discussing the state-of-the-art knowledge and potential knowledge gaps either highlighted by the papers or the student's own assessment. There will be two critical review assignments. Each assignment will be a maximum of 3 pages long, double spaced including references, figures, tables. The assignments will be judged based on relevance and quality of papers reviewed (25%), discussion of the papers/issues (60%), and structure (15%).

Research proposal will be around one of the topics discussed in class. The proposal will discuss the main question that will be addressed, its contribution to the literature, and the methodology that will be followed. The proposal will also review the relevant literature and data sources that will be used for empirical papers. The proposal will be a maximum of 5 pages long, double spaced including references, figures, tables. The due date for the research proposal is the first Sunday of the final exam period, 12 pm. The proposal is judged based on literature review (15 points), originality and potential contribution of proposed research (40 points), method and data (30 points), and structure (15 points).

Rules of Conduct

The definition for scholastic dishonesty is given in the rules and regulations of the Sabancı University. In the case of scholastic dishonesty, no credits will be given for that particular work. Cheating during written work will result in an F for the course. All incidents of scholastic dishonesty will be reported to FASS for disciplinary action.

The following is a *tentative* outline of the topics that will be covered. Selected readings related to these topics will be covered and announced as class progresses.

- I. Immigration and consequences
 1. Migration decision
 2. Effects on receiving regions
 3. Economic and cultural integration
- II. Mobility across generations
 1. Education and earnings mobility
 2. Intergenerational effects of compulsory reforms / school supply shocks
 3. Parental investments
 4. Channels of transmission
- III. Human capital
 1. Education decision
 2. Monetary returns to schooling
 3. Non-pecuniary benefits of education
 4. Education, geographic labor markets, and job search