

Lecture: Labor Economics (4 SWS, 8 ECTS)

Course Description

This course is a graduate course in Labor Economics. Its aim is to familiarize students both with the standard theoretical concepts in the analysis of labor markets, as well as with the empirical methodology and evidence. As such, it is complementary to courses in education economics, applied econometrics, and the economics of taxation. In addition, it should also be a good preparation for your own writing of applied research papers.

Topics include labor supply and labor demand, market power of firms and workers, causes and consequences of immigration, wage polarization and labor market inequality, and intergenerational mobility.

Examination

- Problem Sets (25%): There will be 6 problem sets. Students are expected to work on them, showing reasonable effort.
- Class Presentation (25%): Presentation of a research paper on the topic. Depending on the size of the course, these will be group or individual presentations.
- Final exam (50%): Written exam at the end of the course.

Instructor and Meeting Times

Stephan Maurer, email: stephan.maurer@uni-konstanz.de

Meetings: Monday, 10.00-11.30, F425; Wednesday, 13.30-15.00, E402

Office Hours: tba

Topics

1. The basic model: Labor Supply, Labor Demand, Market equilibrium
2. Market power: Monopoly and Monopsony
3. Labor Market Discrimination
4. Immigration
5. Wage polarization, labor market inequality and the „hollowing out of the middle“
6. Intergenerational mobility