

Labor and Organizational Economics
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University of Würzburg
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Content

This course provides an overview of the field of modern labor and organizational economics. The course will equip students with the theoretical and empirical tools to analyze the functioning of labor markets and organizations. In the first part of the course, we will discuss the determinants of labor supply and labor demand and the influence of labor market institutions like minimum wages or unemployment insurance on labor market outcomes. In the second part of the course, we will discuss how workers' behavior and firms' performance are shaped by hiring processes, compensation structures, or discriminatory practices.

Throughout the course, insights from state-of-the-art empirical work will be discussed alongside theory. Besides focusing on neoclassical economic analysis, we will also discuss how insights from behavioral economics have enhanced our understanding of important labor market phenomena.

Prerequisites

Students should have a sound knowledge of microeconomic theory and empirical methods. Students will also benefit from previous course work on labor economics, although no specific previous knowledge is required.

Classes

Classes take place on Mondays from 10:00 – 12:00 (room 124) and from 16:00 – 18:00 (room 308). Regular, active participation in classes is essential for achieving the course goals.

WueCampus

You can access the WueCampus course room at

<https://wuecampus.uni-wuerzburg.de/moodle/enrol/index.php?id=79134>

Grading

There will be a written final exam (60 minutes). Students have the possibility to get a grade bonus by actively participating in the tutorials and handing in take-home assignments and debate briefing slides.

Contact:

For all course-related questions, you can contact us at: leo.teaching@uni-wuerzburg.de

Course Topics

The course is structured in 7 chapters:

1. Labor Supply
2. Labor Demand
3. Labor Market Equilibrium
4. Job Search and Unemployment
5. Hiring
6. Discrimination
7. Pay Transparency

Course Material / Reading List

A detailed syllabus and reading list will be provided in the beginning of the course. The following textbooks provide a valuable introduction to the topics:

- G. Borjas: "Labor Economics", McGraw-Hill, 2016.
- P. Cahuc, S. Carcillo, A. Zylberberg: "Labor Economics", MIT Press 2014.