

Introduction to Labor Economics

Business Economics 280

Section: D900

Term: 2012 Fall

Instructor: Vasyl Golovetsky

Discussion Topics: The class is a study of the labour market. It introduces an overview of the institutional aspects of, and the recent trends in the Canadian labour market. It also introduces the students to microeconomic models of labour markets. These models are used to explain the behaviour of labour market participants, the trends in the labour markets, the institutional features of the markets, and some macroeconomic aspects of the labour markets. In addition, the models are used to analyze the government policies relating to labour markets.

The course consists of two parts: Overview of the Canadian labour markets current state, institutional features, trends and developments; and Microeconomic theory of the labour markets.

When you're finished with this course, you should: know and understand the major trends and developments in the Canadian labour market; be able to explain these trends and developments using microeconomic models; understand the microeconomic rationales for many government policies; be able to apply labour market theory to analyses of current events and labour policy issues; understand the sources of disagreement among policy makers and among economists; get some basic experience in Applied Microeconomics.

Grading: Homework assignments 20%

2 midterm exams 20% each

Final examination 40%

Required Texts: Herman Drost and H Richard Hird, Canadian Labour Market, 2nd ed, 2005, Nelson

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: ECON 103 or 200 and 105 or 205. Students who have taken ECON 301, 305, or 381 may not take BUEC 280 for further credit.

Notes:

Notes: ****NO TUTORIALS DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASSES****

Students requiring accommodations as a result of a disability must contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities at 778-782-3112 or csdo@sfu.ca

All students are expected to read and understand SFU's policies with regard to academic dishonesty (S 10.02 and S 10.03). These policies are available at the following web address: www.sfu.ca/policies

For more information about SFU Economics, please visit our website:

www.sfu.ca/economics

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