

Topics in Labour Economics
Term 2, 2023-2024
Singapore Management University

Location/Time: TBA/Monday 3.30 pm - 6.45 pm

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description

In the first part of the course, we will cover major topics in labor economics, including labor supply and human capital theory. Specifically, we will study life-cycle models of consumption, labor supply, and human capital accumulation. We will also discuss the estimation of the life-cycle models, focusing on practical methods for estimating dynamic discrete choice models and their application.

In the second part of the course, we will cover recent developments in the field. I will present a review of each topic for the first part of each class, and a student will present a recent paper on the topic in the second part. I will post the papers to be presented later. We will discuss all the aspects of the article: its contribution, limitation, possible extension, and application to other fields.

Prerequisite

- ECON 601 - Microeconomics
- ECON 602 - Macroeconomics
- ECON 611 - Econometrics

Assessment

- Class participation and activities (20%)
- Presentation (40%): In the second part of the course, all students will present journal articles.
- Assignment (40%): To be announced.

Academic Integrity

All acts of academic dishonesty (including, but not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, facilitation of acts of academic dishonesty by others, unauthorized possession of exam questions, or tampering with the academic work of other students) are serious offences. All work (whether

oral or written) submitted for purposes of assessment must be the student's own work. Penalties for violation of the policy range from zero marks for the component assessment to expulsion, depending on the nature of the offense. When in doubt, students should consult the instructors of the course. Details on the SMU Code of Academic Integrity may be accessed at <http://www.smuscd.org/resources.html>.

Course Schedule

First part

- Week 1: Static labor supply / Dynamic labor supply
- Week 2: Human capital theory and selection bias
- Week 3: Roy model and its application
- Week 4: Dynamic models in labor economics: Theory and Estimation
- Week 5: Dynamic models in labor economics: Application 1
- Week 6: Dynamic models in labor economics: Application 2

Second part

- Week 7: Entrepreneurship
- Week 8: Education
- Week 9: Compensating differential
- Week 10: Discrimination
- Week 11: Online labor market
- Week 12: Personnel economics

Note

The reference will be updated. This syllabus may change as time and circumstances dictate. Necessary changes will be announced in class and a copy of the revised syllabus will be posted on the class website.

References

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