

Economics 3365  
Labor Economics  
M/W 2:30-4:00  
AH-10

Spring 2017  
Dr. Juhn  
McElhinney 201-A  
www.uh.edu/~cjuhn

**Text: George J. Borjas, Labor Economics, 7th edition.**

Students are encouraged to collect and bring into class articles that are relevant to the issues covered in class. Good sources are The Wall Street Journal, New York Times, The Economist, and Business Week. Here is website that has timely articles and <http://www.economist.com/topics/labour-market> and <http://voxeu.org/content/topics/labour-markets> (based on serious academic research).

**Introduction:** This course is designed to introduce students to economic theory, data and policy issues in labor economics. Examples of issues covered will be labor market effects of minimum wage laws, mandatory employee benefits, technological change, international trade and immigration. We will also study in depth the individual's decision to work and how welfare and income replacement programs affect such a decision. We will also investigate the explanations behind labor market trends such as the rise in female labor supply, the rise in income inequality in the U.S., the decline in manufacturing employment and the decline of unions. Students are expected to have completed an intermediate level course in microeconomics.

Course requirements: There will be 3 in-class exams (each worth 25%), 5 graded problem sets (each worth 5%). Note: the exam dates are final and there will be no make-up exams. If you have a valid reason to be absent, your other grades will be re-weighted towards your final grade. Homework assignments received after the due date will receive a grade equal to zero.

**Office Hours:** Wednesday 4-5p.m or by appointment. It is best to email me ([cjuhn@uh.edu](mailto:cjuhn@uh.edu)) to make an appointment. I am generally on campus most days.

8/21, 8/23	Introduction (chapter 1)
9/6, 9/11, 9/13, 9/18	Labor Supply (chapter 2)
9/25, 9/27, 10/2	Labor Demand (chapter 3)
10/4, 10/9, 10/11	Labor Market Equilibrium (chapter 4)
10/16, 10/18, 10/23	Compensating Wage Differentials (chapter 5)
10/30, 11/1, 11/6	Human Capital (chapter 6)
11/8, 11/13	The Wage Structure (chapter 7)
11/15, 11/20	Labor Mobility (chapter 8)
11/27	Labor Market Discrimination (chapter 9)

**Dates: Problems Sets Due**

**Problem Set #1: September 11, 2017 – Revised and due September 13, 2017**

**Problem Set #2: October 2, 2017**

**Problem Set #3: October 16, 2017**

**Problem Set #4: November 6, 2017**

**Problem Set #5: November 20, 2017**

**Dates: Exams**

**Exam #1: September 20, 2017**

**Exam #2: October 25, 2017**

**Exam #3: November 29, 2017**