

## ECON3362 Labour Economics 1 2017-18 First Term

**Location:** 215 Tier      **Time:** MWF 10:30-11:20

**Instructor:** W. Simpson

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Web: <http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~simpson/>

(You will find my teaching and research materials at this site.)

**Office Hours:** Mon. 11:20-12:20 and Wed. 11:30-12:30. Students who wish to meet at other times should contact the instructor to make mutually convenient arrangements.

**Required Text:** Benjamin, Gunderson, Lemieux & Riddell, *Labour Market Economics* (8th Edition) McGraw-Hill Ryerson:

<https://www.mheducation.ca/highereducation/products/9781259101687/connect+with+smartbook+online+access+for+labour+market+economics/>

We will not be using the Connect features of this text.

### Calendar Description:

ECON 3362 - Labour Economics 1 (3 credit hours)

An introduction to labour economics, including labour supply, labour demand and the determination of wages and employment. Students may not hold credit for both ECON 3362 and the former ECON 3360 (018.336).. Prerequisite: a grade of "C" or better in ECON 2010 or ECON 2451 or the former ECON 2450 (018.245) or the former ECON 2700 (018.270)

### Course Objectives:

The course will provide students with an introduction to the economics of the market for labour and allow them to examine a variety of topics associated with earning a living in the modern Canadian context. The course will assume that students have acquired a good understanding of intermediate microeconomics as a basis for many of the analytical concepts introduced in the course. The course will introduce the student to institutional features and statistical evidence relevant to understanding issues concerning the Canadian labour market. Assignments and examinations will allow students to demonstrate their understanding of the course material and its application to labour market problems, and will be governed by the University's policy on academic integrity (plagiarism and cheating) at

<http://crscalprod1.cc.umanitoba.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=240&chapterid=2310&topicgroupid=14503&loaduseredits=False>

in the online University of Manitoba General Calendar.

### Course Outline:

The course will cover most topics from Chapters 1-7 (Parts 1-3) of the text concerning labour supply, labour demand and the determination of wages and employment.

Chapter	Topic	Lecture schedule
1	Introduction to Labour Market Economics PART 1: LABOUR SUPPLY	September 8-15
2	Labour Supply: Individual Attachment to the Labour Market	September 18-29
3	Labour Supply and Public Policy: Work Incentive Effects of Alternative Income Maintenance Schemes	October 2-18
4	Labour Supply Over the Life Cycle PART 2: LABOUR DEMAND	October 20-27
5	Demand for Labour in Competitive Labour Markets	Oct 30-Nov 8
6	Labour Demand, Nonwage Benefits, and Quasi-Fixed Costs PART 3: LABOUR DEMAND SUPPLY TOGETHER	November 17-24
7	Wages and Employment in a Single Labour Market	Nov 27-Dec 4

Any remaining time will be used to cover selected aspects of Chapter 9 (Human Capital Theory: Applications to Education and Training). Additional readings discussed in class will be posted on my website at:

[http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~simpson/TM\(Current%20Teaching\).html](http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~simpson/TM(Current%20Teaching).html)

### Course Requirements and Weighting:

- (1) Students will be required to write two in-class tests in term (25% each; tentative dates Oct.13 and Nov.15) and an in-class test on the final day of classes (20%; Dec.8).
- (2) Students will be required to complete a set of three assignments (10% each or 30% in total; tentative dates Sept.22/29, Oct.18/25, Nov.20-27)

Please note that **exams must be written in ink, not pencil**. Assignments may be written in ink, but students are encouraged to use spreadsheet, word processing and other computer software for assignments as applicable.

Students will not be permitted to write make-up tests or miss assignment submission deadlines except for **documented** medical or compassionate reasons. All deadlines must be met unless **prior** permission of the instructor for medical or compassionate reasons is obtained. Alternative grading schemes resulting from missed examinations and assignments will be at the sole discretion of the instructor.

### Final Course Grade Determination:

Students will receive a numeric grade for each test and assignment and assigned a final letter grade based on the following scale:

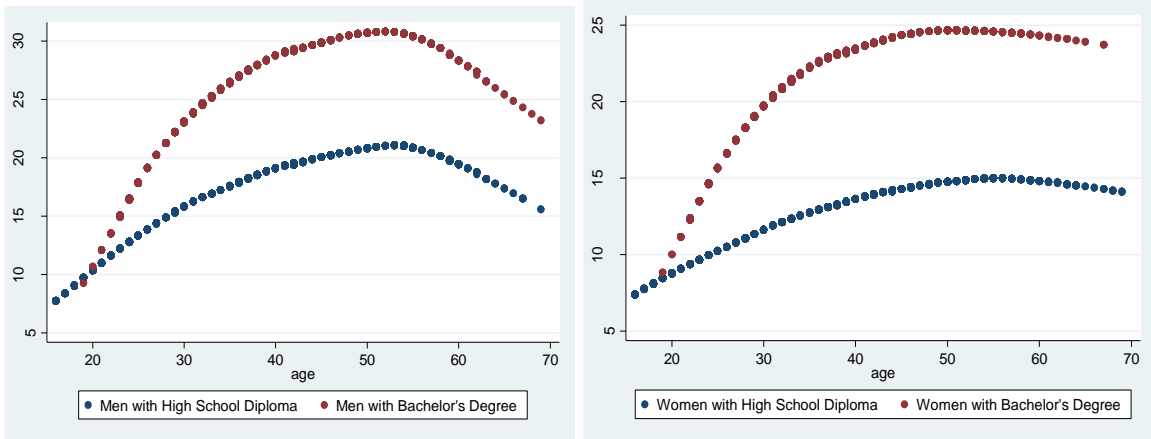
- A+ = (90+);
- A = (80-89);
- B+ = (74-79);
- B = (68-73);
- C+ = (62-67);
- C = (56-61);
- D = (45-55);
- F = (below 45)

Final grades are subject to departmental review and revision.

## Course Regulations:

- The Voluntary Withdrawal date for this course is **November 17, 2017**
  - Students must acquaint themselves with the University's policy on plagiarism, cheating and examination impersonation in the online Calendar at:  
<http://crscalprod1.cc.umanitoba.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=240&chapterid=2310&topicgroupid=14503&loaduseredits=False>  
and/or on the Student Advocacy website at:  
[http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student\\_advocacy/cheating\\_plagiarism\\_fraud.html](http://umanitoba.ca/student/resource/student_advocacy/cheating_plagiarism_fraud.html)
- Students who violate this policy will be subject to serious academic penalty. The common penalty in the Faculty of Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is F for the paper and F(CW) for the course (CW indicates compulsory withdrawal). The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F(CW) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty of Arts. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty or plagiarism, including repeat violations and purchase of a paper, the penalty can include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department in Arts or from all courses offered in the Faculty of Arts. The Faculty reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.
- Students will not be permitted to write make-up tests or miss submission deadlines except for **documented** medical or compassionate reasons. All deadlines must be met unless **prior** permission of the instructor for medical or compassionate reasons is obtained.
  - Students appealing term work, whether formally or informally, must do so within ten working days of receiving their mark. Unreturned term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction four months after the final examination period.
  - **Exams must be written in ink, not pencil.** Assignments may be written in ink, but students are encouraged to use spreadsheet, word processing and other computer software for assignments as applicable.
  - **Students are responsible for making sure that their cell phones and other communication devices are turned off during class.** Students should not participate in personal direct electronic messaging / posting activities (e-mail, texting, video or voice chat, wikis, blogs, social networking (e.g. Facebook) online and offline “gaming”) during scheduled class time. If a student is on call (emergency) the student should switch his/her cell phone to vibrate mode and leave the classroom before using it. Students who violate this policy may be asked to leave class and meet with the instructor at a mutually agreed time before returning to class.
  - The instructor (Wayne Simpson) and the University of Manitoba hold copyright over the course materials, presentations and lectures which form part of this course. No audio or video recording of lectures or presentations is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without permission of the instructor. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant's private study and research
  - The University requires all students to activate an official University email account. Note that all communication between the instructor and students must comply with the electronic communication with student policy ([http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing\\_documents/community/electronic\\_communication\\_with\\_students\\_policy.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_with_students_policy.html)). You are required to obtain and use your U of M email account for all communication between yourself and the university.

## Wages by Age for Canadian Men (Left) and Women (Right) with High School vs. University Degree



Source: Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID), 2002

