

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT****Code:** 35864**Name:** Labour economy**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies**ECTS Credits:** 4.5**Academic year:** 2025-26**STUDY (S)**

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1313 - Degree in Business Management and Administration	Facultat d'Economia	4	First quarter

**SUBJECT-MATTER**

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1313 - Degree in Business Management and Administration	Labour market and economic behaviour	ELECTIVES

**COORDINATION**

CASQUEL DEL CAMPO MARIA ELENA

**SUMMARY**

This subject studies the functioning of the labor market using an economic analysis approach. It will analyze the supply and demand for labor, its determinants, its characteristics and the way in which they contribute to explain the level of employment and wages. Also the nature and behavior of trade unions, wage differentials, discrimination or the use of wages as an incentive will also be studied. There will be discussed phenomena such as immigration, technological change and their impact on the demand for labor.

The goal is for each student to get a solid and documented opinion on labour market problems. In the practical tutorials the debate will be promoted, and solutions to exercises will be provided.

**PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE****RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE**

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**



## COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

### 1313 - Degree in Business Management and Administration

Be able to adapt to new situations.

Be able to analyse and search for information from different sources.

Be able to apply analytical and mathematical methods for the analysis of economic and business problems.

Be able to apply economic principles for the diagnosis and resolution of social problems such as immigration, discrimination and others that affect society and the market.

Be able to carry out strategic diagnoses in complex and uncertain environments using the appropriate methodologies to resolve them.

Be able to coordinate activities.

Be able to express oneself in formal, graphic and symbolic languages.

Be able to identify the sources of relevant economic information and their contents, and to understand economic institutions as the result and implementation of theoretical or formal approaches to how the economy works.

Be able to learn autonomously.

Be able to make decisions.

Be able to make decisions under certainty and uncertainty environments.

Be able to negotiate and reconcile interests effectively.

Be able to solve problems.

Be able to transmit and communicate complex ideas and approaches to both specialised and lay audiences.

Be able to use ICTs in the field of study.

Be able to work in a team.

Demonstrate capacity for analysis and synthesis.

Demonstrate oral and written communication skills in the native language.

Have critical and self-critical capacity.

Have organisation and planning skills.

Manage time effectively.



Show creativity.

Show leadership and skills for mobilising the capacities of others.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

### 1. Introduction and Labour Supply

1. Labour economics as a discipline, variables and sources.
2. The labour market: flows and unemployment
3. The theory of individual labour supply.
4. Applications: inactivity and reserve wage; Effects of unemployment insurance and working day with fixed number of hours.
5. Intertemporal labour supply.
6. The commodities approach. Substitution between time and market goods.
7. The business cycle effects on labour market participation.

### 2. The quality of work and the education theories

1. The human capital investment model.
2. The returns to education.
3. On the job training: general versus specific.
4. Alternatives theories to human capital: education as a filter or signal.

### 3. Labour demand and wage determination

1. Short-run labour demand in perfect competition.
2. Long-run labour demand
3. Monopsony
4. The effects of a minimum wage.



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## **4. Efficiency in the labour markets**

1. The efficiency of the competitive labour market.
2. Producer surplus and worker surplus.
3. Loss of efficiency in monopsony.

## **5. Migrations**

1. The determinants of migration decision
2. The returns to migration
3. Roy's model
4. The economic effects of migration.

## **6. Remuneration systems and efficiency at work**

1. The principal-agent problem.
2. Remuneration according to performance.
3. Compensating wage differentials.
4. Tournament theory
5. Efficiency wages.

## **7. Wage differentials**

1. Differentials by groups.
2. Heterogeneity of workers
3. Jobs heterogeneity.
3. Theories of discrimination.

**WORKLOAD****PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Activity	Hours
Theory	30,00
Classroom practices	15,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>45,00</b>

**NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	12,00
Independent study and work	24,00
Preparation of lessons	24,00
Preparation for assessment activities	6,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>66,00</b>

**TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

The subject has a theoretical-practical orientation.

**Lectures**

In the lectures, the teacher will discuss the fundamental concepts of the subjects. It is convenient for students to take time to read the corresponding topic in the handbook in advance.

Practical tutorials. In order to consolidate the knowledge acquired in the lectures, practical tutorials will give rise to debate and discussion. The practical classes will have a double dynamic:

Individual. Sometimes each student must submit a brief report on the topic discussed.

Group. (Groups will be formed). Each group will have to do a course work, for which a list of possible topics will be provided. This work intends the student to know scientific texts, to approach the subjects with rigor and to be aware of the implications of certain economic policy measures. Also to learn the effects of certain phenomena (immigration, new technologies...)

The materials to be used in the practical class will be specified in the virtual classroom. The theoretical classes will be based on the contents of the textbook.

**EVALUATION**



Assessment will consist of a written exam, a series of individual reports prepared by the student, and a group project. Active participation in class will be taken into account. Specifically, the final grade will be based on the following:

- 60% from a written exam, which will cover only theoretical content.
- 20% from individually completed and submitted reports.
- 20% from the group project.
- In order for continuous assessment to be considered, the student must obtain at least a score of 3 out of 10 on the theoretical exam.

## REFERENCES

- Economía Laboral. McConnell, C.R., Brue, S.L. y Macpherson, D.A. Editorial McGraw-Hill 2007