

BOSTON COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

EC 340.01
Labor Economics
MWF 11:00 a.m.

Prof. F. M. McLaughlin
Fall, 2000
Carney 106

Text: Kaufman, B. and Hotchkiss, J., The Economics of Labor Markets, The Dryden Press, Fifth Edition, 2000 [K&H below]

Exams

There will be two examinations given during the course of the semester, and a comprehensive final in the examination period. Each of the two in-course examinations will count for 25 percent of the final grade, and the final examination will count for 40 percent. Class participation will count for the remaining 10 percent. The dates for the hour examinations and the final examination are given below. Make-up examinations will not be given except at the request of the Dean, and only when the absence is for serious reason. Students should be present on scheduled examination dates. Students are responsible for reading the course text, and must prepare for class by doing it currently. Pay attention to the questions at the end of each text chapter, and raise questions about difficulties in class, or during office hours. Students are responsible also for material covered in class in addition to the material contained in the course text.

N.B.

The Dean of Arts & Sciences has reminded faculty that class attendance is required, and may be taken into account in grading. According to the academic regulations published in the Arts & Sciences Catalogue students are expected to attend class regularly, take tests and submit papers and other works at the times specified in the course syllabus. Students who are absent on the day of a previously announced test are not entitled, as a matter of right, to make up what was missed, and professors may include as part of the semester's grades, marks for the quality and quantity of students' participation in class.

Office Hours

Scheduled office hours will be held on MWF from 10:00 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. and from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and also by appointment.

Course Calendar

Introduction – Sept. 6

Unit 1 - An Overview of the Labor Market

Reading Assignment for Sept. 8 - K & H, pp. 1-20.

Reading Assignment for Sept. 11 - K&H, pp. 20-40

Unit 2 - Hours of Work

Reading Assignment for Sept. 13 - K& H, pp. 43-62.

Reading Assignment for Sept. 15 - K&H, pp. 62-77 and 97-102.

Reading Assignment for Sept. 18 - K&H, pp. 77-90 .

Reading Assignment for Sept. 20 - K& H, pp. 90 –94 and 107-113

Unit 3 - Labor Force Participation

Reading Assignment for Sept. 22 - K&H, pp. 115-132; 163-167

Reading Assignment for Sept. 25 - K&H, pp. 132-148

Reading Assignment for Sept. 27 –K&H, pp. 148 –161

Unit 4 – Labor Demand in the Short Run

Reading Assignment for Sept. 29 – K&H, pp. 177-191

Reading Assignment for Oct. 2 – K& H, pp. 191-203

Reading Assignment for Oct. 4 – K&H, pp. 204-217

Hour Examination – Oct. 6

Columbus Day Holiday –Oct . 9 - no class

Unit 5 - Labor Demand in the Long Run

Reading Assignment for Oct. 11 – K&H, pp. 221-247

Reading Assignment for Oct. 13 – K&H, pp. 247-259

Unit 6 – Wage Determination

Reading Assignment for Oct. 16 – K&H, pp. 265-281

Reading Assignment for Oct. 18 – K&H, pp. 281-299

Reading Assignment for Oct. 20 – K&H, pp. 299-326

Unit 7 – Education Training and the Theory of Human Capital

Reading Assignment for Oct. 23 – K&H, pp. 337-362

Reading Assignment for Oct. 25 – K&H, pp. 362-382

Reading Assignment for Oct. 27 – K&H, pp. 383-400

Unit 8 – Occupational Wage Differentials

Reading Assignment for Oct. 30 – K&H, pp. 407-433

Reading Assignment for Nov. 1 – K&H, pp. 433-447; 463-467

Reading Assignment for Nov. 3 – K&H, pp. 447-467

Hour Examination – Nov. 6

Unit 9 –Discrimination in the Labor Market

Reading Assignment for Nov. 8 – K&H, pp. 469-487

Reading Assignment for Nov. 10 – K&H, pp. 487-501

Reading Assignment for Nov. 13 – K&H, pp. 501-523

Unit 10 – Union Membership and Collective Bargaining

Reading Assignment for Nov. 15 – K&H, pp. 527-552

Reading Assignment for Nov. 17 – K&H, pp. 552-570

Reading Assignment for Nov. 20 – K&H, pp. 594-604

Reading Assignment for Nov. 27 – K&H, pp. 570-591

Thanksgiving Holidays – Nov. 22 and 24 - no classes

Unit 11 – The Economic Impact of Labor Unions

Reading Assignment for Nov. 29 – K&H, pp. 605-624; 641-644

Reading Assignment for Dec. 1 – K&H, pp. 624-637

Unit 12 - Unemployment

Reading Assignment for Dec. 4 – K&H, pp. 644-657

Reading Assignment for Dec. 6 – K&H, pp. 657-688

Reading Assignment for Dec. 8 – K&H, pp. 668-691

Study Days – Dec. 11 and 12

Final Examination – Dec. 20 - 9:00 a.m.