UCLouvain

lecon2051

2019

## Labour, unemployment and Politics

In view of the health context linked to the spread of the coronavirus, the methods of organisation and evaluation of the learning units could be adapted in different situations; these possible new methods have been - or will be - communicated by the teachers to the students.

5 credits 30.0 h Q2
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Teacher(s)	Dejemeppe Muriel ;Van der Linden Bruno ;Van der Linden Bruno (compensates Dejemeppe Muriel) ;					
Language :	French					
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve					
Main themes	<ul> <li>Choice of labour input by firms and choice of labour supply by the population.</li> <li>Perfect and imperfect competition on the labour market.</li> <li>Imperfect information on the labour market.</li> <li>Discrimination.</li> <li>Role of labour market institutions (labour law, unions, minimum wages, etc.).</li> <li>Analysis of performances on the labour market, with an emphasis on unemployment and the effectiveness of employment policies.</li> </ul>					
Aims	<ul> <li>To acquire a basic knowledge of statistical concepts, so as to be able to understand correctly a descriptive analysis of labour markets.</li> <li>Becoming able to analyze real problems and interpret (stylized) facts related to labour issues through (i) reasoning and arguments rooted in a suited theoretical framework and (ii) producing a correct interpretation of relevant results coming from an empirical analysis.</li> <li>Becoming aware of the limitations of the available basic theories in labour economics.</li> <li>Concerning employment policies, to develop an understanding of their rationale and their role according to theory as well as a comprehension of the empirical evidence about the effects of these policies.</li> </ul>					
	The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".					
Evaluation methods	Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change.  Continuous evaluation. In practice:					
	<ol> <li>Between consecutive meetings of the class, the student will solve an exercice or read a document to prepare the next class. Weight of the homework assignments: 2 points over 20.</li> <li>Each student will prepare an individual and compulsory short written note on a freely chosen topic of interest chosen in a list provided by the lecturer. This written note needs to be handed in before the beginning of the regular session of exams. Otherwise, the student will not get a mark for LECON2051. Weight given to this individual written note: 3 points over 20.</li> <li>During the session of exams, a written exam will be organized. Weight of the final exam: 15 points over 20.</li> <li>If the student presents the exam a second time during the same academic year, part 1 above of the final mark cannot be improved. However, the student is allowed to revise the written note mentioned above under point 2 before the start of the second session of exams.</li> </ol>					
Teaching methods	Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change.  Three learning methods are used. First, the class meets every week. Meetings in class are made of lectures problem solving, discussions over applied issues, exchange of ideas based on a preparatory reading. The active participation of students is encouraged. Second, a deep understanding of the material covered requires some homework (exercises, readings). Third, the production of an individual report will allow to apply some tools introduced in class (see the section concerning the evaluation of students).					
Content	The course covers the following topics:					
	<ol> <li>What labour economics is about and what are the major methodological approaches?</li> <li>The measurement of phenomena on the labor market: employment, unemployment, wages, inequalities,</li> <li>Labor Demand (the firms' side).</li> <li>Labor Supply (the population's side).</li> <li>Perfect and imperfect competition on the labor market and their respective analysis of phenomena like the minimum wage.</li> <li>Collective bargaining and its effects.</li> </ol>					

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	7. Labor market performance and the causes of unemployment.  8. The effects of employment policies, social protection and the policies fighting unemployment.					
Inline resources	The course Moodle Webpage					
Bibliography	Borjas, George (2020) Labor Economics, Eighth edition (New-York: McGraw-Hill) Cahuc, Pierre, et Andre# Zylberberg (2001) Le marche# du travail (Paris, Bruxelles: De Boeck-Universite#) Cahuc, Pierre, et Andre# Zylberberg (2003) Microe#conomie du marche# du travail (Paris: Editions la De#couverte Collection Repe#res, 354) Cahuc, Pierre, and Andre# Zylberberg (2004) Labor economics (Cambridge: MIT Press) Cahuc, Pierre, Ste#phane Carcillo, and Andre# Zylberberg (2014) Labor economics (Cambridge: MIT Press) Laing, Derek (2011) Introduction to classic and the new labor economics (New-York: W.W. Norton and Company) Sloane, Peter, Paul Latreille, and Nigel O'Leary (2013) Modern Labour Economics (Lon- don and New York Routledge) Van der Linden, Bruno (2008) 'Economie du travail.' In 'Economie,' collection mention ed. (Paris: Eyrolles) chaptel 7, pp. 129–151					
Other infos	This course in taught in French. The lecture notes and the slides are in French as well. Howeworks, the individual written note and the final exams can all be written in English. A student interested by the topic but unable to read and understand French is invited to contact the lecturer.					
Faculty or entity in charge	ECON					

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)							
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims			
Master [120] in Human Resources Management	GRH2M	5		•			
Master [60] in Economics : General	ECON2M1	5		0			
Master [120] in Economics: General	ECON2M	5		•			