

Tentative syllabus  
Labor Economics (The course title can be flexible)

Instructor: Shingo Takahashi

Office hours: TBA

This course provides a general introduction to the field of labor economics and as such is an application of basic microeconomic principles. Our approach to studying labor economics will be both theoretical and empirical. That is, not only will we discuss models of how labor markets function, we will also discuss the evidence on how well the real world matches the predictions of such models.

**Required Text:** Labor Economics, 6th Edition (2012) by George Borjas, published by McGraw-Hill/Irwin (This textbook is available at the bookstore or from other sources.)

Pre-requisite: Microeconomics I

**Course outline (tentative)**

Week 1: Introduction, Labor Supply, Basic measures and facts: Ch 1

Week 2 Labor Supply, Microeconomic model of labor leisure choice Ch2

Week 3: Labor Supply: Policy Applications Ch3  
Spousal tax exemption in Japan  
Retirement, Household Production, Fertility

Week 4 Labor Demand, Ch 4

Week 5: Labor Market Equilibrium, Policy Applications: Taxes and Subsidies, Immigration, Noncompetitive labor markets, Ch 5

Week 6: Compensating Wage Differentials, Health Insurance, Ch 6

Week 7 Human capital theory: Education and Schooling, on the Job Training, Ch 7

Week 8 Labor Mobility, Immigration, Ch 9

Week 9 Labor Market Discrimination, Ch 10

Week 10: Incentive compensation Chapter, 12