

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO
ECONOMICS 651: LABOUR ECONOMICS
WINTER 2023

Instructor

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Course Description

This course focuses on the role of institutions in the wage determination process. The course begins with major theories of wage determination and a review of the recent empirical evidence. Students will then conduct a major empirical project on wage determination common in the human capital consulting industry. The project uses rich longitudinal data coupled with institutional information from a Toronto firm. The project also aims to continue the development of students' data manipulation and econometric skills as well as expose students to real-world, institutional wage determination processes. Students will then follow-up the project with a 'think-piece' paper where students assess the extent to which the recent wage determination literature in economics incorporates these real-world institutional processes.

Readings

This course uses a selection of customized readings; there is no textbook. Readings specific to the projects will be provided to students, and are available at Learn. All other readings are journal articles easily available through e-journals at UW.

Office Hours

Monday and Wednesday, 1-2pm

Evaluation

This is a project based course. Students will also give a presentation. The final grade is calculated as follows:

Participation (Assignments)	20%
Project	45%
Think-piece	20%
Presentation	15%

Policies

Late Assignment/Project Policies

All assignments and projects are submitted at LEARN. For assignments, late submissions are not accepted under any circumstances. For both projects, late submissions incurs a penalty of 2 points per day (the projects are graded out of 100).

Institutional-required statements for undergraduate course outlines approved by Senate Undergraduate Council, April 14, 2009

Economics Department Deferred Final Exam Policy

Deferred Final Exam Policy found at

<https://uwaterloo.ca/economics/undergraduate/resources-and-policies/deferred-final-exam-policy>

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and

types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71)

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70), Section 4.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72) (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72).

Other sources of information for students:

[Academic Integrity website \(Arts\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour)

https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour

[Academic Integrity Office \(UWaterloo\)](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Note for students with disabilities: The [AccessAbility Services](https://uwaterloo.ca/disability-services) office (https://uwaterloo.ca/disability-services), located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.