Syllabus

Course Title: Labor and Organizational Economics (Alternative course title in FLIP & WueStudy: "Advanced Labour Economics") Responsible: Steffen Altmann Programme: Term: ECTS: Master Summer 5

Contents & Objectives:

Contents:

This course provides an overview of modern labor and organizational economics. The course will equip students with the theoretical and empirical tools to analyze the functioning of labor markets and organizations. In the first part of the course, we will discuss the determinants of labor supply and demand, and the influence of labor market institutions like minimum wages or unemployment insurance on labor market outcomes. In the second part of the course, we will analyze how workers' behavior and firms' performance are shaped by compensation structures, hiring processes, or discriminatory practices.

Throughout the course, insights from state-of-the art empirical work will be discussed alongside theory. Besides focusing on neoclassical economic analysis, we will also discuss how insights from behavioral economics have enhanced our understanding of important labor market phenomena.

Prerequisites:

Students should have a sound knowledge of microeconomic theory and empirical methods. Students will also benefit from previous course work on labor economics, although no specific previous knowledge is required.

Competences gained:

In this course,

- students gain an understanding of the basic mechanisms of labor markets.
- students learn to understand theoretical concepts of labor and organizational economics and to apply them to current circumstances.
- students are familiarized with empirical results of research in the field of labor and organizational economics.

Literature:

A detailed reading list will be provided in the first course meeting. The following textbook provides a valuable introduction to the course topics:

• Borjas, G.J. (2016): "Labor Economics", 7th edition, McGraw-Hill

Exam:

- written examination (approx. 60 minutes) or term paper (approx. 15 pages) and in-class discussion and presentations. The specific examination format for the current semester will be explained in the first course meetings.
- Language of assessment: English
- creditable for bonus

Contact:

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