This course covers recent developments in empirical labor economics along with econometric methods commonly used in contemporary research on labor markets.

Course Outline

Part I: Education and Human Capital

Returns to schooling


Methods: Potential outcomes, instrumental variables (IV), regression discontinuity (RD)

College quality


Methods: Matching/selection on observables

Part II: Self-selection

Roy and generalized Roy models


Methods: Control functions, IV, marginal treatment effects

*Self-selection applications*


Methods: IV, discrete choice, dynamic models

**Part III: Discrimination**

*Group differences in the labor market*


Methods: Oaxaca-Blinder decompositions

*Experimental approaches*


Methods: Experiments, empirical Bayes, bounds

*Algorithmic bias*


Methods: Difference-in-differences

Part IV: Minimum Wages


Methods: Difference-in-differences (DiD), differential exposure designs

Part V: Firm Wage Premia


*Econometrica* 88 (5).


Methods: High dimensional fixed effects, Oaxaca decomps

**Part VI: Monopsony, Rent-Sharing, and Outside Options**


Methods: Discrete choice modeling, DiD, experiments, fixed effects