Econ 416b. Labor Economics: Understanding Inequality

Day / time: T/Th 9:00 - 10:15 am
Course Type: Undergraduate
Course term: Spring
Instructor(s): Ilse Lindenlaub

In this course we will study many of the most up-to date topics in labor economics and beyond, both from a theoretical and empirical point of view.

This is a one semester advanced course in labor economics for undergraduate students. The objective is to study various aspects of inequality — wage inequality, wealth inequality, market power, employment inequality and household income inequality — and understand their trends over time and underlying sources. We will analyze the role of technological change and automation, of education and skills, of worker-job sorting and marriage sorting, and of search frictions that prevent the labor market from working efficiently. Emphasis will be placed on both understanding theoretical concepts and several workhorse models in labor economics that allow us to analyze sources and changes of inequality with rigor; and on complementary data exercises, using the statistical software Stata, that help the students apply the theories to practice.

Prerequisites: Intermediate Micro (Econ 121) and Econometrics (Econ 131 or 135).

Semester offered: Spring
Undergrad Course Category: Labor

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