

Labour Market and Employment Spring 2024

Welcome in the course!



We will meet Tuesdays from 10:00 to 11:40.

Room: P304

Coordinator + lecturer: Martin Guzi

+Guest lecturers

Course outline

- 20.2. Labour market characteristics
- 27.2. Wages around the globe
- 5.3. Migration (Guest lecturer Lucie Mackova)
- 12.3. Cultural and social factors contributing to gender gaps in the labour market (Magdalena Adamus)
- 19.3. A Study with Ukrainian Refugees Job Applicants (Luca Fumarco)
- 26.3. Work careers of university graduates

- 2.4. Reading week (midterm exam - online)

- 9.4. Reforms Reducing Income Inequality and Poverty
- 16.4. Student presentations: Undeclared work
- 23.4. Student presentations: Work-life balance
- 30.4. Student presentations: Platform work
- 7.5. Future of labour force in ageing European societies
- 14.5. Final exam (in class)

Syllabus: https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/econ/jaro2024/MPV_PTPZ/index.qwarp

Grade evaluation

1. Attendance (20 points)
2. Two essays (critical summary, 2x10 points)
3. Policy proposal (20 points)
4. Midterm and Final exam (40 points, MCQ + open questions)

Grades:

A 100 – 91 points

B 81 – 90 points

C 71 – 80 points

D 61 – 70 points

E 56 – 60 points

F less than 55 points

Critical summary of research seminar

1. Attend MUES research seminar(s) organized at the Faculty during the semester (<http://mues.econ.muni.cz/>)
2. Your task is to summarize and critically assess the main contribution and methods of the presented research. I will grade your own elaboration that may include your personal view on the topic, the potential extension of the research idea or a discussion about the strengths and weaknesses of presented research.
3. Critical summary should be around 700 words and you should upload it to homework folder within 2 weeks after participating in the seminar.

Policy proposal (debate)

- The exercise is based on intensive team work.
- Three groups, each consisting of 6-7 students, will be formed. Each group will work on one topic and the group will be further divided into two teams. One team will write a policy proposal using the perspective of Western European countries. The other team will write a proposal using the perspective of Central European countries.
- Debates will take place in weeks 9, 10 and 11. Each team will have about 30 minutes for the proposal presentation.

Topic 1: Policies tackling undeclared work

Topic 2: Work-life balance and family-friendly policies

Topic 3: Policy plans concerned with platform work

Topic 1: Tackling undeclared work

What is the size and trends in undeclared employment? How does it vary across countries?

Who engages in such work and what is the motivation behind this?

What are the employment relationships (e.g., full-time/part-time, permanent/temporary)?

What have been the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on undeclared employment?

What policy approaches are currently used to tackle undeclared work?

What does the evidence tell us about what works and what does not work?

What policy initiatives can be identified as best practices?

To what extent does undeclared work call for EU-wide solutions (legislation)?

Topic 2: Work-life balance and family-friendly policies

How does everyday employment impact workers' personal life and well-being?

How do societal expectations around gender roles impact perceptions of work-life balance?

How does achieving a balance between work and personal life contribute to overall well-being?

What have been the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on work-life balance?

What specific policies do you believe would benefit employees with family responsibilities?

Topic 3: New policy plans concerned with platform work

What is the size and trends in platform work?

Who engages in such work and what is the motivation behind this?

What are the employment relationships (e.g., full-time/part-time, permanent/temporary employment)?

What have been the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on platform work?

New policy initiatives aimed at improving the working conditions and social rights of people working through platforms.