Instructor:

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Labor Economics: Theory and Empirical Analysis

15:10-18:00, Wednesdays
Location: Chengze Garden 246

Course Overview:

This advanced course in labor economics delves into the foundational concepts and topics within the discipline, with a particular emphasis on the Chinese labor market. Key areas of study include labor supply and demand, immigration, minimum wage implications, human capital, wage structures, evolving job roles, and the trajectory of future labor markets. Additionally, students will gain insight into empirical techniques used in microeconomic analysis.

Course Objectives:

1. Equip students with a comprehensive understanding of challenges, methodologies, and critical literature about labor economics, especially concerning current trends and policies in the Chinese labor market.

2. Train students in conducting empirical research within labor and development economics, utilizing microeconomic datasets. The skills acquired will have broad applications across various economic sectors.

Who Should Enroll:

This course is tailored for economics students with a solid microeconomic theory and econometrics foundation.

Course Requirements & Expectations:

- All participants must pre-select a specific topic, which they will then delve into for presentations and discussions.

- Irrespective of the specific topic they're leading, each student must review all set papers ahead of the discussion session and engage actively during discussions.

- A pivotal component of this course is submitting a research paper. This paper should:

    - Utilize microeconomic data to tackle a specific, well-articulated issue within China's labor market and economic growth.

    - Be crafted in English (20-30 double-spaced pages) or Chinese (15-25 pages), including tables and graphs.

    - Be submitted by **31st January 2024**.

- Students will have scheduled presentation sessions to share their research paper's ongoing progress.

Grading Criteria:

    1. Presentations: 30%

    2. Active participation (including attendance and discussion contribution): 10%

    3. Research paper: 60%

Course materials:

    The class is based on papers instead of a textbook. A reading list will be provided. Working labor economists should have easy access to the following resources:

    1. George J. Borjas (2013): *Labor Economics*, Irvin, McGraw Hill, 6th edition.

    2. Ashenfelter, Orley and David Card (2010): *Handbook of Labor Economics*, Volumes 4A and 4B.

    3. Angrist, Joshua and Jorn-Steffen Pischke (2009): *Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist's Companion,* Princeton University Press.

    4. Cahuc, Pierre and Zylberberg, Andre (2004): *Labor Economics*, The MIT Press.

Course outline:

Week	Date	Topic
1	13 Sep.	Introduction & Chinese labor market
2	20 Sep.	Labor supply
3	27 Sep.	Literature: Labor supply
4	*4 Oct.*	*National Day Holiday*
5	11 Oct.	Labor demand
6	18 Oct.	Immigration
7	25 Oct.	Minimum wage
8	1 Nov.	Literature: Immigration + Minimum wage
9	8 Nov.	*Student presentation*
10	15 Nov.	Human capital and wage structure
11	22 Nov.	Flexible jobs and future labor market
12	29 Nov.	Guest lecture: 零工经济
13	6 Dec.	AI and jobs
14	13 Dec.	Literature: AI and jobs
15	20 Dec.	*Student presentation*
16	27 Dec.	*Student presentation*