

## Labor Markets: A Macroeconomic Perspective

### *Syllabus (Winter 2024/25)*

The existence of unemployment remains an eminent puzzle for economists. From a macroeconomic perspective, one needs to argue why wages do not clear markets. Why do job openings coexist with unemployment? What explains the large up- and downswings of unemployment over the business cycle? Which policies stabilize unemployment? On the other hand, for those in employment, how do wages evolve over the life cycle and what role does human capital play? Can occupational mobility explain earnings inequality? How do individual skills and the tasks required by an occupation affect wages? This seminar will, among other things, address these questions.

The seminar topics will be assigned on Saturday, November 2, 2024 from 10:30-11:15 am (via Zoom). A few days before the meeting, I will upload a list with some suggested seminar topics. However, I am also very happy for you to have your own ideas for seminar topics. The only condition is that each seminar paper must have (at least) a small empirical component. Pure literature review papers are not possible!

During the course of the semester, you will complete your assigned seminar paper. In early 2025, you will present your (preliminary) findings. The deadline for the seminar paper is approximately 4 weeks after the presentation. We will set these dates together on November 2. The presentations of the seminar papers will take place at FAU.

There is no need to register in advance, but you should sign up in StudOn. All information — e.g., the login information for the Zoom meeting — will be uploaded there.

If you have any questions about the seminar, do not hesitate to email me (Heiko Stüber): [Heiko.Stueber@fau.de](mailto:Heiko.Stueber@fau.de).

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## Requirements

- Seminar paper (15 ± 1 pages)
- Presentation of the seminar paper (30 minutes, including time for discussion)

## Further information

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| Language:          | English  |
| Prerequisites:     | Macroeconomics 1 and sound knowledge of econometric methods  |
| Zoom meeting:      | Saturday, November 2, 2024, 10:30–11:15  |
| Presentation:      | Presentation of the seminar papers at the beginning of 2025, date to be set during Zoom meeting on November 2, 2024  |
| Seminar paper:     | The seminar paper is limited to 15 pages ( $\pm 10\%$ , excluding graphs, tables, and the list of references). Students should discuss and summarize recent contributions by independently investigating related literature and applying economic theory. To clarify further questions about the assigned topic and to discuss a rough outline of the paper, please arrange an early meeting with me. I also expect you to contact me for a second meeting before the presentation of the seminar paper. The deadline for the seminar paper is approximately 4 weeks after the presentation. Both dates will be set on November 2. |
| Grading procedure: | Seminar paper 90% and presentation of seminar paper 10%.   |
| StudOn link:       | <a href="https://www.studon.fau.de/crs6004429.html">https://www.studon.fau.de/crs6004429.html</a>  |