A. Course Objective: To provide a foundation for human resources research as it relates to economic growth, productivity change, and economic development with emphasis on labor supply and time allocation of farm and nonfarm households; human capital production, investment, and returns; and R&D and adoption of technologies. A mixture of conceptual models and empirical results for developed and developing countries will be covered.

B. Grading:

1. Exams: one midterm and one final exam

2. A 15-20 page research proposal is required; a proposal for a project that could be completed but need not be completed. Historically these proposals have frequently led to creative components and Ph.D. dissertations. I first want a 1 page pre-proposal one week after the midterm test. The proposal itself can be completed after the end of spring semester, but I would like for them to be completed by the end of August.

3. Weights: Midterm exam 30%  
   Final exam 40%  
   Research proposal 30%  
   Total 100%

C. Outline and Reading List (see separate sheets)
I. INTRODUCTION

II. LABOR SUPPLY: Farm and Nonfarm Household Decisions
   A. Choices for Individuals and Married Couples
      1. Wage-earning households
      2. Agricultural and other self-employed households
   B. Empirical Studies: Participation and Hours
      1. Patterns in hours of work and wage rates
      2. Wage-earning households
      3. Self-employed households

III. HUMAN CAPITAL: Production, Investment, and Returns
   A. Families and Households
   B. Allocation of Time and Goods in Productive Households
   C. General Human Capital Production
   D. Fertility, Family Size, Child Quality
   E. Education
      1. General
      2. Schools and School Quality
   F. Health and Life Expectancy
   G. Wage Rates and Wage Differentials
      1. Incentives
      2. Wage Rates/Earnings
      3. Wage Differentials
   H. Specific Training Choices/Effects
   I. Human Resource Mobility
      1. General
      2. Agriculture
   J. Occupational Choice
      1. Self-employed
      2. Others
   K. Econometric Issues in Labor Economics

IV. ECONOMIC GROWTH, PRODUCTIVITY, AND DEVELOPMENT with ties to human resources
   A. Selective National and International Studies
   B. Transition Economies
   C. Agricultural Sector
   D. R&D: Intellectual Property, Technology Development and Transfer
   E. Adoption of Technology

Course Textbooks:

Some Symbols:
   * = Very highly recommended
   OJE = Quarterly Journal of Economics
   JPE = Journal of Political Economy
   AJAE = American Journal of Agricultural Economics
   AER = American Economic Review
   JLE = Journal of Labor Economics
Spring 2003

LABOR SUPPLY AND HUMAN CAPITAL
READING LIST

I. INTRODUCTION

10.* “Life is Shorter when Overweight,”

II. LABOR SUPPLY: FARM AND NONFARM HOUSEHOLD DECISIONS

A. Choice for Individuals and Married Couples

1. Wage Earning Households

2. Agricultural and Other Self-Employed Households

B. Empirical Studies: Labor Force Participation and Hours of Work
   1. Patterns in Hours of Work and Wage Rates

   2. Wage-Earning Households


3. Self-Employed Households

III. HUMAN CAPITAL: PRODUCTION, INVESTMENT, AND RETURNS

A. Families and Households

B. Allocation of Time and Goods in Productive Households


C. General Human Capital Production


D. Fertility, Family Size, Child Quality


E. Education

1. General


2. Schools and School Quality


F. Health and Life Expectancy


G. Wage Rates and Wage Differentials

1. Incentives

2. Wage Rates/Earnings


3. Wage Differentials


H. Specific Training Choices/Effects

I. Human Resource Mobility
1. General
2. Agriculture


J. Occupational Choice

1. Self Employed


2. Others

K. Econometric Issues in Labor Economics
IV. ECONOMIC GROWTH, PRODUCTIVITY, AND DEVELOPMENT with ties to human resources

A. Selective National and International Studies


B. Transition Economies


C. **Agricultural Sector**

D. **R&D: Intellectual Property, Technology Development and Transfer**

E. Adoption of Technology