

EUROPEAN LABOUR MARKETS
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Programme of Unit 1 and 2 (Manuela Samek)

This unit will present the main models of the labour market in economic theory in order to assess the determinants of the EU unemployment and mismatch problems. It will then discuss employment policies and their effectiveness in improving labour market conditions in the EU on the basis of economic theory

Unit 1- Economics and the EU labour market

- Labour market trends in the EU
- Economic models of the labour market
- Explaining European Unemployment and mismatch problems
- European enlargement and the labour market

Unit 2- Employment policies

- Labour market institutions and labour market policies
- Evaluating Labour Market Policies: Methodology and problems
- Effectiveness of labour market policies
- European Integration and labour market policies

Readings for unit 1

- * Elliott R.F. (1991), **Labour Economics: A Comparative Text**, Mc Graw Hill, 1991, chapters 1 and 15 (*for those who have to refresh their labour economics*)
- European Commission (2005) **Employment in Europe 2005**, Brussels (downloadable http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/employment_analysis/employ_2005_en.htm), executive summary and chapter 1
- * Blanchard O. (2006), European Unemployment, in **Economic Policy** no.45 (economic models and debate to explain EU unemployment)

Readings for Unit 2

- * European Commission (2004) *Employment in Europe 2004*, Brussels
(http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/employment_analysis/employ_2004_en.htm), chapter 2
- * Calmfors L. (1994), *Active Labour Market policy and Unemployment- A Framework for the Analysis of Crucial Design Features*, in OECD Economic Studies, no.22 spring (pp. 7-47).
- * Fay R.G. (1996), *Enhancing the effectiveness of active labour market policies: evidence from programme evaluations in OECD countries, OECD Labour market and social policy occasional papers no. 18* (downloadable: <http://www.oecd.org/EN/documents/0,,EN-documents-187-5-no-10-no-187,00.html>)

INDICATIONS FOR THE GROUP PROJECT

- Around 30-40 pages overall (including tables and graphs)
- Structure:
 - Introduction: what is the question/issue; why this choice, structure of the report
 - Presentation and analysis of the issue: main data (possibly comparative, with some time series), sources of information
 - Analysis and discussion of policies adopted (using theories and methodologies developed in class) and their expected and actual results
 - Conclusions
 - References
- Title and index, with indication of possible sources by end of April by e-mail.