

Employment policy (21828)

Cours: 2014-15

Degree awarded: Degree in Labour Relations

Academic year: third

Term: first

Number of ECTS credits: 4

Student hours: 100

Syllabus

The transition from Fordism to Post-Fordism has entailed a dilemma between unemployment and inequality which the governments of the main OECD countries have had to face in recent decades. For many of their respective societies the way out of this dilemma has meant that unemployment has become their main socio-economic problem. Following a historical review of the evolution of job markets in Europe and the United States, this course analyses the different institutions framing access to the job market, the international differences in the incidence of unemployment and lack of job security, the policies designed to deal with this and the empirical evidence existing to date on their effectiveness. Finally, differences in gender and ethnic origin with regard to unemployment levels are studied and explanations for and solutions to the inequality they entail are suggested.

The aims of the course are to acquire good knowledge of the recent evolution of labour markets in the main OECD economies and the problems faced by these economies; to carry out a comparative analysis of the policies aimed at combating them and to analyse in detail specifically vulnerable groups in the labour market such as women and ethnic minorities. In line with these objectives the course also aims to familiarise students with concepts and indicators which are generally used in employment policy analysis.

Topic 1. Historical introduction

Topic 2. Occupational change and recent technological developments

Topic 3. International trade, offshoring and unemployment

Topic 4. The centralisation of collective bargaining, unemployment and inflation

Topic 5. Educational systems and employability

Topic 6. Unemployment: international comparison and passive job market policies

Topic 7. Active job market policies

Topic 8. Flexibility, atypical employment and job market segmentation

Topic 9. Gender: occupational segregation, inactivity and unemployment

Topic 10. Immigration and unemployment in host countries