

**Professor Abigail Wozniak**

**Notre Dame University  
Department of Economics  
Description for Course 33481/30481**

**Course Title:**

Topics in the Development of the American Labor Force

**Course Description:**

This course uses the tools of economics to understand the major forces shaping the American labor force, in both the past and the present. The course introduces students to several major research areas in the field of Labor Economics. Examples include study of accountability and outcomes in the US educational system, racial and gender integration in the labor market, and the impact of immigration.

Coursework involves reading and analyzing academic research papers. A typical class consists of a combination of lecture and discussion focusing on the reading assignment in depth with emphasis on the statistical methods employed. This course will fulfill the writing requirement for the Economics major. Students will write several short papers applying concepts from the readings and lecture material to new problems. The course is also appropriate for students considering writing an Honors thesis in Economics and for upper level students in related majors who seek a rigorous study of US labor market issues.

Prerequisites: Principles of Microeconomics. Concurrent enrollment in or completion of a statistics course, Econometrics, or Intermediate Microeconomics is recommended but not required.