I am Professor Steven Haider. I joined MSU in 2002 and am currently serving as Department Chair.

EC 480 provides an overview of labor economics, one of the primary fields in economics. Overall, the course focuses on why people earn what they earn. While issues that are directly related to the labor market come up in our studies—issues of productivity, market power, discrimination, and unions—labor economics also includes the study of many other topics that affect earnings more indirectly. For example, labor economics also includes the study of education and demographic issues (i.e., marriage and childbearing).

In my own research, I have focused on issues related to inequality, labor supply, health, and poverty. Currently, I am working on issues related to overtime laws in the United States.

What did I learn in COVID? I think the main thing I learned was how resilient and persistent and dedicated most folks are, including students, faculty, advisors, and staff.

As Department Chair, one of my main duties is to help troubleshoot issues that may arise in the Department. If you run into issues that cannot be resolved after talking to faculty and advisors, please know that I am another resource available to you.

ECONOMICS HELP ROOM INFORMATION

Economics Help Rooms will be both virtual and in-person starting on September 13, 2021. In-Person tutoring will be on the 3rd floor of the library in the west wing (across from the elevators). All virtual tutoring will be held via Zoom. Please find the Zoom links for your specific course here. Please also note that while tutoring sessions are separated by professor, you can receive assistance from any tutor in your specific course, not just the ones designated for your professor.
EC TUTOR REQUEST DUE SEPTEMBER 17TH BY 5:00 PM

If you are interested in being put on a list distributed to faculty and students, please provide the information below to Nicole Gekeler at nicoleac@msu.edu before the deadline listed above.

- Name
- Number of credits completed
- EC Course(s) for which you would consider being a tutor
- Instructor you had for the course(s) identified above
- Grade received
- MSU e-mail
- Hourly rate-of-pay you are requesting or indicate your willingness to negotiate the rate.

To be considered for the list, you must have earned a minimum of 3.5 for any MSU EC course you identify (transfer or Advanced Placement credits may not be included) and have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA. You should be prepared to provide evidence of this to the person requesting the tutoring.

EC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: RAY WU

My name is Ray and I own a boutique financial advisory office in China.

How does your Economics Education help you succeed in your job?
- Economics Education helps me understand how people make decisions in the market and how those decisions can be improved. Game theory is my all-time favorite; I still practice it often in my work.

What is the most rewarding or enjoyable part of your job?
- Making money (sorry to be straight forward) and making friends, no doubt about it.

What is a challenging part of your job and how do you handle it?
- The most challenging part thru my career is always accepting failure and (re)build confidence. It is HARD and we just have to somehow find a way to control the emotion and move on.

What recommendations to you have for current EC Students on the job or internship search?
- Things have changed a lot in the last 20 years. If I am still in my early 20s today, I am definitely making a video resume and get engaged with the social media of the companies and/or industry leaders that I am most interested in.

What would you encourage all EC students to do before finishing their program?
- Run your own business. Why? You will find answer yourself (in different ways) I am sure.

Is there anything you would do differently if you had to chance?
- I usually only ask myself the “what if” questions before start anything concrete. Once I have done that, I believe there is no regrets, just lessons learned. But if I have to say something, I’d definitely travel more. We all know it with covid-19 now.