

**BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION**  
**FACULTY OF COMMERCE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**  
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE IN ECONOMICS**

NOV 2023

**HCM 205 / LABOUR ECONOMICS: EC 201 (2)**

**DURATION: 3 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Answer any four (4) questions.
2. The paper carries six (6) questions.
3. All questions carry equal marks of 25 each.
4. No cellphones allowed in the exam room.

**Question 1**

Explain any five (5) determinants of labour supply, indicating how each determinant affect the supply of labour **[25 Marks]**

**Question 2**

- a. Bargaining councils are effective mechanisms used in Zimbabwe to ensure that a minimum wage applies in the sector covered by the bargaining council. Using specific professions/occupations, assess the relevance of this statement **[16 Marks]**
- b. Briefly explain the role of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in the labour arena **[9 Marks]**

**Question 3**

- a. Using relevant examples, discuss the major problems faced by labour unions in Zimbabwe in their endeavour to carry out their mandate **[16 Marks]**
- b. Explain the concepts of an indifference curve and indicate some of its important characteristics. **[9 Marks]**

**Question 4**

Briefly describe how the following factors influence productivity

- a. Quality of the Labour Force [5 Marks]
- b. Labour Market Flexibility [5 Marks]
- c. Management Responsibility [5 Marks]
- d. Productivity Incentive Scheme [5 Marks]
- e. Management - Union Cooperation [5 Marks]

**Question 5**

Discuss the Becker (1957) taste for discrimination model and explain the extent to which it explains the actual labour market behaviour in Zimbabwe [25 Marks]

**Question 6**

Explain how any five (5) of the following strategies can be used to reduce unemployment in Zimbabwe

- a. Economic growth and development [5 Marks]
- b. Inflation [5 Marks]
- c. Labour market flexibility and productivity [5 Marks]
- d. Active labour market policies [5 Marks]
- e. Strong skills base [5 Marks]
- f. Formal and Informal small enterprise sector. [5 Marks]

**END OF PAPER**