**Economics 120 Outcome 4.3: Unemployment Rate**

For this week, we will skip ahead to outcome 4.3, because the unemployment numbers for April were just released last Friday.

The unemployment rate is one of the main measures of economic health.

1. To understand what that rate means, and how it is calculated, **please read through the PowerPoint** ( called “Unemployment Rate”)that outlines how it is calculated, who is included, types of unemployment, and what is considered full employment.
2. Make notes, especially, on the types of unemployment, and on who is included in the unemployment rate.
3. Read through the CBC News article “Canada Lost Nearly 2 Million Jobs…….)

**Assignment:**

1. How do the April 2020 unemployment numbers compare with March of 2020?
2. Obviously, the sharp increase in unemployment is due to the pandemic. What category of unemployment would this be? Are there any categories that could also be in play here? How do you know?
3. In considering who is included in the calculations, who in your life (you don’t necessarily need to mention names – just a description of their situation) do you know, who would be considered unemployed? Describe that person’s situation. Who do you know who is not working right now, but who would not be included in the unemployment rate? Why not?
4. While the unemployment rate is a very efficient snapshot of the economy, in that we can look at the numbers almost immediately after the month closes, there are limitations to this number as an assessment. Considering especially those people who are not included in the calculations, what could one of these limitations be?