

# ECP 3510: Economics of Education

## Syllabus

FALL 2020

### Time & Location

**Course Time:** Tuesday and Thursday, periods 9-10 (4:05pm-6:00pm)

**Course Location:** Zoom/Canvas

**Office Hours:** Monday 12:00-1:00pm; Tuesday 12:00-1:00pm

### Instructor Information

**Name:** Michael Teeple

**Email:** teepmr@ufl.edu

**Phone:** (904) 463-1113

### Course Description

In this course we study economic questions related to education, leveraging both theory and empirical results to further our understanding. We apply insights from various economic fields to these questions, including aspects of Game Theory, Microeconomics, Public Economics, Labor Economics, and Growth Theory. Throughout the course, we will pay particular attention to the policy implications of the results, examining both equity and efficiency concerns on balance.

### Textbook/Readings

The majority of required reading will come from the course text:

Michael Lovenheim & Sarah Turner: Economics of Education, Macmillan. 2018.

ISBN: 978-1-31-928220-2

The text covers a variety of topics in the Economics of Education. The book is split broadly into two parts: the first half covers foundational topics in the Economics of Education, and the second half considers policy questions in elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education.

# **Student Expectations and Resources**

## **Attendance and Expectations**

### **Synchronous Sessions**

Students are expected to attend all synchronous class sessions on time and to remain for the duration of the session unless an urgent need arises or prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. An attendance tally will not be taken, though students will be responsible for all information presented in all class sessions. Students are expected to attend class meetings prepared to meet class obligations, having completed the required readings, and ready to devote full attention to the work of, and participation in, that class.

### **Asynchronous Lectures**

Students are expected to watch all asynchronous lecture videos before the next synchronous meeting. Each asynchronous lecture will be posted by class time on the scheduled day as specified in the course schedule. We will dedicate a portion of each synchronous meeting for questions regarding the preceding asynchronous lecture.

## **Course Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## **University Honesty Policy**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

## **Students Requiring Accommodations**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

## Student Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392- 1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 392-1575

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center, 392-1161

University Police Department: 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies) <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

## Grading

### Exams 1 & 2 (25% each)

There will be two exams taken during class time on 10/22 and 12/08. The exams will be taken through Canvas and be proctored through Honorlock. The first exam will cover Modules 1-3. The second exam will cover Modules 4 and 5 (so non-cumulative). In preference of keeping the dates for these exams set, I will edit the topics covered on the exams if our progress in lectures differs from the schedule. If you know that you will not be able to take one or both exams on those dates during class hours, inform me early so that we can set a different time or date.

### Homework (20%)

There will be 10 homework assignments. These will generally be posted on canvas on Tuesday and due the following Tuesday (for dates, check course schedule). Students may collaborate on homework assignments, but each student must submit their homework individually. Group submissions will not be accepted. If you collaborate with other students, be sure to include the names of your collaborators. Submitting joint work without credit will be considered plagiarism.

### Project (30%)

A project will be assigned after the first exam and will be due before Thanksgiving break. We will discuss the details of the project as we approach the first exam.

## Letter Grades

Letter grades will be assigned on the following scale:

93-100: A  
90-93: A-  
87-90: B+  
83-87: B  
80-83: B-  
77-80: C+  
73-77: C  
70-73: C-  
60-70: D  
0-60: F

Note that if any grade should fall exactly on a border point, the higher grade will be assigned. For instance, a course grade of exactly 87% will be assigned a B+. UF policies for assigning grade points can be found at: [catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-gradingpolicies/](http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-gradingpolicies/).

## Course Schedule

TUESDAY		THURSDAY	
Sep 1st	1	3rd	2
<i>Asynchronous</i> <b>Begin Module 1</b> Introduction to Economics of Education The Market for Education <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Read Ch. 1 & 2 Watch Lecture Video(s) HW1 Assigned		<i>Synchronous</i> Intorudction to Economics of Education The Market for Education <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting	
8th	3	10th	4
<i>Asynchronous</i> Empirical Tools of Education Economics <u><b>Assignments</b></u> <i>HW1 Due</i> Read Ch. 3 Watch Lecture Video(s) HW2 Assigned		<i>Synchronous</i> <b>End Module 1</b> Empirical Tools of Education Economics <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting	
15th	5	17th	6
<i>Asynchronous</i> <b>Begin Module 2</b> The Human Capital Model <u><b>Assignments</b></u> <i>HW2 Due</i> Read Ch. 4 Watch Lecture Video(s) HW3 Assigned		<i>Synchronous</i> The Human Capital Model <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting	
22nd	7	24th	8
<i>Asynchronous</i> The Signaling Model <u><b>Assignments</b></u> <i>HW3 Due</i> Read Ch. 5 Watch Lecture Video(s) HW4 Assigned		<i>Synchronous</i> The Signaling Model <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting	

TUESDAY		THURSDAY	
29th	9	Oct 1st	10
<i>Asynchronous</i> Returns to Education Investment <u><b>Assignments</b></u> <i>HW4 Due</i> Read Ch. 6 Watch Lecture Video(s) HW5 Assigned		<i>Synchronous</i> <b>End Module 2</b> Returns to Education Investment <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting	
6th	11	8th	12
<i>Asynchronous</i> <b>Begin Module 3</b> Education Production Functions <u><b>Assignments</b></u> <i>HW5 Due</i> Read Ch. 7 Watch Lecture Video(s) HW6 Assigned		<i>Synchronous</i> Education Production Functions <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting	
13th	13	15th	14
<i>Asynchronous</i> Input, Output, and Total Resource Policies <u><b>Assignments</b></u> <i>HW6 Due</i> Read Chs. 9 & 11 Watch Lecture Video(s) HW7 Assigned		<i>Synchronous</i> <b>End Module 3</b> Input, Output, and Total Resource Policies <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting Practice Exam Posted	
20th	15	22nd	16
<i>Synchronous</i> <b>Exam 1 Review</b> <u><b>Assignments</b></u> <i>HW7 Due</i> Attend Live Meeting		<b>Exam 1</b>	
27th	17	29th	18
<i>Asynchronous</i> <b>Begin Module 4</b> The Financing of Local Public Schools <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Read Ch. 8 Watch Lecture Video(s) HW8 Assigned		<i>Synchronous</i> The Financing of Local Public Schools <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting Project Assigned	
Nov 3rd	19	5th	20
<i>Asynchronous</i> School Choice <u><b>Assignments</b></u> <i>HW8 Due</i> Read Ch. 10 HW9 Assigned		<i>Synchronous</i> School Choice <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting	

TUESDAY		THURSDAY	
10th	<b>21</b>	12th	<b>22</b>
<i>Asynchronous</i> School Choice <u><b>Assignments</b></u> <i>HW9 Due</i> Watch Lecture Video(s)		<i>Synchronous</i> <b>End Module 4</b> School Choice <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting	
17th	<b>23</b>	19th	<b>24</b>
<i>Asynchronous</i> <b>Begin Module 5</b> Student Assignment Mechanisms <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Watch Lecture Video(s) HW10 Assigned		<i>Synchronous</i> Student Assignment Mechanisms <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting	
24th	<b>25</b>	26th	
<i>Asynchronous</i> The Higher Education Market in the U.S. <u><b>Assignments</b></u> <i>HW10 Due</i> <i>Project Due</i> Read Chs. 13-15 Watch Lecture Video(s)		<b>No Class</b> <b>Thanksgiving Break</b>	
Dec 1st	<b>26</b>	3rd	<b>27</b>
<i>Asynchronous</i> <b>End Module 5</b> Topic TBD <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Watch Lecture Video(s)		<i>Synchronous</i> <b>Exam 2 Review</b> <u><b>Assignments</b></u> Attend Live Meeting	
8th	<b>28</b>	10th	<b>29</b>
<b>Exam 2</b>		<b>No Class</b> <b>Course Complete</b>	