

ECP 3510: Economics of Education

Syllabus

SPRING 2021

Time & Location

Course Time:

Section 0028: Tues/Thurs, periods 3-4 (9:35am-11:30am)

Section 0027: Tues/Thurs, periods 5-6 (11:45am-1:40pm)

Course Location:

Section 0028: Matherly Hall - MAT0006

Section 0027: Rinker Hall - RNK0225

Office Hours:

Via Zoom

Tues/Thurs 3:00pm-4:00pm, or by appointment

Instructor Information

Name: Michael Teeple

Email: teepmr@ufl.edu

Phone: (904) 463-1113

Zoom Personal Meeting ID: 203 009 9137

Course Description

In this course we study a wide variety of economic questions related to education, leveraging both theory and empirical evidence 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

Students are expected to attend all 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.

COVID-Related Practices

We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
- This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.
- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class.
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.

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.bluera.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/) 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 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 during the semester. Exam 1 will be taken in-class on 2/23, and Exam 2 will be a take-home exam given 4/15 and due 4/20. Exam 1 will cover Modules 1-3, and Exam 2 will cover Modules 4-6. All exams are **individual work only**. 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.

Homework (22%)

There will be 11 homework assignments. These will generally be given 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 (28%)

Students will be required to complete a presentation with a partner. Students will form their own groups of two and select an article from a curated list. Your grade will be based primarily on how well your presentation demonstrates your understanding of your selected article, and ability to relay the article's findings and importance to your peers. The full details of this assignment will be discussed in-class after 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/.

Course Schedule

TUESDAY		THURSDAY	
Jan 12th	1	14th	2
Begin Module 1 Introduction to Economics of Education The Market for Education <u>Assignments</u> Read Ch. 1 & 2		Introduction to Economics of Education The Market for Education	
19th	3	21st	4
Empirical Tools of Education Economics <u>Assignments</u> Read Ch. 3 HW1 Assigned		End Module 1 Empirical Tools of Education Economics <u>Assignments</u> Work on HW1	
26th	5	28th	6
Begin Module 2 The Human Capital Model <u>Assignments</u> <i>HW1 Due</i> Read Ch. 4 HW2 Assigned		The Human Capital Model <u>Assignments</u> Work on HW2	

TUESDAY		THURSDAY	
Feb 2nd	7	4th	8
The Signaling Model Assignments <i>HW2 Due</i> Read Ch. 5 HW3 Assigned		End Module 2 The Signaling Model Assignments Work on HW3	
9th	9	11th	10
Begin Module 3 Returns to Education Investment Assignments <i>HW3 Due</i> Read Ch. 6 HW4 Assigned		Returns to Education Investment Assignments Work on HW4	
16th	11	18th	12
Education Production Functions Assignments <i>HW4 Due</i> Read Ch. 7 HW5 Assigned		End Module 3 Education Production Functions Assignments Work on HW5	
23rd	13	25th	
<i>HW5 Due</i> Exam 1		No Class "Recharge Day"	
Mar 2nd	14	4th	15
Begin Module 4 Input, Output, and Total Resource Policies Assignments Read Chs. 9 & 11 HW6 Assigned Project Assigned		Input, Output, and Total Resource Policies Assignments Work on HW6	
9th	16	11th	17
The Financing of Local Public Schools Assignments <i>HW6 Due</i> Read Ch. 8 HW7 Assigned		End Module 4 The Financing of Local Public Schools Assignments Work on HW7	
16th	18	18th	19
Begin Module 5 School Choice Assignments <i>HW7 Due</i> Read Ch. 10 HW8 Assigned		School Choice Assignments Work on HW8	

TUESDAY		THURSDAY	
23rd	20	25th	21
School Choice <u>Assignments</u> <i>HW8 Due</i> HW9 Assigned		School Choice <u>Assignments</u> Work on HW9	
30th	22	Apr 1st	23
Student Assignment Mechanisms <u>Assignments</u> <i>HW9 due</i> HW10 Assigned		End Module 5 Student Assignment Mechanisms <u>Assignments</u> Work on HW10	
6th	24	8th	25
Begin Module 6 The Higher Education Market in the U.S. <u>Assignments</u> <i>HW10 Due</i> Read Chs. 13-15 HW11 Assigned		End Module 6 The Higher Education Market in the U.S. <u>Assignments</u> Work on HW 11	
13th	26	15th	27
Review Day/Article Question Day <u>Assignments</u> <i>HW11 Due</i>		Presentation Day Exam 2 Given	
20th	28	22nd	29
Exam 2 Due		Reading Day No Class Course Complete	