

Econ 341: Economics of Education
Northwestern University, 2020 Fall -- mostly remote via Zoom

Instructor: Scott Ogawa; sogawa@northwestern.edu (please use email and *not* Canvas Inbox)

TA: Matthew Thomas; mthomas@u.northwestern.edu

Place/Time: M/W/F 4:10 - 5:30. Almost surely all online for Fall of 2020 due to Covid-19.

Textbook: *Economics of Education*, Lovenheim and Turner

Required hardware: Flexible phone holder (as well as smartphone and a working webcam)

Grades: Your grade will be based on the following criteria. You can earn a B- or higher by meeting all the requirements that are fully within your control. To earn a top grade (A- or A): In addition to top test scores, both your group presentation and final paper must be of the highest quality.

- Regular individual tests.
- Participation (which will include attendance, group problem sets, partner quizzes, and a group presentation)
- Final paper due during final-exam week (in lieu of final exam)

Regular Individual Tests: There will be regular (every other week) individual tests. You can miss up to one of these **with no questions asked**¹. If you need to miss a second, you need to contact the professor (and there may be a slight negative impact on your grade). The current dates (though subject to change): Wednesday Oct 7, Oct 21, Nov 4, Nov 18.

Participation and Attendance: In general you are expected to come to join class live, to have your camera on, to be present, and be ready to participate. We will keep track of this via Zoom. You can miss up to three classes, no questions asked; in fact, I would expect you to miss a few as stuff comes up. If you need to miss more than that, you should let me know in advance what is going on. To pass the course you can't miss more than 6 lectures. (For students in unfavorable time zones due to Covid-19: Instead of attending live you will be asked to watch the recording and to submit a reflection online within 24 hours.)

Problem Sets: There will be regular, short problem sets due each Sunday evening; it will hopefully be graded and returned by class on Monday. These will often require you to work with data in some way. These problem sets will often be done in *assigned groups* (though subject to change) and some aspect will be tested on the subsequent test.

Final Paper and Group Presentation: Further details will be provided during the quarter.

Schedule and Topics

- *Part I (Weeks 1 - 4):* [Returns to Schooling \(link to description and readings\)](#)
- *Part II (Weeks 5 - 8):* [School Quality](#)
- *Part III (Presentations throughout quarter):* [School Finance](#) (and other facts about education)

¹ See email sent Nov 17