

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF JAPAN
Graduate School of International Relations

Academic Year: 2016/2017

Term: Spring

Course	Course code ADC6673	Course title Economics of Education	
Name of Instructor	Yusuke Jinnai		Credit Number: 2
Instructor's contact Information	Office# 308	Office Hours TBD	E-mail: yjinnai@iuj.ac.jp
Class Schedule Day / Time	TBD		

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the field of economics of education. The course covers a number of journal articles with a wide variety of topics ranging from human capital development to education policy reforms. The course also reviews a series of econometric models that are widely used in this field.

Learning Objectives: The course is designed for students to (1) become familiar with the frontier of this research area, (2) find an interesting research question to tackle in their own theses, and (3) equip themselves with econometric tools to answer their questions. Through Stata exercises, students also learn how to use econometric models in empirical studies.

Career Relevance: This course should serve students in their future role as a policy-maker, business analyst, or academic researcher in the field of economic and social development including education, poverty, and other related public policies.

Course Context or Rationalization: This course covers empirical studies that apply microeconomic concepts and econometric tools, which students learn through the core courses.

Delivery Methods: This course consists of lectures, class discussion, and student presentation.

Assessment:

1. Class discussion and presentation (10%)
2. Short quizzes (20%)
3. Stata exercises (30%)
4. Term paper (40%)

Through Stata sessions and exercises, students will learn empirical applications of popular econometric models. Students will write a term paper by the end of the course, clearly stating (i) research question, (ii) literature review, (iii) econometric model, (iv) data set, and (v) (preliminary) results. The idea of these assignments is to help students become well prepared for starting their own research.

Prerequisite: None.

Textbook(s)

Required: There will be no required textbook in this course.

Reference books/Journal Articles:

The following handbook series are highly recommended for education studies. Each volume discusses a wide range of educational topics, which will also be helpful for students to find their own research question.

- Edited by Hanushek, Machin, and Woessmann, Handbook of the Economics of Education, Volume 1-5, North Holland.

If students plan to conduct an empirical research (not limited to education topics) for their theses, they may also find the following books very useful. While Wooldridge (2013) is a standard textbook on econometrics, Angrist and Pischke (2008) discuss the advantages and pitfalls of widely-used econometric models.

- Wooldridge (2013), *Introductory Econometrics: A Modern Approach (5th edition)*, Cengage Learning.
- Angrist and Pischke (2008), *Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist's Companion*, Princeton University Press.

Class Outline

1. Overview of causal inference
2. Education and economic growth
3. Returns to education (1) human capital
4. Returns to education (2) signaling
5. Gender gap in educational attainment/achievement
6. Racial gap in educational attainment/achievement
7. Class size and peer effects (1)
8. Class size and peer effects (2)
9. School accountability (1) standardization
10. School accountability (2) disclosure
11. School choice (1) types of choice
12. School choice (2) impact of choice
13. The market for teachers (1)
14. The market for teachers (2)
15. Teacher incentives (1)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">16. Teacher incentives (2)17. School finance reform (1) tuition18. School finance reform (2) aid19. Higher education policy (1)20. Higher education policy (2)
Others (if any)	Reading list will be provided in class.