

Freie Universität Berlin
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Summer Semester 2022

Economics of post-soviet countries education

Seminar: Friday, 10-12, Garystr. 55/302a

Office Hours: Thursday, 10-12.

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the empirical economic analysis of the investment in and provision of education in post-Soviet countries. The process of transformation and characteristics of the education system in these countries is reviewed. One important application is the analysis of the returns to education in countries with transition economies. The course will also analyze the production and provision of education. Examples are the importance of teachers' quality, the role of incentives, the analysis of access to higher education and the role academic dishonesty.

Grade:

Essay. The topic of the essay is chosen by a student.

Week 1: Transformation of education systems in post-Soviet countries

Huisman, J., Smolentseva, A., & Froumin, I. (2018). *25 years of transformations of higher education systems in post-soviet countries: Reform and continuity* (p. 482). Springer Nature.

Smolentseva, A. (2017). Where Soviet and neoliberal discourses meet: the transformation of the purposes of higher education in Soviet and post-Soviet Russia. *Higher Education*, 74(6), 1091-1108.

Gounko, T., & Smale, W. (2007). Modernization of Russian higher education: Exploring paths of influence. *Compare*, 37(4), 533-548.

Zakharov, A., Froumin, I., & Kuzminov, Y. (2011). Russian school: an alternative to modernization from above. *Educational Studies*, (3), 5-53.

Khavenson, T., & Carnoy, M. (2016). The unintended and intended academic consequences of educational reforms: the cases of Post-Soviet Estonia, Latvia and Russia. *Oxford Review of Education*, 42(2), 178-199.

Smolentseva, A., & Platonova, D. (2022). The Transformations of Higher Education in 15 Post-Soviet Countries: The State, the Market and Institutional Diversification. *Higher Education Policy*, 1-24.

Froumin, I., Kouzminov, Y., & Semyonov, D. (2014). Institutional diversity in Russian higher education: Revolutions and evolution. *European Journal of Higher Education*, 4(3), 209-234.

Weeks 2 & 3: Returns to education

Cheidvasser, S., & Benítez-Silva, H. (2007). The educated Russian's curse: returns to education in the Russian Federation during the 1990s. *Labour*, 21(1), 1-41.

Staneva, A., Arabsheibani, G. R., & Murphy, P. D. (2010). Returns to education in four transition countries: quantile regression approach.

Flabbi, L., Paternostro, S., & Tiongson, E. R. (2008). Returns to education in the economic transition: A systematic assessment using comparable data. *Economics of education review*, 27(6), 724-740.

Gorodnichenko, Y., & Peter, K. S. (2005). Returns to schooling in Russia and Ukraine: A semiparametric approach to cross-country comparative analysis. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 33(2), 324-350.

Denisova, I. A., & Kartseva, M. A. (2007). A premium for a degree in engineering: An estimation of returns to the field-specific education in Russia. *Prikladnaya ekonometrika= Applied Econometrics*, (1), 30-57.

Prakhov, I. (2021). The determinants of expected returns on higher education in Russia: A human capital theory approach. *Higher Education Quarterly*, 75(2), 302-320.

Rudakov, V., & Roshchin, S. (2019). The impact of student academic achievement on graduate salaries: the case of a leading Russian university. *Journal of Education and Work*, 32(2), 156-180.

Week 4: Major choice

Kyui, N., & Radchenko, N. (2021). The changing composition of academic majors and wage dynamics: Beyond mean returns. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 49(2), 358-381.

Klimova, A. (2012). Gender differences in determinants of occupational choice in Russia. *International Journal of Social Economics*.

Week 5: Job mismatch

Rudakov, V., Figueiredo, H., Teixeira, P., & Roshchin, S. (2019). The impact of horizontal job-education mismatches on the earnings of recent university graduates in Russia.

Lamo, A., & Messina, J. (2010). Formal education, mismatch and wages after transition: Assessing the impact of unobserved heterogeneity using matching estimators. *Economics of Education Review*, 29(6), 1086-1099.

Week 6: Effectiveness of school organizations: Resilient schools

Pinskaya, M., Kosaretsky, S., Zvyagintsev, R., & Derbishire, N. (2019). Building resilient schools in Russia: effective policy strategies. *School Leadership & Management*, 39(2), 127-144.

Loyalka, P., Zakharov, A., & Kuzmina, Y. (2018). Catching the Big Fish in the Little Pond Effect: Evidence from 33 Countries and Regions. *Comparative Education Review*, 62(4), 542-564.

Zvyagintsev, R. (2021). Personality Traits of Students in Resilient and Struggling Schools: Different Children or Different Schools?. *Educational Studies*, (3 (eng)), 24-43.

Week 7: Teacher's wages and students' outcomes

Lazareva, O., & Zakharov, A. (2020). Teacher wages and educational outcomes: evidence from the Russian school system. *Education Economics*, 28(4), 418-436.

Zakharov, A., & Carnoy, M. (2015). Are teachers accurate in predicting their students' performance on high stakes' exams? The case of Russia. *International Journal of Educational Development*, 43, 1-11.

Zakharov, A., Carnoy, M., & Loyalka, P. (2014). Which teaching practices improve student performance on high-stakes exams? Evidence from Russia. *International Journal of Educational Development*, 36, 13-21.

Week 8: Peers effects

- Poldin, O., Valeeva, D., & Yudkevich, M. (2016). Which peers matter: How social ties affect peer-group effects. *Research in Higher Education*, 57(4), 448-468.
- Dokuka, S., Valeeva, D., & Yudkevich, M. (2020). How academic achievement spreads: The role of distinct social networks in academic performance diffusion. *Plos one*, 15(7), e0236737.
- Poldin, O., Valeeva, D., & Yudkevich, M. (2015). Choice of specialization: do peers matter?. *Applied Economics*, 47(44), 4728-4740.
- Androushchak, G., Poldin, O., & Yudkevich, M. (2013). Role of peers in student academic achievement in exogenously formed university groups. *Educational Studies*, 39(5), 568-581.

Week 9: Student success

- Prakhov, I., Kotomina, O., & Sazhina, A. (2020). Parental involvement and the educational trajectories of youth in Russia. *International Journal of Educational Development*, 78, 102252.
- Huften, N., & Elliott, J. (2000). Motivation to learn: the pedagogical nexus in the Russian school: some implications for transnational research and policy borrowing. *Educational Studies*, 26(1), 115-136.
- Prakhov, I. (2016). The unified state examination and the determinants of academic achievement: Does investment in pre-entry coaching matter?. *Urban Education*, 51(5), 556-583.

Week 10: Academic dishonesty

- Magnus, J. R., Polterovich, V. M., Danilov, D. L., & Savvateev, A. V. (2002). Tolerance of cheating: An analysis across countries. *The Journal of Economic Education*, 33(2), 125-135.
- Chirikov, I., Shmeleva, E., & Loyalka, P. (2020). The role of faculty in reducing academic dishonesty among engineering students. *Studies in Higher Education*, 45(12), 2464-2480.
- Grimes, P. W. (2004). Dishonesty in academics and business: A cross-cultural evaluation of student attitudes. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 49(3), 273-290.

Week 11: Demand for higher education and inequality in access to higher education

- Francesconi, M., Slonimczyk, F., & Yurko, A. (2019). Democratizing access to higher education in Russia: The consequences of the unified state exam reform. *European Economic Review*, 117, 56-82.
- Prakhov, I., & Yudkevich, M. (2019). University admission in Russia: Do the wealthier benefit from standardized exams?. *International Journal of Educational Development*, 65, 98-105.
- Prakhov, I., & Sergienko, D. (2020). Matching between students and universities: What are the sources of inequalities of access to higher education?. *European Journal of Education*, 55(2), 261-274.
- Kotyrlo, E., & Varshavskaya, E. (2022). Impact of the compulsory military service reform of 2007–2008 on the demand for higher education. *Economics of Transition and Institutional Change*.
- Prakhov, I. (2016). The barriers of access to selective universities in Russia. *Higher Education Quarterly*, 70(2), 170-199.

Week 12: Efficiency of the Russian higher education

- Agasisti, T., Egorov, A., Zinchenko, D., & Leshukov, O. (2021). Efficiency of regional higher education systems and regional economic short-run growth: empirical evidence from Russia. *Industry and innovation*, 28(4), 507-534.

Agasisti, T., Shibanova, E., Platonova, D., & Lisyutkin, M. (2020). The Russian Excellence Initiative for higher education: A nonparametric evaluation of short-term results. *International Transactions in Operational Research*, 27(4), 1911-1929.

Agasisti, T., Egorov, A., & Maximova, M. (2021). Do merger policies increase universities' efficiency? Evidence from a fuzzy regression discontinuity design. *Applied Economics*, 53(2), 185-204.

Week 13: Higher education funding

Tommaso Agasisti, Ekaterina Abalmasova, Ekaterina Shibanova, Aleksei Egorov, The causal impact of performance-based funding on university performance: quasi-experimental evidence from a policy in Russian higher education, *Oxford Economic Papers*, 2021

Abankina, I. V., Abankina, T. V., & Filatova, L. M. (2018). The pitfalls of differentiation in the financing of Russian universities. *Russian Education & Society*, 60(2), 101-132.