Public Affairs 571/Ed Leadership & Policy Studies 563
“EDUCATION, THE WORKFORCE & PUBLIC POLICY”

Syllabus – Autumn 2015

Readings
Readings for this course are from the texts listed below or, in the case of most articles, will be available electronically via the EDLPS 563 website (same as PBAF 571) at: canvas@uw.edu. A few items are simply cited by URL or have other special access arrangements. Several books listed as supplementary readings have been placed on reserve at Odegaard and that is noted next to the item on the syllabus.

You should purchase the first three books listed below as most of their chapters are assigned. Fewer chapters of the Zumeta et al. book are assigned so you might get by with using the copy on reserve. All four of these books have been ordered for 4-hour reserve at Odegaard Library reserves but it is strongly recommended that you purchase the first three. There should be used copies available on Amazon and the like.

Citations for the Main Texts


Course Outline and Syllabus

#1–Oct. 1  **Topics:**
- Introductions and overview of the course
- Circulate sign up sheets for assignment options

**Readings:**

#2–Oct. 8  **Topics:**
- Complete basic concepts
- The “new information (or “knowledge”) economy”: where it came from and where it may be headed
- Implications of the “Great Recession” and its aftermath

**Readings:**

**Recommended:**
4. A. Carnevale, A. Hanson, & A. Gulish (2013, Sept.). *Failure to Launch: Structural Shift and the New Lost Generation.* Executive Summary. Georgetown University, Center on Education and the Workforce. (On class site)
#3–Oct. 15

**Topics:**
- The Education Gospel: believers and dissenters

**Readings:**

**Recommended:**
3. Goldin and Katz, chapters 4-6. (Note: I will ask 3 student volunteers to present the essential arguments of these chapters in class, which will constitute their class presentation assignment for the course.)

**Assignment due:** Proposal for in-class presentation due (if you chose that option for Assignment #2)

#4–Oct. 22

**Topics:**
- Human capital concepts, methods, and findings
- College graduates and the labor market
- Is there really a shortage of graduates in STEM fields?

**Readings:**
2. Zumeta et al, chapter 2, “How Much Higher Education Does the Nation Need?”
6. Angela Baber (2011). Using Community Colleges to Build a STEM-Skilled Workforce.” NGA Center for Best Practices Issue Brief. (Class site)

**Recommended:**
11. Walter McMahon. *Higher Learning, Greater Good: The Private and Social Benefits of Higher Education* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009). Especially chapters 3, 4, and 5 on education and economic growth; private non-market benefits of higher education; and social benefits of higher education and their policy implications, respectively. (Book is on reserve.)

**Assignment due:** Term paper (Assignment #1) proposal/outline due in class from all students!

### # 5–Oct. 29

**Topic:**
- The supply side: access and completion issues and policies in postsecondary education

**Readings:**

**Recommended:**
6. T. Mortenson, “Bachelor’s Degree Attainment in the United States and OECD Countries 1940 to 2011.” *Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY* No. 238 (April 2012). (On course site.)
Education (Wash, DC: National Education Association).
(On course site)

Guest: Dr. Gene Sharratt, Executive Director of the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC)

#6–Nov. 5  Topics:
• Two-year colleges (public and private) and the sub-baccalaureate labor market

Readings:
5. Other materials may be provided by guest.

Recommended:
8. Numerous resources on community colleges and the labor market are available from Columbia University’s Community College Research Center at: ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/

Guest:
Dr. John Lederer, Executive Dean of Workforce and Career Education, North Seattle College (John holds a UW Ed.D. in higher education), and Carey Schroyer, Interim Dean for STEM, Edmonds Community College

#7– Nov. 12  Topic:
• School-to-work and school-to-school transitions
Readings:
1. Alliance for Excellent Education. *Common Core State Standards 101*. (August 2013). (On course site.)

#8– Nov. 19 Topics:
• Human capital building for the disadvantaged and low skilled
• Welfare-to-work policies and human capital building

Readings:
For Metropolitan Labor Markets in the United States,” in Perna, pp. 245-259.

**Recommended:**

**Guest:** John Bowers, Ed.D. candidate in Higher Education and Dean of Basic and Transitional Studies, South Seattle College

**NO CLASS ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

#9–Dec. 3 **Topics:**
- Schools for the new economy
- Teachers for the new schools

**Readings:**
Recommended:

Guest: TBA

#10–Dec. 10 Topics:
• Summing up the implications of American educational vocationalism and the education-technology race
• Efforts at systemic integration of education and workforce training policies
• Course wrap-up and evaluation

Readings:

Recommended:
2. Grubb & Lazerson, ch. 8, “The Evolution of Inequality.”

Assignment due:
Term paper due in class! There will be a penalty for late papers. Earlier submission is encouraged.