

Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs  
University of Washington  
PbAf 571/EDLPS 563  
Winter 2009

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Off. Hrs: Wed. 3:30-4:30 & by app

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

### Readings

Readings for this course are in most cases from the texts listed below or available electronically via the PbAf 571 website at:

<https://catalysttools.washington.edu/workspace/evansas/3248>

Some of the supplementary readings are followed by “R” meaning the item is on reserve at Odegaard Library. There may be an occasional item to access directly from the Web via a URL I will provide.

**The following books are available at the University Bookstore.** We will read the two books below in their entirety:

- Claudia Goldin & Lawrence F. Katz. *The Race Between Education and Technology*. (Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2008).
- W. Norton Grubb & Marvin Lazerson. *The Education Gospel: The Economic Power of Schooling*. (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2004).

**Books I have requested to be placed on 4-hour reserve at Odegaard Library** include those listed below.

- Eugene Bardach. *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis: The Eightfold Path to More Effective Problem Solving*, Third Edition. (Washington, D.C: CQ Press, 2008).
- Sheldon Danziger & Jane Waldfogel (Eds.). *Securing the Future: Investing in Children from Birth to College*. (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2000).
- Michael Kirst & Andrea Venezia (Eds.). *From High School to College: Improving Opportunities for Success in Postsecondary Education*. (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2004).
- Edward P. St. John. *Refinancing the College Dream: Access, Equal Opportunity and Justice for Taxpayers*. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003).
- S. Dickert-Conlin & R. Rubenstein (Eds.). *Economic Inequality and Higher Education*. (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2007).

## Course Outline and Syllabus

#1–Jan. 7

**Topics:**

- Introduction and overview of the course
- Basic concepts: public policy processes and policy analysis; the “new economy;” “human capital;” “skills gap;” “education and workforce” policy

**Readings:** (to be completed following this class, depending on student’s prior preparation)

1. R.B. Ripley, “The Nature of the Policy Process,” *Political Science* (1985), 3-16.
2. Bardach, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Introduction and pp. 1-64. (R).  
**Note:** Second year Evans students will not need to repeat this reading from PbAf 513. Others may be able to borrow a copy from Evans or other students who have taken PbAf 513 in fall quarter or before if the copy on reserve is insufficient and you don’t wish to purchase a copy. (In the second edition, the equivalent pages are 1-59.)

#2–Jan. 14

**Topics:**

- Complete basic concepts
- Forces underlying and key features of the “new economy”

**Readings:**

1. Breneman, Callan, Finney and Zumeta, “Financing American Higher Education in an Era of Global Challenge: An Agenda for the Nation.” Draft book chapter. Read especially pp. 3-15.
2. Goldin and Katz (text), Introduction and chapters 1-3.

#3–Jan. 21

**Topics:**

- The education gospel: believers and dissenters

**Readings:**

1. Grubb & Lazerson (text), Introduction and chapters 1 and 5.
2. Breneman, Callan, Finney and Zumeta, “How Much Higher Education Does the Nation Need?” (Draft book chapter. Read Evans Working Paper version by Zumeta at course website.)

**Recommended:**

1. Goldin and Katz, chapters 4-6. (**Note:** I hope 2-3 students will volunteer to present the essential arguments of these 3 chapters to the class. This will constitute those students’ class presentation assignment for the course.)

2. Paul Osterman, “College for All? The Labor Market for College-Educated Workers.” Center for American Progress, August 2008.

**Assignment due:**

**Proposal for in-class presentation due in class!**

**#4–Jan. 28 Topics:**

- Human capital concepts and methods
- College graduates and the labor market

**Readings:**

1. Grubb & Lazerson, chs. 2 & 6.
2. U.S. Census Bureau. *What’s It Worth? Field of Training and Economic Status in 2004*. Current Population Reports, January 2009. This publication has not yet been released. I will let you know if it is available in time. In any case you can find the pertinent tables at: <http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/education/sipp2004w2.html> Look at the Table 5 series, especially Tables 5D, 5H and 5L.
3. Mark Long, “College Quality and Early Adult Outcomes.” *Economics of Education Review* 27 (2008), 588-602. **Note:** Those lacking a background in multivariate statistics will have some difficulty with sections 4 and 5 but all should be able to understand sections 1-3 and 6. I suggest you focus on the left hand (OLS results) column in Tables 2-5 and note how each of these tables reports effects of a different college quality attribute.

**Recommended:**

1. P. Sommers and W. Chance, *Return on Education Investments*. Report to the Washington State Office of Financial Management by NORED, Inc. June 2006.
2. The College Board, *Education Pays*. (Princeton, NJ, 2007). **Note:** No need to read every word of this. Concentrate on the parts that cover non-labor market effects of education.
3. National Academy of Sciences. Committee on Science, Engineering and Public Policy. *Rising Above the Gathering Storm: Energizing and Employing America for a Brighter Economic Future*. (Washington, DC, 2007). (R)
4. B. L. Lowell and H. Salzman. “Into the Eye of the Storm: Assessing the Evidence on Science and Engineering Education, Quality, and Workforce Demand.” Paper presented at the Association for Public Policy and Analysis and Management research conference, Oct. 2006.

**Note:** Either 1 & 2 or 3 & 4 above would make excellent resources for a class presentation on the range of returns to investments in higher

education (1, 2), or the mixed evidence on “shortages” in the sciences and engineering (3, 4).

**Assignment due:**

**Term paper proposal due in class!**

# 5–Feb. 4

**Topics:**

- Access problems and policies in postsecondary education

**Readings:**

1. Goldin and Katz, chapter 7.
2. D. Ellwood & T. Kane, “Who Is Getting a College Education?” In Danziger & Waldfogel, pp. 283-324. (Article is on the course website, book is also on reserve.)
3. T. Mortenson, “Family Income and Educational Attainment,” 1970 to 2006.” *Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY* (November 2008), 1-13. (This can be skimmed, noting especially the graphics.)
4. National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education. *Measuring Up 2008–The State Report Card on Higher Education: Washington*. (San Jose, CA, 2008).
5. Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board. *Opportunities for Change: Implementing the 2008 Strategic Master Plan*. (Preliminary draft, October 2008).

**Recommended:**

1. National Center on Public Policy and Higher Education. *Measuring Up 2008–The National Report Card on Higher Education*. (San Jose, CA: 2008). Access at: [www.highereducation.org](http://www.highereducation.org)
2. W. Zumeta, “State Support of Higher Education: The Roller Coaster Plunges Downward Yet Again.” *The 2009 NEA Almanac of Higher Education*. Washington, DC: National Education Association, 2009, in press.
3. E. P. St. John, “The New Inequality.” Ch. 8 in St. John, *Refinancing the College Dream*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003, pp. 152-171. (R)

**Guest:**

**Patrick M. Callan, President, National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education.** This center produces the *Measuring Up* state higher education report card series.

#6–Feb. 11

**Topics:**

- Schools for the new economy
- Teachers for the new schools

**Readings:**

1. Strong American Schools. *A Stagnant Nation: Why American Students Are Still at Risk*. Executive Summary. (Washington, DC: 2008). (3 pp.)
2. R. Lerman, “Are Skills the Problem? Reforming the Education and Training System in the United States.” In T. Bartik and S. Houseman (Eds.). *A Future of Good Jobs? America’s Challenge in the Global Economy*. Kalamazoo, Michigan: Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, 2008, pp. 18-80.
3. B. Brand. *Supporting High Quality Career and Technical Education through Federal and State Policy*. American Youth Policy Forum, 2008.
4. ACT, Inc. *Ready for College and Ready for Work: Same or Different?* 2006. **Note:** This can be skimmed for the basic argument and evidence.
5. Washington Learns Steering Committee, *Washington Learns: World Class, Learner Focused, Seamless Education*. Olympia, WA, 2006. **Note:** Not necessary to read every word but get the thrust.
6. L. Shaw, “State: More Algebra a Must Starting with the Class of 2013.” *The Seattle Times* (July 25, 2008), B1.
7. D. Goldhaber, “Teachers Matter, But Effective Teacher Quality Policies Are Elusive.” In H.F. Ladd and E. B. Fiske (Eds.) *Handbook of Research in Education Finance and Policy*. (New York, Routledge, 2008), pp. 146-165.

**Recommended:**

1. Washington Superintendent of Public Instruction, *CTE: Career + Technical Education, Students in High Demand*. (Olympia, WA: September 2008). [Will be distributed in class.]
2. Washington State Board of Education. *Meaningful High School Diploma: Summary of Policy Issue/SBE Strategic Plan Goal*. Olympia, WA, July 2008.

**Guest:**

**Don Nielsen, UW and Harvard MBA graduate, business executive and former president of the Seattle School Board, currently CEO of Teach First which seeks to enhance the skills of classroom teachers to improve student learning**

#7–Feb. 18

**Topics:**

- Two-year colleges and the sub-baccalaureate labor market

**Readings:**

1. Grubb & Lazerson, ch. 3.

2. G. R. Boggs, "Community Colleges in a Perfect Storm." *Change* (November/December 2004), pp. 7-11.
3. W. Zumeta & D. Frankle, *Strengthening California's Community Colleges and Affordable Access to Them*. (San Jose, CA: National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, 2007). Read "Summary of Major Conclusions and Recommendations," pp. 36 (bottom)-44.
4. G. Blumenstyk, "How For-Profit Institutions Chase Community College Students." *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (December 8, 2000), A30-A31.
5. D. Breneman, B. Pusser and S. Turner. "The Contemporary Provision of For-Profit Higher Education: Mapping the Competitive Market." In Breneman, Pusser and Turner (Eds.). *Earnings from Learning: The Rise of For-Profit Universities*. (Albany, State University of New York Press, 2006), pp. 3-22.

**Recommended:**

1. Dan Goldhaber and Gretchen Peri, "Community Colleges." In S. Dickert-Conlin and R. Rubenstein (Eds.). *Economic Inequality and Higher Education*. (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2007), pp. 101-127. (R)

**Guest:**

**Earl Hale, former Executive Director of the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and now consultant to the Ford Foundation**

**#8–Feb. 25**

**Topics:**

- School-to-work and school-to-school transitions

**Readings:**

1. Grubb & Lazerson, chapter 7.
2. D. Neumark, "Improving School-To-Work Transitions: An Introduction." In Neumark (Ed.). *Improving School-To-Work Transitions*. (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2007), pp. 1-23.
3. M. Kirst, "Secondary and Postsecondary Linkages." In Dickert-Conlin and Rubenstein, (Eds.), pp. 44-65.
4. P. M. Callan et al, *Claiming Common Ground: State Policymaking for Improving College Readiness and Success*. A report of the Institute for Educational Leadership, the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, and the Stanford Institute for Higher Education Research. (21 pages).

**Recommended:**

1. D. Donahoe and M. Tienda, "The Transition from School to Work: Is There a Crisis? What Can Be Done?" In Danziger & Waldfoegel (Eds.),

- pp. 231-263. (R)
2. M. Kirst and A. Venezia (Eds.). *From High School to College: Improving Opportunities for Success in Postsecondary Education*. San Francisco, Jossey-Bass, 2004. (R)

**#9–Mar. 4** **Topics:**

- Human capital building for the disadvantaged and low skilled
- Welfare-to-work policies and human capital building

**Readings:**

1. Grubb & Lazerson, ch. 4.
2. J. M. Gueron & G. Hamilton. “The Role of Education and Training in Welfare Reform.” Brookings Institution Welfare Reform and Beyond Policy Brief No. 20, April 2002 (7 pages).
3. A. Ahlstrand, L. Bassi, and D. McMurrer. *Workplace Education for Low Wage Workers*. (Kalamazoo, Michigan: Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, 2003), pp. 1-8 and 135-146.
4. C. McSwain & R. Davis. *College Access for the Working Poor: Overcoming Burdens to Succeed in Higher Education*. Washington, DC: The Institute for Higher Education Policy, July 2007.

**Recommended:**

1. D. Dave, N. Reichman, and H. Corman, “Effects of Welfare Reform on Educational Acquisition of Young Adult Women.” National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 14466, November 2008. Access at: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w14466>
2. H. Pouncy, “New Directions in Job Training Strategies for the Disadvantaged.” In Danziger & Waldfogel, pp. 264-282. (R)
3. J. J. Heckman & L. Lochner, “Rethinking Education and Training Policy: Understanding the Sources of Skill Formation in a Modern Economy.” In Danziger & Waldfogel, pp. 47-86. (R)

**Guest: TBA**

**#10–Mar. 11** **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:**

1. Grubb & Lazerson, chapters 8 & 9.
2. Goldin & Katz, chapters 8 & 9.

3. Washington Workforce Training & Education  
Coordinating Board documents [**Specifcs TBA**]

**Guest:**

**David Harrison, Chair, Washington Workforce Training and  
Education Coordinating Board and Evans School Senior Lecturer**

**Fri, Mar. 13- Term paper due to instructor by 5 PM! There will be a penalty for  
late papers.**