

2022 JET SET



**Teaching Economics with  
RBG: Relevance, Belonging,  
and Growth Mindset**

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# OUTLINE

1. Background
2. Relevance practices
3. Belonging practices
4. Growth Mindset practices
5. Questions and/or feedback

# Acknowledgments

1. St. Louis Fed Professors Conference
2. AEA's 2021 EDUCATE Workshop  
(Expanding Diversity in Undergraduate  
Classes with Advancements in (the)  
Teaching (of) Economics)



## Background

1. The term RBG in economics teaching was first coined by Amanda Bayer
2. Bayer *et al.* (2020): higher RBG → better performance and persistence in economics courses and major, especially for women and underrepresented minorities
  - [diversifyingecon.org](https://diversifyingecon.org)



## Definitions

- Relevance: when students find economics relevant and useful
- Belonging: when students experience a sense of belonging in the class or the discipline
- Growth mindset: when students believe that they can become good economists



# Relevance

# Relevance

**Goal: let students experience the usefulness of economics**



Some practices:

1. Fun, interactive lectures
  - Memes, resources from MRU, [econ.video](#), and more
  - “Choose your own example”
  - Data: FRED
2. Classroom experiments/games
3. Podcast presentation assignment

# Belonging

# Belonging

**Goal: make students feel they belong to the class community and the economics world**



Some practices:

1. Planning the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the class
  - [Opening survey](#)
2. A creative attendance policy
  - Use [random.org](#) to draw the names to be taken
  - Use the fun facts collected for attendance taking
3. Showing alumni/senior student success
4. Cooperative learning

# Growth mindset

# Growth mindset

**Goal: let students believe that there is a place for them in the economics world**



Some practices:

1. Tips: how to do well
2. After the first exam
3. Inviting outstanding senior students to share his/her research/project
4. Link teaching contents to job opportunities
  - Ex: Macro, Money & Banking

# Notes

Heart and care

- Ex: the instructor needs to have a growth mindset

Some golden timings

- First class
- After the first exam
- A long break
- Sometime after the semester ends



QUESTIONS?

COMMENTS?

**THANK YOU!**

