Wabash After Dark: Podcasts are the New Recitations
Teaching Intermediate Micro
Practice!

- How can we get modern undergraduates to practice?
  - Getting them up to the board is getting harder.
  - Active learning can only go so far.
  - Recitation?

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Modern content creators figured it out.

Three (?) video categories:

- Long form video (> ~5 minutes)
- Short form video (< ~3 minutes)

What do they have in common?

Editing!
A third category: Streaming.
- Podcast format is naturally longer.
- Regular schedule.
  - Weekday evening.
  - Recitation from their own room!
- Key difference: a Live broadcast!
  - Limited scripting or prep ahead of time.
  - Authenticity in the flaws.
- Record and post replays for asynchronous viewing.
Streaming

- **Benefits:**
  - Students spend time with you in a context where they are comfortable.
  - Regular intervals to reinforce skills.
  - Reruns.

- **Costs:**
  - About $200 in equipment.
  - 30 minutes of prep per week.
  - Extra hour of “teaching” per week.
This has culminated in my podcast, Wabash After Dark.

Wednesday evenings at 8:00 PM for Intermediate Micro on Twitch (When I teach it).

I bring three problems.

Open it up to questions afterward.

No homework questions allowed.

50-70% attendance each live session.
Wabash After Dark

- Extra session before each exam for all courses.
  - One or two evenings before the exam.
    - I bring nothing.
    - They can submit questions in advance and ask during the session.
      - I reserve the right to veto.
  - 70-90% attendance each live session.
## Wabash After Dark

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<tr>
<th>Video</th>
<th>Twitch Views</th>
<th>YouTube Views</th>
<th>Total Views</th>
<th>Percentage of Class</th>
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<td>11</td>
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Setting expectations are important, even for these streams.

- I want the environment to feel relaxed and welcoming.
  - I wear hoodies, bring cats, and talk about nothing to warm up the crowd.
  - I make mistakes (unintentionally) to reinforce learning from mistakes.
- I end by giving them reminders about upcoming assignments, exams, and campus events.
Wabash After Dark is entering its fourth year.

- Overwhelmingly the best rated item on my student evaluations.

- Do students perform better?
  - They say they do, but still need to test.

- Could easily expand to most other courses.
  - I tried expanding it to Econometrics with mixed results.
Setting Up

- Interested?
  - With equipment, it takes an hour to get set up.
    - I recommend either Twitch or YouTube for the stream.
    - I use OBS to manage the stream.
  - Without equipment, it can also be done via Zoom.
    - You can share the screen of your device while talking to your computer.
Thank You for Being Here!