Mar 10th, 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM

Student Attitudes and Performance in an Introductory College Economics Class

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Economic Knowledge

A. Concept knowledge weak at start of semester but improved by the end:

- prices as market signals
- shifting of the demand curve
- labor productivity
- GDP

B. Concept knowledge weak at start of semester and remained weak at end

- International trade

C. Concept knowledge strong at start of semester and even stronger at the end

- opportunity cost
- definition of microeconomics
- definition of the FED
- economic systems
- definition of a factor of production
- definition of money
- comparative advantage

D. Concept knowledge strong at the start of the semester, but no gain at the end

- minimum wage
- opportunity cost II
- substitute good
- monopoly
- real vs nominal income
- supply curve shift (4 student decrease!)