

Teaching of Microeconomics with Local Wisdom: How?

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Abstract. Microeconomic Learning in collage becomes course which complicates for some students in Indonesia. Low understanding of the microeconomic course makes student unhappiness with the course. Various methods have been conducted for making microeconomic learning to be more interesting for student but it is not easy to do. This research attempts to offer teaching method of microeconomics in collage with linking local wisdom in Indonesia to make student more interesting in microeconomic course. This research uses a literature review method with 24 articles of population published in International Journal, and the sample of this research is taken for purposive. Researchers choose 5 articles taken based on material discussing in the course, such as: price theory and market structure. The result based on the article referenced is the teaching of economics more interest and easily understood for student with linking the daily activity of student. The most important implication of the result is the student no more mistake for guessing demand curve, because it has been linked with the Indonesian culture which is shown when everyone asks a good with the right hand.

Keywords: Microeconomics; learning; Local Wisdom

1 Introduction

The course of microeconomics is a course which is believed taboo for almost all students in economic department. Many cases that make them are not like it. Based on acknowledgement of several students are obtained information that microeconomics is not liked because the theory is hard to be understood, the curve is plentiful, and it has figuring. Researches of economic learning have been conducted in the more country, such as research from [1] about cooking skill of teacher who is inserted in the planning lessons and based on the students' specific circumstances and context Swedish culture. The next research from [2] depicts how to teach economics to the adult students – most of them are women, immigrant, and they had not bachelor's degree, but the most feeling impact from mainstream economy and burden of economic policy and lack of the service provided in daily activity is them.

Offers the method to get transdisciplinary insight with focus on the key word in the language of economics [3]. The key word is an entrepreneurship which depicts strength and weakness from the perspective diversity and shows some opportunities which may increase his quality of interaction. Experiences for study in Program Excellence in Teaching (PET) in

University of Missouri-Columbia [4]. She applies five different statistic tests to show how to do interactive learning, where the students have an active role to develop new concept, more effective than traditional teaching, where students have a passive role to learn new material.

Offer the learning in the content-driven curriculum [5]. According to them, threshold concepts are a useful tool in guiding curriculum re-design. Examines the use of blended learning to teach economy to the student of property and construction to rise the involvement and prosperity of student [6]. The behavior-economics concept to assess what the dissemination system used to the hospital for spreading information about the safety incident can be rose [7]. Economic profession is needed to obtain the student perspective in the choice of department [8]. In their research, they examine the factors that influence the choice of department. Investigate various aspects which change in the economic teaching in Australia [9]. In this research, the researchers find predominant indicator from a good teaching such as, an effective communication, the clarity of course note, a good acoustics, focus ability in the theme of learning, personality, illustrate ability with sample identified by student and staff.

G.Raboy gives a sample of the alternative-learning approach which very aids for student [10]. The advantage is to rise an understanding of student about main discussion topic, higher interest in the material course, closer relationship with rill economy and rising critical thinking. A.Grogan investigates about microeconomics courses in Master in the agricultural-economy department [11]. In this research, he adds writing task and exercise application in the classroom which depicts collaboration project and application result in university of US and Peru. The result is the examination content affecting student perception and writing task.

Galarza Contreras & Johnson examine about the courses module which orientate international for middle microeconomics [12]. They describe a collaboration project and application result in the University of AS and Peru. The result shows that technology condition based on web gives many chances to student to collaborate effectively with their international friends. Different from A.López-Ospina, J.Martínez, & E.Cortés propose a model with catching a choice dynamics of housing location based on microeconomic-urban theory [13].

Roach, in his research, records the application “partially-flipped” for one term from microeconomic courses, and serves the result of the student perception to reverse learning [14]. He finds that the students have positive respond to reverse learning, and it is instructional design rewarding for student group. A.Kader explores student characteristic in the microeconomic class which he teaches for autumn term in 2013 [15]. The result shows that test anxiety has significant and negative influence toward student performance which is reflected from average score of microeconomics for the term.

W.Brown & H.Saks have conducted research using microeconomic-school theory and panel data very detailed about time allocation to check a learning-student curve to read and count [16]. Besides they check all factors affecting a student achievement, and investigate the teacher role in the allocating-time learning to the student, and another influence. Research of [17] proposes that microeconomic education theory is the same important as pedagogical instrument and educational psychology to determine a right behavior in the classroom and school. I. Dobrescu, Greiner, & Motta acquaint video performance designed for supporting learning of economic introduction [18]. Then, they examine of its effectiveness and compare with traditional text-book learning.

A workbook on demand and supply material has ever been developed in Indonesia by [19] and results a workbook which is not yet exanimated the effectiveness. The broader research about microeconomics with a price theory and market structure or about material in microeconomic introduction has ever been conducted by [18], [20], [21], [22], [23]. However, the research is not yet discussing about how to connect the Indonesian local wisdom material in

daily activity. Therefore, this research will discuss how to connect microeconomic learning with Indonesia's local wisdom so that students have easy perception for understanding.

2 Research Methods

This research methodology is literature review. The populations consist of 24 articles gotten in science direct page and emerald journal publisher. From the 24 article which is found, researchers choose sample with purposive, and are gotten 5 articles. The article chosen based on the need is an article discussing material about price theory and market structure.

3 Results and Discussion

From several materials, market structure and price theory, only three sub-materials are accounted on this research which is demand curve, externality, and equilibrium price. One of culture in Indonesia assumes that the best hand is the right hand. In Indonesia, when children on their childhood would like to ask some cookies or other foods, they should ask by the right hand. If the children used the left hand, they would not get what they desired. This circumstance is causing citizen in Indonesia used to apply the right hand for every activity (excluding left-handed people).

The local wisdom regarding on shall asking by the right hand establish a solution for microeconomic learning. This is conducted because when numerous students are asked to guess "whether the curve depicted is demand curve or supply curve", they point out the inverse. The curve pointed shall be the demand curve but the student guessing as supply curve and the otherwise. If this is attributed with the local wisdom, asking by the right hand, then the student easily divine "whether the curve showed is demand curve or supply curve" through aligning the curve and the right hand.

Next material is externality. Local wisdom of Indonesian is hawkers and seller food and beverage of angkringan (traditional-java coffee shop). If there is a railway station or bus station, then it will be their livelihood for the hawkers and angringan. This is the positive externality that can be easily understood by the student. In that place, we can see that there is positive externality between railway station or bus station and the hawkers and sellers' food and beverage of angkringan. Each other gives positive impact in the economy. To be clear, look at the picture:



Fig.1. Externality of Hawkers and Seller Food and Beverage of Angkringan around Yogyakarta Railway Station (Documentation of Researcher)

For more understanding, we invite the student to see environment of railway station or bus station in Indonesia. We can execute it with visiting in the bus station or railway station or watching on video. Another way, we can easily bring the situation with simulating life around the bus station or railway station. The simulation of microeconomic learning refers to the simulation conducted by [21]. Another way of simulation, we can organize to become a game conducted by [18] and we can try to experiment about it. Because hawker may be cannot meet except in Indonesia, we can compare with cobbler investigated by [20].

The last material is equilibrium price. Local wisdom of Indonesian can be conducted with the bargain habit when we do transaction in the tradition market. Seller will offer a higher price than the average, whereas the consumer will bargain exceedingly under the average price. Until the end of the bargaining, the two sides, seller or consumer, agree in the equilibrium point. For example, of the bargaining can be seen in the traditional market in Malioboro Street of Yogyakarta. Absolutely, there is a person who bargains with the sellers in the market. Because of the diverse price in there, every person who wants to buy will bargain up to get equilibrium price. Like this picture:



Fig.2. Bargaining Process in The Traditional Market in Malioboro Street of Yogyakarta
Source: Documentation of Researcher

Bargaining, basically, is happen because consumer wants to get lower price of good. It has ever been investigated by [23] who investigate in Ramadan (fasting month of Muslim). This case can trigger consumer desire in Indonesia to bargain price given by seller, but, most of them is female, housewife, such as in the [22] research.

4 Conclusion

The implication of this research is not yet all materials of market structure and price theory successfully attributed to local wisdom in Indonesia. Some of the material which has succeeded attributed is inflict of demand or supply curve with the local wisdom – asking with right hand. The next material is externality attributed to the cultural hawkers. The last material is equilibrium price with attributed to cultural bargaining in the traditional market. Next, researchers attribute all materials in the market structure and price theory with Indonesia's local wisdom and measure how many influences toward the student understanding or economic-literature student.

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