



5 Reasons Why the iOme Challenge Should Be in Your Syllabi

1. Numbers don't lie. Many students have insufficient knowledge about savings and retirement and are not well prepared for what faces them when they begin their careers. Let's change this and put our students on the path to success.
2. Engaging. We might like to think of ourselves as a "sage on the stage" but the models of teaching must include action research, problem-based learning, and the flipped classroom concept. It's no secret that students learn more when they take control of the project.
3. You may be thinking "Ok, that is all fine but I am teaching students in variety of majors." No problem! The iOme Challenge calls for a liberal-arts mind and input from students in a variety of disciplines. Past participants and winners have been Economics majors, Business students and students from Political Science, History, English, and Japanese Language Studies. All contributed to the final outcome and today have successful careers or are on to graduate studies. (The 2019 winners were engineering students!)
4. "Ok, but I'm not an economics professor." Well, you don't have to be if you want to have your students compete. iOme provides you with the tools and assistance to make the most out of the contest. Also, if economics isn't your thing you may consider team teaching or borrowing the talents from someone in other departments who might be an office down from you, or a floor away. A graduate teaching assistant can also be a faculty advisor and possibly win the financial award and a trip to DC!
5. "Alright, but my class is too big to work on projects like this." Having a class between five and ten students is pretty good, and enables you to spread a lot of responsibility around. When you have about 15-20 students you can still make it work, if you divide the class into teams. Make sure they all find a way to research, write and work on part of the presentation. With more than 3-4 students, you really need to start thinking about multiple teams, if you want to have all your students participate in a meaningful way.