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# Teaching in Action

*Faculty stories that inspire, inform, and deliver.*

## **MyLab Economics** Helps Diverse Learners at King's College London Succeed at Scale

Teaching economics across large cohorts is challenging at the best of times. At King's College London, Professor Denise Hawkes faced an additional layer of complexity: extreme diversity in student backgrounds. Her courses bring together students from mathematics, finance, languages, humanities, and study-abroad programmes from leading global institutions.

> **"I might have a maths-with-finance student sitting next to someone doing fashion design. Their strengths are completely different."**

Some students arrive confident with quantitative skills but struggle to apply economic theory. Others excel in critical thinking but lack mathematical confidence. With limited contact hours, addressing every learner's need in class wasn't realistic.  Denise needed a way to level the playing field for all learners, support them beyond the classroom, and improve engagement without increasing staff workload.

### Challenge

In a cohort where no two students share the same academic background, the risk of leaving learners behind is real.

### Solution

Embedded into lectures, tutorials, and assessment MyLab® Economics provides support beyond the classroom.

### Impact

Improved engagement, stronger confidence among lower attaining students, and significant time savings for staff.

Professor Denise Hawkes • King's College London • Principles & Intermediate Economics • 320 students

## The Pearson Solution

Drawing on her experience using MyLab at another institution, Denise proposed integrating MyLab Economics directly into the learning design at King's College not as an optional resource, but as a core component of how students would learn.

> **MyLab is absolutely fundamental to everything we're doing."**

Her approach was deliberate and multifaceted. MyLab Economics gave students flexibility in how they engaged with content: auto-graded practice questions with instant feedback, case studies and real-world news analysis, textbook readings, videos, and AI-supported study tools.

> **Some students read, some never read but practise constantly. MyLab gives them that choice."**

This approach allowed students to work at their own pace, revisit challenging topics, and build confidence outside live teaching.

With core practice happening in MyLab Economics, contact time transformed.

Lectures now focus on application, discussion, and engagement, rather than repetition.

Graduate Teaching Assistants benefited too, weekly question sets were selected directly in MyLab, tutorials could be adapted to each group's needs, and they spent more time supporting students and less time planning content.

> **It gave the GTAs certainty, but also flexibility. Different groups could focus on what they actually needed."**

Discover how MyLab Economics can support learners at scale.

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## The Impact

While multiple factors influence results, Denise observed clear benefits after introducing MyLab Economics to her courses.

Many students spent 20+ hours working in MyLab, repeatedly using practice tests to improve performance, and students came to the lecture better prepared and ready to interact. Most importantly, MyLab Economics helped support students who needed it most.

> **"I think MyLab has moved the bottom end of the distribution. We've had far fewer fails compared to previous years."**

## Educator Reflection

> **"Without MyLab, all you have is the lecture and a textbook. MyLab gives students real choice in how they learn."**

For Denise Hawkes, MyLab Economics doesn't replace great teaching, it makes it possible at scale.

With thoughtful integration, **MyLab Economics** helps institutions support diverse cohorts effectively, improve engagement at scale, reduce staff workload, and build student confidence and independence.



Empower students to

**Love Their Journey**