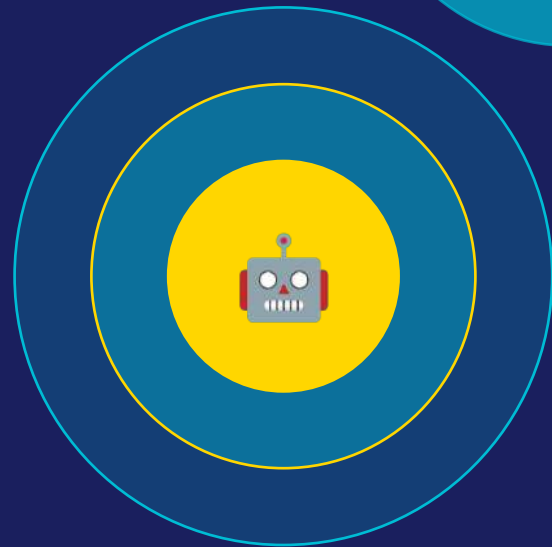


THE AI BUBBLE AND THE

Who's Flying Blind — And How Teachers Can Fix It



Who's Flying Blind?

Stanford's Erik Brynjolfsson: "We're kind of flying blind — not putting in place the infrastructure we need" to prepare workers for the AI economy.

- Workers using AI at jobs jumped from 30% → 46% in just 6 months (Dec 2024–Jul 2025).
- AI adoption is highest among younger, higher-educated workers — the very students in your classroom today.
- Stanford SIEPR Economic Summit (March 2026): AI growth = higher inequality without deliberate policy.

The question for your classroom:

Are your students learning to interrogate the AI economy — or just to feed it?

Is Economics Education Ready for the AI Bubble?

Jim Rickards (economist, former CIA advisor) published a new analysis in March 2026 drawing a detailed parallel between today's AI boom and the dotcom bubble. His core argument: investors — and educators — are concluding that the transformative nature of AI exempts it from ordinary economic rules. That conclusion was wrong in 1999. Teaching students to spot the pattern is the most valuable thing you can do this month.



CLASSROOM ACTIVITY: The Bubble Test

Give students a list of 5 AI companies and 5 dotcom-era companies. Task: identify the valuation metrics. Ask: which ones are priced on revenue vs. hope? What's the economic case — and what are the risks?

\$100B+

OpenAI's latest
funding round

38%

collapse in SaaS
revenue multiples
(Sep 2025 – Mar 2026)

46%

of US workers now
use AI on the job

3 Classroom Moves for March 2026

1 Audit the AI Economist

Ask students to query ChatGPT or Claude for economic analysis of a current event (e.g. tariff impacts). Then fact-check every claim, identify biases, and write a 'correction memo.' Based on the Bipartisan Policy Center's March 2026 report: students need AI literacy, not just AI access.

2 The Labour Market Shock Simulator

Fed Vice Chair Jefferson's speech (Nov 2025) showed AI adoption is a genuine labour market variable. Give students BLS data and ask: where do YOU see the slack? Which occupations are at risk in your community? Present findings as a policy brief.

3 Education vs. the Market — A Debate

NBER's March 2026 research: 'A fundamental reevaluation of education's role will be necessary.' Run a structured debate: should economics education prioritise employable skills or critical thinking? Have students argue both sides — then ask them which argument AI could make better.

Meme Economics: March Edition



When your IB teacher says 'you can't use AI' but the exam board uses AI to mark your work...



Enterprise SaaS companies: revenue multiples down 38% in 6 months. The AI hype cycle, explained.



"A world of incredible abundance should let us solve inequality." – Stanford economist. Still waiting.



THIS MONTH'S STUDENT CHALLENGE

Find ONE real company that you think is overvalued because of AI hype.

Write a 200-word economic case using:

- P/E ratios
- Revenue growth vs. valuation
- Historical bubble parallels

Share in class. Vote on the most convincing argument.



This Month's Must-Listen, Must-Read, Must-Watch



LISTEN

SIEPR Economic Summit 2026 Panel

Brynjolfsson, Jones, McEntarfer on AI & labour markets. Free on the Stanford SIEPR website. 60 minutes of the sharpest economic thinking available. → news.stanford.edu/stories/2026/03/ai-workplace-job-disruption



READ

NBER: Economics of Transformative AI

Daron Acemoglu's research summary on what happens if AI substitutes for — rather than complements — human labour. Essential for HL Economics. → nber.org/reporter/2024number4/economics-transformative-ai



EXPLORE

Bipartisan Policy Centre: Workforce Report

March 2026. Practical recommendations for K-12 and economics educators on preparing students for the AI economy. Downloadable and classroom-ready. → edweek.org — search 'Bold Changes AI-Fueled Disruption'

Also still worth your time: EconTalk Archive (econlib.org) • Economics Explained (YouTube) • Freakonomics Podcast (freakonomics.com)

March 2026 Reading List

AI & the Economy — March 2026

 Stanford SIEPR Summit panel on AI & labour:
news.stanford.edu/stories/2026/03/ai-workplace

 Apollo: 'The Balance Sheet Behind the AI Revolution' —
apollo.com/insights-news/insights/2026/03

 NBER: 'Economics of Transformative AI' —
nber.org/reporter/2024number4

Education Policy

 Bipartisan Policy Centre workforce report (Mar 2026): edweek.org — 'Bold Changes AI-Fueled Disruption'

 ESADE: 'AI and the Disruption of Higher Education':
dobetter.esade.edu/en/AI-disruption-education

 Microsoft AI Economy Institute research call: microsoft.com/en-us/research

Economics Pedagogy (always useful)

 CORE Econ — free modern textbook:
core-econ.org

 Marginal Revolution University — free videos: mru.org

 IB Economics resources: ibo.org

THANK YOU

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You are all rockstars! ★

Like • Comment • Share with colleagues — let's get a discussion going!

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