

Nucharat Bhumisirirat 2007: Rate of Return on Career Choice: A Case Study of Instructor Career in Higher Education Level. Master of Economics, Major Field: Economics, Department of Economics. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Chuchee Piputsitee, Ph.D. 149 pages.

The main objectives of this research were to study cost and benefit of civil service in higher education institutes, the rate of return on career, break even point, and sensitivity analysis. Sensitivity analysis in 3 cases are: cost to reduce 5 percent and benefit to increase 10 percent, cost to increase 10 percent and benefit to increase 5 percent, and cost to be constant and benefit to increase 20 percent.

The civil service in higher education level were selected as sampling. The secondary data were costs and benefits. The projects are assumed 24 types. The quantitative analysis method was adopted with the indicators at 6.2 percent discounts rate, namely, net present value (NPV), benefit-cost ratio (BCR), and internal rate of return (IRR).

The results of this study showed that rate of return on career was lower and not worthwhile for whom graduated from UK or USA due to higher cost of education. However, the rate of return on career was higher and worthwhile for whom graduated in Thailand as cost of education are lower. Actually, most civil service in higher education graduated from UK or USA. They can utilize modern knowledge and invention for teaching. Although the civil service in higher education earned lower rate of return on career, but they were quite important persons to society because instructors play a major role in country's prosperity. Besides, their career are socially acceptable which bring them honor and pride for themselves and family.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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