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## ANU TREVOR SWAN DISTINGUISHED LECTURES IN ECONOMICS

## Can 'No Excuse' Charter Schools Substantially Reduce Racial School Achievement Gaps?

Professor Joshua Angrist

Professor of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

## Thursday 15 April, 3.30-5pm

Weston Theatre, J.G. Crawford Building 132, ANU This lecture is free and open to the public.

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There are more than 3,000 Charter Schools throughout the US which operate with public funding but are largely autonomous. Charter Schools affiliated with the Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP) have a long school day of 10.5 hours and also operate on Saturday mornings. In addition to this, the schools have an extended school year, selected teaching hiring, strict student behaviour norms, and a focus on traditional reading and math skills.

There has been considerable debate as to whether Charter Schools and new programs such as KIPP substantially improve student academic performance. In this lecture, Professor Joshua Angrist will briefly review this literature and discuss research methodologies used to evaluate school outcomes. His work on KIPP suggests that special programs can produce substantial gains for disadvantaged minorities.

Joshua Angrist is Professor of Economics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is an influential econometrician and researcher on evaluation methods for policy interventions in education and social programs.



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