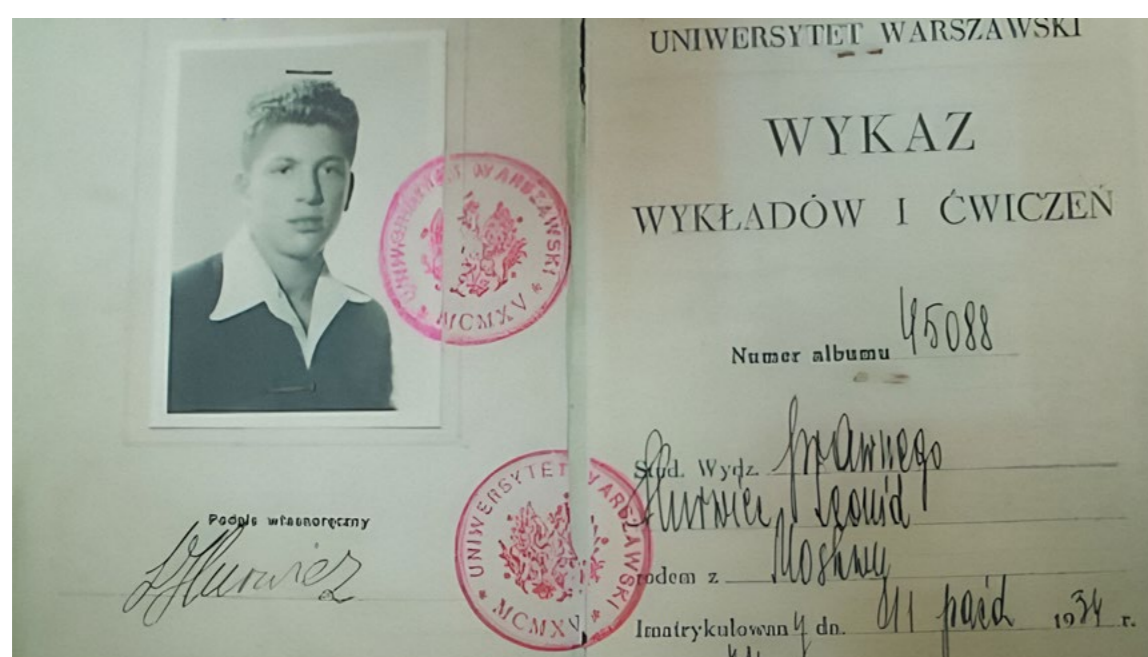


## Leonid Hurwicz | Class of 1940

Leonid Hurwicz, born into a Polish-Jewish family in 1917, emerged as a towering figure in the science of economics, leaving an indelible mark on the field. As a distinguished theorist, he pioneered frameworks and concepts that remain foundational in Economics, including Mechanism Design Theory, Incentive Compatibility, and Game Theory. His seminal work earned him the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2007, recognising his profound contributions to the field. Hurwicz's journey from refugee to esteemed scholar exemplifies resilience and determination, overcoming adversity to become a visionary whose influence resonates across the fields of Economics, Social Sciences, and Political Science.



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From a Polish-Jewish background, he fled Poland in his early twenties, evading the shadow of Hitler's regime during World War II. Hurwicz is pictured here on his student identification from the University of Warsaw, 1934.



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Hurwicz held several teaching positions before arriving at the University of Minnesota in 1951, where he ultimately attained the status of professor emeritus.



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Hurwicz received the Nobel Prize in 2007 for having laid the foundations of mechanism design theory. At the age of 90, he was the oldest person to receive the Nobel Prize in any category.

