
Harvard University
Economics 2330: History and Human Capital
Spring 2013 Monday and Wednesday 10:00 to 11:30am, Littauer M-15
Professor Claudia Goldin CGOLDIN@HARVARD.EDU
Professor Lawrence F. Katz LKATZ@HARVARD.EDU

Reading List and Course Outline

Introduction

This course concerns human capital and its relationship to economic growth and distribution in historical context.

The wealth of a nation is no longer the value of its physical capital and land. Rather, the wealth of a nation today is its human capital. That fact is evident in modern growth accounting and the size of the residual. Significant income growth occurred historically, first because of increased trade, then due to the accumulation of physical capital, and most recently because of greater amounts of human capital.

But what exactly is human capital and how does that amorphous mass impact economic growth? In what manner does the role of human capital depend on the institutions of the labor market and whether workers are free, contract labor, tenants, serfs, or slave? Why does economic growth per capita not get eroded away by population growth, in a classic Malthusian fashion? Why have societies greatly limited their birth rates, even when utilizing pre-modern contraceptive technologies? How does health, a critical input to human capital, impact economic growth and vice versa? Human capital is often produced in school based settings, and education is generally provided by the “state.” What has been the history of formal education, and why is the government almost always involved?

The course then turns to aspects of distribution and group differences. Differences in income, education, and mobility by race in the United States can be traced historically to slavery. But how much can be attributed to slavery, and what accounts for the narrowing since the 1940s? Gender differences in economic outcomes and education have also narrowed substantially over time, although some remain and are large. What portion of the remaining gaps is due to aspects of marriage, family, children, and home production, and how much to the labor market? Economic inequality in the U.S. and elsewhere rose greatly in the 1980s, but fell for much of the early part of the twentieth century. We explore the reasons for these disparate trends and why the very top of the income distribution expanded so greatly. We end with intergenerational mobility, the role of geographic mobility especially long-distance emigrations, and aspects of the American economy and society that have made it exceptional.

The course is organized as both lecture and class discussion, with two classes per week. Almost all readings are linked on this list and also available on the readings page of the website or through JSTOR.

Course Requirements

The requirements are: (a) read assigned materials before class; (b) write a research paper (see Research Paper on-line); and (c) pass a final examination. Final exam questions (4) will be circulated at the end of the semester and a subset (2) will be chosen for the exam. The final exam will be scheduled to avoid conflict with economics and other comprehensive exams. Those with end-of-year comprehensive exams will be given extended deadlines on the research paper (see “Research Paper” on-line).

Course Outline

Symbols: • = required reading; ° = browse, may be discussed or referenced in class.

A. Human Capital and Economic Growth

History and Human Capital: An Introduction

- ° Schultz, Theodore W. "[Investment in Human Capital](#)," *AER* 51 (March 1961), pp. 1-17.

Jan. 28, 30, Feb. 4 1. How Does Human Capital Affect Economic Performance?

In the basic economic growth model, human capital is a private investment, like physical capital. In more sophisticated models knowledge has multiplier effects through technological change and the diffusion of technology. What is the state of ideas, theory, and measurement? Why is the residual in growth accounting so large?

- a) Theory: Basic Solow model and beyond
- Mankiw, G., D. Romer, and D. Weil. "[A Contribution to the Empirics of Economic Growth](#)," *QJE* 107 (May 1992), pp. 407-38.
- Romer, P. "[Why, Indeed, in America? Theory, History, and the Origins of Modern Economic Growth](#)," *AER* 86 (May 1996), pp. 202-06.
- ° Jones, C. and P. Romer. "[The New Kaldor Facts: Ideas, Institutions, Population, and Human Capital](#)," *AEJ: Macro* 2 (Jan. 2010), pp. 224-45.
- b) Fertility and growth: Escaping Malthus with human capital accumulation
- Galor, O. and D. Weil. "[Population, Technology, and Growth: From the Malthusian Regime to the Demographic Transition](#)," *AER* 90 (Sept. 2000), pp. 806-28.
- Galor, O. "[The Demographic Transition: Causes and Consequences](#)," *Cliometrica* 6 (Jan. 2012), pp. 1-28.
- Ashraf, Q. and O. Galor, "[Dynamics and Stagnation in the Malthusian Epoch](#)," *AER* 101 (Aug. 2011), pp. 2003-41.
- Clark, G. *A Farewell to Alms: A Brief Economic History of the World* (Princeton Press), 2007. [Chaps. 3, 4 are good background material for Galor and Weil]
- c) Causal relationships between education and growth: Measurement
- Goldin, C. and L. Katz. *RBET*, [chap. 1](#).
- Krueger, A. and M. Lindahl. "[Education for Growth: Why and for Whom?](#)" *JEL* 39 (Dec. 2001), pp. 1101-136.
- Easterlin, R. "[Why Isn't the Whole World Developed?](#)" *JEH* 51 (Mar. 1981), pp. 1-19.
- ° Clark, G. "[Why Isn't the Whole World Developed? Lessons from the Cotton Mills](#)," *JEH* 47 (March 1987), pp. 141-73.
- Hall, R. and C. Jones. "[Why Do Some Countries Produce So Much More Output per Worker than Others?](#)" *QJE* 114 (Feb. 1999), pp. 83-116.
- ° Hanushek, E. and L. Woessmann. "[The Role of Cognitive Skills in Economic Development](#)," *JEL* 46 (Sept. 2008), pp. 607-68.
- Becker, S., E. Hornig, and L. Woessmann, "[Education and Catch-Up in the Industrial Revolution](#)," *AEJ: Macroeconomics* 3 (July 2011), pp. 92-126.
- Jones, C. "[Sources of U.S. Growth in a World of Ideas](#)," *AER* 92 (Mar. 2002), pp. 220-39.
- Bils, M. and P. Klenow. "[Does Schooling Cause Growth?](#)" *AER* 90 (Oct. 2000), pp. 1160-83.
- Lange, F. and R. Topel. "[The Social Value of Education and Human Capital](#)." In E. Hanushek and F. Welch, eds., *The Handbook of Education Economics*, vol. 1 (Elsevier 2006).
- Caselli, F. and J. Coleman. "[The U.S. Structural Transformation and Regional Convergence: A Reinterpretation](#)," *JPE* 109 (June 2001), pp. 584-616.
- Nelson, R. and N. Phelps. "[Investment in Humans, Technological Diffusion, and Economic Growth](#)," *AER* 56 (May 1966), pp. 69-75.
- Welch, F. "[Education in Production](#)," *JPE* 78 (Feb. 1970), pp. 35-59.

- Jones, B. "[The Human Capital Stock: A Generalized Approach](#)." NBER Working Paper no. 17487 (Oct. 2011).
- Hsieh, C. and P. Klenow. "[Development Accounting](#)," *AEJ: Macro* 2 (Jan. 2010), pp. 207-23.
- Hsieh, C., E. Hurst, C. Jones, and P. Klenow. "[The Allocation of Talent and Economic Growth](#)." NBER WP no. 18693 (Jan. 2013).

Feb. 6 **2. Labor Markets, Endogenous Institutions, and Human Capital Investment**

Labor market institutions differ greatly in how amenable they are to human capital investments, and under some (e.g., slavery) investments are severely restricted. What accounts for these investment inefficiencies? Are labor market institutions endogenous with respect to initial endowments and colonial settlement?

a) Role of endogenous institutions in human capital investment

- Sokoloff, K.L. and S.L. Engerman. "[History Lessons: Institutions, Factor Endowments, and Paths of Development in the New World](#)," *JEP* 14 (Sum. 2000), pp. 217-32.
- Acemoglu, D., S. Johnson and J. Robinson. "[Reversal of Fortune: Geography and Institutions in the Making of the Modern World Income Distribution](#)," *QJE* 117 (Nov. 2002), pp. 1231-94.
- Goldin, C. "[Labor Markets in the Twentieth Century](#)." In *CEHUS*, vol. III (Cambridge, 2000), pp. 549-623

Engerman, S.L. and K.L. Sokoloff, [Economic Development in the Americas since 1500: Endowments and Institutions](#) (Chicago, 2012). [Note: Link is for chapter outline only.]

Margo, R. [Race and Education in the American South](#) (Chicago, 1990), esp. chaps. 1, 2, 5, 8.

Bowles, S. and H. Gintis. *Schooling in Capitalistic America* (Basic Books, 1976), chaps. 6, 7.

b) Invention of free labor

Engerman, S. "[Coerced and Free Labor: Property Rights and the Development of the Labor Force](#)," *EEH* 29 (Jan. 1992), pp. 1-29.

Galenson, D. "[The Rise and Fall of Indentured Servitude in the Americas: An Economic Analysis](#)," *JEP* 44 (Mar. 1984), pp. 1-26.

Hornbeck, R. and S. Naidu. "[When the Levee Breaks: Labor Mobility and Economic Development in the American South](#)." NBER WP no.18296 (August 2012).

Naidu, S. and N. Yuchtman. "[Coercive Contract Enforcement: Law and the Labor Market in 19th Century Industrial Britain](#)," *AER* (Apr. 2012).

Feb. 11, **3. Population and Fertility**

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Population increase can limit intensive economic growth. Why do certain groups limit population growth by reducing fertility? What accounts for the extremely high initial fertility in the U.S., its long-run decline, and the "cycles" of the latter 20th century?

a) Demographic transitions

- Haines, M. "[The Population of the United States, 1790-1920](#)." In *CEHUS*, vol. II. Cambridge Press (2000), pp. 143-205.
- Lee, R. "[The Demographic Transition: Three Centuries of Fundamental Change](#)," *JEP* 17 (Aut. 2003), pp. 167-90.
- Guinnane, Timothy W. "[The Historical Fertility Transition: A Guide for Economists](#)," *JEL* 49 (2011), pp. 589-614.

b) Explaining fertility decline

- Steckel, R. "[The Fertility Transition in the United States](#)." In C. Goldin and H. Rockoff, eds., *Strategic Factors* (Chicago, 1992), pp. 351-74
- Becker, G. "[An Economic Analysis of Fertility](#)." In *Demographic and Economic Change in Developed Countries*, (Princeton Press for NBER, 1960).
- Murphy, K., C. Simon and R. Tamura. "[Fertility Decline, Baby Boom and Economic Growth](#)." MPRA Working Paper (March 2008).

- Preston, S. and C. Hartnett. "[The Future of American Fertility](#)." NBER Working Paper no. 14498 (Nov. 2008)
- c) Baby booms and baby busts
- Greenwood, J. and A. Seshadri. "[The U.S. Demographic Transition](#)," *AER P&P* (2002), pp. 153-59.
 - Easterlin, R. "[Twentieth Century American Population Growth](#)." In *CEHUS*, vol. III, pp. 505-48.
 - Greenwood, J., A. Seshadri and G. Vandenbrouke. "[The Baby Boom and Baby Bust: Some Macroeconomics for Population Economics](#)," *AER* 97 (Mar. 2005), pp. 183-207.
- Lahey, Joanna. "[Birthing a Nation: The Effects of Fertility Control Access on the Nineteenth Century Demographic Transition](#)." NBER Working Paper no. 18717 (Jan. 2013).
- Jones, Larry E. and Michele Tertilt. "[An Economic History of Fertility in the U.S: 1826-1960](#)." NBER Working Paper no. 12796. (Dec. 2006).
- Bailey, M. "[Mama's Got the Pill: How Anthony Comstock and *Griswold v. CT* Shaped U.S. Childbearing](#)," *AER* 100 (March 2010), pp. 98-129.
- Olivetti, C. and S. Albanesi. "[Maternal Health and the Baby Boom](#)." NBER Working Paper no. 16146 (July 2010).
- Olivetti, C. and S. Albanesi. "[Gender Roles and Medical Progress](#)." NBER Working Paper no. 14873 (Apr. 2009).
- Bailey, M. and W. Collins. "[Did Improvement in Household Technology Cause the Baby Boom? Evidence from Electrification, Appliance Diffusion, and the Amish](#)," *AEJ: Macroeconomics* 3 (Apr. 2011), pp. 189-217.

Feb. 20, 25, 27, Mar. 4 (Feb. 18 is a holiday)

4. Health: Long-term Change and Impact on Productivity

Good health increases income; but greater income, in turn, raises the level of wellbeing, particularly when adequate nutrition is of critical importance. What do we know about the direction of causality? When did mortality and morbidity decrease? What have been the roles of personal nutrition, medical knowledge, environment factors, and public interventions on health and longevity?

a) Health and economic growth: Direction of causality

- Fogel, R. "[Economic Growth, Population Theory, and Physiology: The Bearing of Long Term Processes on the Making of Economic Policy](#)," *AER* 84 (June 1994), pp. 369-95.
 - Weil, D. "[Accounting for the Effect of Health on Economic Growth](#)," *QJE* 122 (Aug. 2007), pp. 1265-306.
 - Acemoglu, D. and S. Johnson. "[Disease and Development: The Effect of Life Expectancy on Economic Growth](#)," *JPE* 115 (Dec. 2007), pp. 925-85.
 - Fogel, R. "[Nutrition and the Decline in Mortality since 1700: Some Preliminary Findings](#)." In S. Engerman and R. Gallman, eds. *Long Term Factors in American Economic Growth* (Chicago, 1986), pp. 439-555.
- Floud, R., R. Fogel, B. Harris, and S.C. Hong. [The Changing Body](#) (Cambridge, 2011). [Note: Link is for chapter outline only.]
- Bleakley, H. "[Disease and Development: Comments on Acemoglu and Johnson](#)." (July 2006).
- Acemoglu, D., S. Johnson and J. Robinson. "[The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development](#)," *AER* 91 (Dec. 2001), pp. 1369-1401.
- Bleakley, H. "[Health, Human Capital, and Development](#)," *ARE* 2 (2010), pp. 283-310.
- Ashraf, Q., A. Lester, and D. Weil. "[When Does Improving Health Raise GDP?](#)" *NBER Macroeconomics Annual* 23 (2008), pp. 157-204.
- Jones, C. "[Life and Growth](#)." NBER Working Paper no. 17904 (May 2011).
- Madsen, J. "[Health, Human Capital Formation and Knowledge Production: Two Centuries of International Evidence](#)." NBER Working Paper no. 18461 (Oct. 2012).
- b) Long-term trends: Mortality and morbidity
- Pope, C. "[Adult Mortality in America before 1900](#)." In C. Goldin and H. Rockoff, eds., *Strategic Factors* (Chicago, 1992), pp. 267-96.



- Cutler, D., A. Deaton and A. Lleras-Muney. "[The Determinants of Mortality](#)," *JEP* 20 (2006), pp. 97-120.
- Jayachandran, S., A. Lleras-Muney and K. Smith. "[Modern Medicine and the Twentieth Century Decline in Mortality: New Evidence on the Impact of Sulfa Drugs](#)," *AEJ: Applied* 2 (Apr. 2010), pp. 118-46.
- c) Long-term impacts of early childhood environment
- Almond, D. "[Is the 1918 Influenza Pandemic Over? Long-term Effects of In Utero Influenza Exposure in the Post-1940 U.S. Population](#)," *JPE* 114 (Aug. 2006), pp. 672-712.
- Almond, D. and J. Currie. "[Human Capital Development before Age Five](#)," NBER Working Paper no. 15827 (Mar. 2010).
- Almond, D. and J. Currie. "[Killing Me Softly: The Fetal Origins Hypothesis](#)," *JEP* 25 (Sum. 2011), pp. 153-72.
- d) Role of public interventions
- Cutler, D. and G. Miller. "[The Role of Public Health Improvements in Health Advances: The Twentieth-Century United States](#)," *Demography* 42 (Feb. 2005), pp. 1-22.
- Bleakley, H. "[Disease and Development: Evidence from Hookworm Eradication in the American South](#)," *QJE* 122 (Feb. 2007), pp. 73-117.
- Bleakley, H. "[Malaria Eradication in the Americas: A Retrospective Analysis of Childhood Exposure](#)," *AEJ: Applied* 2 (Apr. 2010), pp. 1-45.
- Dupas, P. "[Health Behavior in Developing Countries](#)," *ARE* 3 (2011).

Mar. 6, 11, 13 **5. Education and Training**

The "brawn" economy eventually became the "brain" or knowledge economy, and the returns to formal, general education increased relative to those for informal, specific training. The impact of these transitions on the world's people has depended greatly on the role of the state. But what role has it had?

- a) Rise of formal education: The three transformations of American education
- Goldin, C. and L. Katz. *RBET*, [chaps. 4, 5, 6, 7](#)
- Goldin, C. and L. Katz. "[The Shaping of Higher Education: The Formative Years in the United States, 1890 to 1940](#)," *JEP* (Winter 1999), pp. 37-62.
- Hoxby, C. "[The Changing Selectivity of American Colleges](#)," *JEP* 23 (Fall 2009), pp. 95-118.
- b) Role of the state
- Goldin, C. and L. Katz. "[Mass Education and the State: The Role of State Compulsion in the High School Movement](#)." In D. Costa and N. Lamoreaux, eds., *Understanding Long Run Economic Growth* (Chicago, 2011), pp. 275-311.
- Becker, G. and K. Murphy. "[Family and the State](#)," *JLE* 31 (Apr. 1988), pp. 1-18.
- Hoxby, C. "[Are Efficiency and Equity in School Finance Substitutes or Complements?](#)" *JEP* 10 (Autumn 1996), 51-72.
- c) Education and Earnings: The Mincerian Human Capital Earnings Function and Beyond
- Card, D. "[The Causal Effect of Education on Earnings](#)." In O. Ashenfelter and D. Card, eds., *Handbook of Labor Economics*, vol. 3A (Elsevier, 1999).
- Card, D. and A. Krueger. "[Does School Quality Matter? Returns to Education and Characteristics of Public Schools in the United States](#)" *JPE*, 100 (Feb. 1992), pp. 1-40.
- Mincer, J. *Schooling, Experience, and Earnings* (Columbia Press for NBER, 1974), pp. 7-22.
- Spence, A.M. "[Job Market Signaling](#)," *QJE* 87 (Aug. 1973), pp. 355-74.
- Angrist, J. and A. Krueger. "[Does Compulsory School Attendance Affect Schooling and Earnings?](#)" *QJE* 116 (Nov. 1991), pp. 979-1014.
- Buckles, K. and D. Hungerman. "[Season of Birth and Later Outcomes: Old Question, New Answers](#)," Notre Dame Working Paper (Aug. 2010).
- Oreopoulos, P. and K. Salvanes. "[Priceless: The Nonpecuniary Benefits of Schooling](#)," *JEP* 25 (Winter 2011), pp. 159-84.

Chetty, R., J. Friedman, N. Hilger, D. Schanzenbach, E. Saez, and D. Yagan. "[How Does Your Kindergarten Classroom Affect Your Earnings? Evidence from Project STAR](#)," *QJE* 126 (Nov. 2011), pp. 1593-660.

Mar. 18,  *Spring Break*  *No Class*
20

B. Distribution and Group Differences

Mar. 25, **1. Inequality of Wages and Income**

27, Apr. Wage inequality in the U.S. rose greatly since the 1980s, but fell in the early part of the 20th
1 century. What accounts for these conflicting trends? Why has the very top of the income distribution expanded even more than the lower 99%? And what can we say about the rest of economic history – is the Kuznets Curve (the inverted U) dead?

a) Wage inequality trends and the premium to education

- Goldin, C. and L. Katz. *RBET*, chaps. [2](#), [3](#), [8](#).
 - Goldin, C. and R. Margo. "[The Great Compression: The U.S. Wage Structure at Mid-Century](#)," *QJE* 107 (Feb. 1992), pp. 1-34.
 - Goldin, C. and L. Katz. "[Long-Run Changes in the Wage Structure: Narrowing, Widening, Polarizing](#)," *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, no. 2 (2007), pp. 135-65.
 - Kopczuk, W., E. Saez, and J. Song. "[Earnings Inequality and Mobility in the United States: Evidence from Social Security Data since 1937](#)," *QJE* 125 (Feb. 2010), pp. 91-128.
 - Carneiro, P. and S. Lee. "[Trends in Quality-Adjusted Skill Premia in the United States, 1960-2000](#)," *AER* 101 (October 2011), pp. 2309-49.
 - Acemoglu, D. and D. Autor. "[What Does Human Capital Do? A Review of Goldin and Katz's *The Race between Education and Technology*](#)," *JEL* 50 (June 2012), pp. 426-63.
- b) Technology and human capital
- Acemoglu, D. "[Technical Change, Inequality and the Labor Market](#)," *JEL* 40 (Mar. 2002), pp. 7-72.
 - Autor, D., L. Katz and M. Kearney. "[The Polarization of the U.S. Labor Market](#)," *AER* 96 (May 2006), pp. 189-94.
 - Autor, D., L. Katz and M. Kearney. "[Trends in U.S. Wage Inequality: Revising the Revisionists](#)," *RESTAT* 90 (May 2008), pp. 300-23.
 - Acemoglu, D. and D. Autor. "[Skills, Tasks, and Technologies: Implications for Employment and Earnings](#)," *Handbook of Labor Economics*, vol. 4, 2010.
 - Galor, O. and O. Moav. "[Ability-Biased Technological Change, Wage Inequality, and Economic Growth](#)," *QJE* 115 (May 2000), pp. 469-98.
 - Katz, L. and R. Margo. "[Technical Change and the Relative Demand for Skilled Labor: The United States in Historical Perspective](#)," Harvard University (January 2013).

c) Top income groups

- Piketty, T. and E. Saez. "[Income Inequality in the United States](#)," *QJE* 118 (Feb. 2003), pp. 1-39.
- Atkinson, T., T. Piketty, and E. Saez. "[Top Incomes in the Long-Run of History](#)," *JEL* 49 (March 2011), pp. 3-71.
- Philippon, T. and A. Reshef. "[Wages and Human Capital in the U.S. Financial Industry: 1909-2006](#)," *QJE* 127 (Nov. 2012), pp. 1551-1609.

Apr. 3, **2. Gender and the Family**

8 The most significant labor force changes for most nations are those involving the emergence of women into the market sector. When did that occur historically and what were the driving forces? What are the interrelationships among market work, education, marriage, and family?

a) Long-run evolution of the female labor force and relative earnings

- Goldin, C. “[The ‘Quiet Revolution’ That Transformed Women’s Employment, Education, and Family](#),” *AER* (Ely Lecture) 96 (May 2006), pp. 1-21.
- Goldin, C. *Understanding the Gender Gap: An Economic History of American Women* (Oxford, 1990), chaps. [2](#), [5](#).
- Blau, F. and L. Kahn. “[Gender Differences in Pay](#),” *JEP* 14 (Autumn 2000), pp. 75-99.
- Blau, F. and L. Kahn. “[Understanding International Differences in the Gender Pay Gap](#),” *JOLE* 21 (Jan. 2003), pp. 106-44.
- Olivetti C. and B. Petrongolo. “[Unequal Pay or Unequal Employment? A Cross-Country Analysis of Gender Gaps](#),” *JOLE* 26 (Oct. 2008), pp. 621-54.
- Mulligan, C. and Y. Rubinstein. “[Selection, Investment, and Women’s Relative Wages over Time](#),” *QJE* 123 (Aug. 2008), pp. 1061-110.
- Fernandez, R., A., Fogli and C. Olivetti. “[Mothers and Sons: Preference Formation and Female Labor Force Dynamics](#),” *QJE* 119 (Nov. 2004), pp. 1249-299.
- Goldin, C. “[Monitoring Costs and Occupational Segregation by Sex: An Historical Analysis](#),” *Journal of Labor Economics* 4 (Jan. 1986), pp. 1-27.
- b) Family matters over the long-run: Marriage, divorce, household work, and kids
- Stevenson, B. and J. Wolfers. “[Marriage and Divorce: Changes and Their Driving Forces](#),” *JEP* 21 (Spr. 2007), pp. 27-52
- Goldin, C. and L. Katz. “[The Power of the Pill: Oral Contraceptives and Women’s Career and Marriage Decisions](#),” *JPE* 110 (Aug. 2002), pp. 730-70.
- Feyrer, F., B. Sacerdote and A. Stern. “[Will the Stork Return to Europe and Japan? Understanding Fertility within Developed Countries](#),” *JEP* 22 (Sum. 2008), pp. 3-22.
- c) Women and human capital: Old and new “gender gaps” in education and earnings
- Goldin, C., L. Katz and I. Kuziemko. “[The Homecoming of American College Women: The Reversal of the College Gender Gap](#),” *JEP* 20 (Fall 2006), pp. 133-56.
- Goldin, C. and L. Katz. “[Putting the ‘Co’ in Education: Timing, Reasons, and Consequences of College Coeducation from 1835 to the Present](#),” *JHC* 4 (Winter 2011), pp. 377-417.
- Bertrand, M, Goldin, C. and L. Katz. “[The Dynamics of the Gender Gap in Earnings for Young Professionals in the Financial and Corporate Sectors](#),” *AEJ: Applied* 2 (July 2010), pp. 228-55.
- Bertrand, M. “[New Perspectives on Gender](#),” *Handbook of Labor Economics*, vol. 4B (2011), pp. 1543-90.

Apr. 10, 15, 17 **3. Race and Human Capital**

Had black slavery never existed in the U.S., it is likely that race would not loom as large as it does in the American psyche and that racial differences in income, occupations, education, and mobility would be far smaller. What has been the role of slavery and the U.S. South in economic differences by race and what led to the narrowing from the 1940s to the present?

- a) Slavery and the South
- Fogel, R. *Without Consent or Contract* (Norton, 1989), chaps. [1](#), [2](#), [3](#) (° [4](#), [5](#), [6](#))
- Engerman, S. “[Slavery and its Consequences for the South in the Nineteenth Century](#).” In *CEHUS*, vol. II (Cambridge, 2000), pp. 329-66.
- Myrdal, G. *An American Dilemma* (1944), pp. 205-29, 279-303.
- Wright, G. “[The Economic Revolution in the American South](#),” *JEP* 1 (Sum. 1987), pp. 161-178.
- b) Economic narrowing in the twentieth century: Roles of education and legislation
- Smith, J. and F. Welch. “[Black Economic Progress after Myrdal](#),” *JEL* 27 (June 1989), pp. 519-61.
- Donohue, J. and J. Heckman. “[Continuous vs. Episodic Change: The Impact of Civil Rights Policy on the Economic Status of Blacks](#),” *JEL* 29 (Dec. 1991), pp. 1603-43.
- Card, D. and A. Krueger. “[School Quality and Black-White Relative Earnings: A Direct Assessment](#),” *QJE* 107 (Feb. 1992), pp. 151-200.
- Donohue, J., J. Heckman and P. Todd. “[The Schooling of Southern Blacks: The Roles of Legal Activism and Private Philanthropy, 1910-1960](#),” *QJE* 117 (Feb. 2002), pp. 225-68.

- Aaronson, D. and B. Mazumder. "[The Impact of Rosenwald Schools on Black Achievement](#)," *JPE* 119 (Oct. 2011), pp. 821-88.
- Guryan, J. "[Desegregation and Black Dropout Rates](#)," *AER* 94 (Sept. 2004), pp. 919-43.
- Heckman, J. and B. Paynor. "[Determining the Impact of Federal Anti-discrimination Policy on the Economic Status of Blacks: A Study of South Carolina](#)," *AER* 79 (March 1989), pp. 138-77.
- Chay, K. "[The Impact of Federal Civil Rights Policy on Black Economic Progress: Evidence from the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972](#)," *ILRR* (July 1998), pp. 608-32.
- Leonard, J. "[The Impact of Affirmative Action Legislation and Equal Employment Law on Black Employment](#)," *JEP* 4 (Fall 1990), pp. 47-64.
- c) Sources of Racial Wage Differences
- Altonji, J. and R. Blank. "[Race and Gender in the Labor Market](#)." In O. Ashenfelter and D. Card, eds., *Handbook of Labor Economics*, vol. 3C (Elsevier 1999), pp. 3143-259.
 - Charles, K. and J. Guryan. "[Prejudice and Wages: An Empirical Assessment of Becker's *The Economics of Discrimination*](#)," *JPE* 116 (Oct 2008), pp. 773-809.
 - Neal, D. and W. Johnson. "[The Role of Pre-Market Factors in Black-White Wage Differences](#)," *JPE* 104 (Oct. 1996), pp. 869-95.
 - Bertrand, M. and S. Mullainathan. "[Are Emily and Greg More Employable than Lakisha and Jamal? A Field Experiment in Labor Market Discrimination](#)," *AER* 94 (Sept. 2004), pp. 991-1013.
- d) Persistent differences
- Cutler, D., E. Glaeser and J. Vigdor. "[The Rise and Decline of the American Ghetto](#)," *JPE* (June 1999), pp. 455-507.
 - Collins, W. and R. Margo. "[The Labor Market Effects of the 1960s Riots](#)," *Brookings-Wharton Papers on Urban Affairs, 2004*. (Brookings 2004), pp. 1-34.
 - Fryer, R. "[Racial Inequality in the 21st Century: The Declining Significance of Discrimination](#)." NBER Working Paper no. 16256 (Aug. 2010).
 - Boustan, L. "[Was Postwar Suburbanization 'White Flight'? Evidence from Black Migration](#)," *QJE* 125 (Feb. 2010), pp. 417-43.

Apr. 24, **4. Mobility: Intergenerational and Geographic**

29, May
1 Long ago, America was accurately described as the "best poor man's country." It was also depicted as the best for the children of those at the bottom. But how true is that today? And was it actually true in the past? What have been the roles of internal migration, emigration, and immigration in economic mobility? What are the best ways of measuring intergenerational mobility today and for the past, when the data are not as good?

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Abbreviations:

AER = *American Economic Review (P&P = Papers and Proceedings)*
AEJ = *American Economic Journal (Applied, Policy, Macro)*
ARE = *Annual Review of Economics*
CEHUS = S. Engerman and R. Gallman (eds.), *Cambridge Economic History of the U.S.*, vols. II, III
EEH = *Explorations in Economic History*
EJ = *Economic Journal*
ILRR = *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*
JEEA = *Journal of the European Economic Association*
JEH = *Journal of Economic History*
JEL = *Journal of Economic Literature*
JEP = *Journal of Economic Perspectives*
JHC = *Journal of Human Capital*
JHR = *Journal of Human Resources*
JOLE = *Journal of Labor Economics*
JPE = *Journal of Political Economy*
RBET = C. Goldin and L. Katz, *Race between Education and Technology* (Belknap Press 2008)
REStat = *Review of Economics and Statistics*
QJE = *Quarterly Journal of Economics*