

**Reading List**  
**Gary S. Becker**  
**Economics 343**  
**Spring 2004**  
**Human Capital and the Economy**

\* **Recommended, not required.**

**1. Human Capital, and Intergenerational Mobility**

Becker, G.S., *Treatise on the Family*, Supplement to Chapter VII

Solon, Gary, "Intergenerational Income Mobility in the United States", *American Economic Review*, 1992.

Mulligan, Casey, *Parental Priorities and Economic Inequality*, 1997, Chapters 2-3, 5-8.

\* Doepke, Mathias, "Fertility, Income Distribution, and Growth", unpublished PhD dissertation, Chicago, 2000, Chapters 1-7.

Becker, G.S., *Human Capital, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*: "Addendum: Education and the Distribution of Income", pp 102-131.

**2. Investment in Schooling and Training**

Becker, G.S., *Human Capital*, 3rd ed (University of Chicago Press, 1993): Part 1

Willis, Robert, "Wage Determinant: A Survey and Reinterpretation of Human Capital Earnings Functions," in *Handbook of Labor Economics*, O. Ashenfelter and R. Layard (eds.), Amsterdam: North Holland, 1987.

\* Smith, Adam, *Wealth of Nations*, Book I, Chapter 3.

Card, David, "Earnings, Schooling, and Ability Revisited", *Research in Labor Economics*, (1995): 23-48.

Heckman, James, "Identifying the Role of Cognitive Ability in Explaining the Level Of and Changes in the Return to Schooling", NBER #7820, 2003.

**3. The New Economics of Mortality**

Murphy, K. and Topel, R., "The Economic Value of Medical Knowledge", pp 41-74, in *Measuring the Gains from Medical Research*, ed. by K.M. Murphy and Robert Topel, University of Chicago Press, 2003.

Nordhaus, W.D., "The Health of Nations: The Contribution of Improved Health to Living Standards," pp 9-41, in *Measuring the Gains from Medical Research*, ed. by K.M. Murphy and Robert Topel, University of Chicago Press, 2003.

Becker, G.S., Tomas Philipson, and Rodrigo Soares, "The Quantity and Quality of Life and the Evolution of World Inequality", Mimeo 2003, on website.

Acemoglu, Daron, "Market Size in Innovation: Theory and Evidence From the Pharmaceutical Industry",  
<http://economics.uchicago.edu/download/innovationmarketsizesep22.pdf>

Lichenberg, Frank, "Pharmaceutical Innovation, Mortality Reductions, and Economic Growth", pp 74-110, in *Measuring the Gains from Medical Research*, ed. by K.M. Murphy and Robert Topel, University of Chicago Press, 2003.

#### **4. Human Capital and Specialization**

Becker, G. S. and Murphy, Kevin M., "The Division of Labor, Coordination Costs and Knowledge" reprinted in *Human Capital* by Becker: Chapter XI

\* Murphy, Kevin, "Specialization and Human Capital," Ph.D. thesis, Department of Economics, University of Chicago, 1986

Rosen, S., "The Division of Labor and the Extent of the Market," *Journal of Labor Economics* (1983): 43-49.

Romer, P. "Growth Based on Increasing Returns Due to Specialization," *American Economic Review* 77 (February 1987): 56-62

#### **5. Growth, Population, and Human Capital**

Becker, G.S. *A Treatise on the Family*, expanded edition (Harvard, 1991), chapter 5, supplement to chapter 5

Kremer, M. "Population Growth and Technological Change: One Million B.C. to 1990," *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 108, 3 (August, 1993): 681-716

\* Jones, Chad, "Was an Industrial Revolution Inevitable? Economic Growth Over the Very Long Run", *Advances in Macroeconomics*, August 2001, Vol. 1, No. 2, Article 1.

Becker, G.S., Murphy, K. and Tamura, R. "Human Capital, Fertility and Economic Growth" reprinted in Becker, *Human Capital*, Third Edition (University of Chicago Press, 1993), Chapter XII

\* "World Population Prospects, The 2000 Revision", Volume III: Analytical Report, *United Nations*, New York, 2002

Cerda, Rodrigo, "Drugs, Population and Market Size", unpublished PhD dissertation, 2003, Chapters 2, 4.

Meltzer, D. "Mortality Decline, the Demographic Transition, and Economic Growth," dissertation, University of Chicago, December 1992, chapters 3 and 4.

Heckman, James, "China's Investment in Human capital, NBER, #9296, 2003.