

**Mini Ph.D. Course: Topics in Human Capital  
Goethe University Frankfurt  
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**Sessions**

- 12 December (2 hours)
- 13 December (2 hours)
- 16 December (5 hours)

**Description:**

In this course, we will review a number of papers on human capital. We will briefly review the background literature on human capital and its contribution to the income of countries, to then focus on assignment models and their implications for (a) income distribution and (b) the aggregate human capital of countries. A number of novel predictions and applications will be discussed.

**Course Material**

- I. **Assignment Models of Human Capital and Inequality**
  - a. Dvorkin, M., Monge-Naranjo, A., (2019) "*Occupation Mobility, Human Capital and the Aggregate Consequences of Task-Biased Innovations.*"
  - b. Hsieh, C., Hurst, E., Jones, C., and Klenow, P. (2019) "*The Allocation of Talent and U.S. Economic Growth*" *Econometrica*, 2019
  - c. Burstein, A., Morales, E. and Vogel, J. (2019) "*Changes in between-group inequality: computers, occupations, and international trade.*" *AEJ Macro*.
  - d. Costinot, A. and Vogel, J. (2010) "Matching and Inequality in the World Economy." *Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 118, no. 4.
  - e. Lagakos, D., Waugh, M. (2013). "Selection, Agriculture, and Cross-Country Productivity Differences." *American Economic Review*, 103 (2): 948-80.

**II. Other References on Aggregate Human Capital:**

- a. Allen, R. (2009) "Engels' pause: Technical change, capital accumulation, and inequality in the british industrial revolution" *Explorations in Economic History*, 2009.
- b. Lagakos, D., Moll, B., Porzio, T., Qian, N. and Schoellman, T. (2018) "Life-Cycle Wage Growth Across Countries," *Journal of Political Economy*, 2018
- c. Caselli, F. "Accounting for Cross-Country Income Differences." 2005. *Handbook of Economic Growth*, Volume 1A. Edited by Philippe Aghion and Steven N. Durlauf, 2005 Elsevier B.V.
- d. Robert E. Lucas Jr. "Human Capital and Growth." *American Economic Review* VOL. 105, No. 5, May 2015 (pp. 85-88)
- e. Jones, B. 2014. "The Human Capital Stock: A Generalized Approach." *American Economic Review*. 104(11)
- f. Caselli, F., and Ciccone, A. 2019. "The Human Capital Stock: A Generalized Approach: Comment." *American Economic Review*, 109 (3): 1155-74.