Econ 310 Labor Economics

Projects by Chapters

Chapter 1
Neoclassical School

Chapter 2
Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC: history, current, economic impact)
Comprehensive and critical review of book on poverty by Rebecca Blank: *It Takes a Nation*

Chapter 3
9/11 Tribute: Professor Leslie Whittington’s contributions to research in work/family issues
FMLA (outline legislation and discuss predicted and actual impacts on employment)
Child care subsidies for welfare/low income population under TANF

Chapter 4
Wage subsidy programs
NAFTA (outline legislation and discuss predicted and actual impacts on employment)

Chapter 5
Displaced workers (description, why, policies to fix)
Impact of internet on employment

Chapter 6
The market for baseball players: economics; historical context and current situation

Chapter 7
Head Start (as a human capital investment; motivation for federal funding; evidence of impact)
Intermittent work for women (how affects schooling and occupation choices; lifetime effects)
Chapter 8
Changing nature of pensions and implications for personal risk
Pros/Cons of privatizing social security (include current legislative outlook)

Chapter 9
Audit studies of discrimination (history, how used, findings)
Mommy Track (history of term, evidence, impact)
Glass ceiling (history of term, evidence, potential solutions)
Affirmative action (history, economic arguments, evidence on impact, current legal status)
Comparable worth (history, economic arguments pro/con; current status)

Chapter 10
Employee selection (1 of the 3 human resource management practices)
Compensation management (1 of the 3 human resource management practices)
Employee involvement programs (1 of the 3 human resource management practices)
Executive compensation (including CEOs)
Employee stock options as a form of compensation

Chapters 11/12
The future of unions (include some history too)
Detroit Free Press strike about a decade ago (why? result? now?)
Women and unions
African Americans and unions

Chapter 13
Racial differences in unemployment (evidence, over time, link to education, why?)
Unemployment in the 1990s (United States versus Germany: evidence; why? Future projections)