Assignments for 5/6: Economic Inequality = f(Education)

- **Read:** Florida, *Future of US Work Force in Creative Economy* (3 pages)
- **Read:** Levy, *Education & Inequality in Creative Age* (2 pages)
- **Read:** The Vicious Circle of Income Inequality (1 page)
- **Read:** James, *The College Wage Premium* (3 pages)
- **Read:** Krugman, *Graduates v. Oligarchs* (1.5 pages)
- **View:** Changing Education Paradigm (11:41 minutes)
- **Read:** Florida, *Crisis in Male Wages* (4 pages w/ graphs)

Journal Prompts:

- Consider the pieces by Florida and Levy. What are they claiming about education and creativity in the current global environment? What is the *right* education from each of their perspectives?
- Do you agree with either or both of them? Which argument do you find the most compelling?
- Do you think James agrees with them or does he have another idea about what the *right* education might be?
- After doing the reading in this section, what do you think is the *right* education for success?

Assignments for 5/8: Rethinking the Effects of Education on Inequality

- **Read:** Porter, *Rethinking the Rise of Inequality* (3.25 pages)
- **Read:** J. Bernstein, *Inequality's Roots: Beyond Technology* (1.5 pages)
- **Read:** J. Bernstein, *Why Labor's Share of Income is Falling* (2.25 pages)
- **Read:** Krugman, *Degrees & Dollars* (2 pages)
- **Read:** RJ Gordon, *Great Stagnation in Education* (3 pages)

Journal Prompts:

- Can you discern the major explanation or thinking on inequality that each of these short articles challenges?
- What is their counterargument or the major claims in each of these short articles.
- Identify at least one article/author that was referenced in each of the 5 articles that were due for today and explain how and why they used these references.

Assignments for Lecture 5/13: Economic Inequality = f(Technology)

- **Submit:** hard copy of *Annotating a Bibliography* beginning of class
- **Read:** The Economist, *Automatic Reaction*
- **Read:** Lewis, *Technology-Skills (and Gender)*
- **Read:** MacEwan, *Technology & Loss of Manufacturing Jobs*
- **Read:** Rising Inequality: Don't Blame the Robots (Executive Summary)

Journal Prompts:

- **Relate or Link** the technology articles together. Choose an idea or argument in each of the articles and demonstrate how it connects to one of the other articles.
- **Identify** the implicit (and subtle) counterargument presented in The Economist and MacEwan articles? What do they appear to be trying to disprove or counter?
- How might you **link** the technology arguments to Bernstein's cost-cutting strategy argument?
Assignments for Class 5/15: Economic Inequality/Mobility = f (Outsourcing & Technology)

- **Read:** Wessel (w/Levy), Outsourcing...
- **Read:** Zakaria, How to Restore the American Dream
- **Read:** Bernstein, Waking Up From the American Dream (3.5 pages)
- **Read:** Stiglitz, Inequality is a Choice

**Journal Prompts:**

- **Map out** Wessel and Levy's argument about how outsourcing increases inequality
- **Explain** how Wessel and Levy understand the connections between technology and outsourcing
- **How is** Zakaria's understanding of globalization more than just outsourcing

Assignments for 5/20 Lecture:

**Economic Inequality = f (Public Policy)**

- **Read:** Schmitt, Inequality as Policy
- **Read:** Levy and Termin, Inequality and Institutions (short version)
- **Read:** Collins, Visible Hand
- **View:** SF Fed Whither the Middle Class (26:24 minutes)

**Journal Prompts:**

- Schmitt argues that "The high and rising inequality in the United States is the direct result of a set of policies designed first and foremost to increase inequality."
  - Explain in your own words what Schmitt means by this claim. What policies?
  - Identify overlap between Schmitt and Collins? Schmitt and Valetta?
- Schmitt also argues that Inequality = f (power) sustained by politics, and implemented as policy
  - Explain in your own words what Schmitt means by this? How does he define power?
- Valetta introduces the "middle class squeeze" which sounds very much like pulling, hollowing and carving out, and the polarization hypothesis introduced by Autor in Automatic Reaction in the previous set of readings.
  - Working on your quantitative literacy, what do Valetta's P90/P50 & P50/P10 Ratios contribute (or not) to the polarization hypothesis?
  - Identify the overlap between Valetta and Levy