

# [Cites and Bytes]

The Information Newsletter for the Business & Economics Department

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Edited by David Brenner

## [NEW BOOKS]

**False Economy: A Surprising Economic History of the World** by Alan Beattie. "Beattie combines economic history, psychology and political analysis to identify the factors that predispose economies to sickness or health. The author takes a human interest style approach to such economic riddles as why Islamic nations stay mired in poverty (he argues that one reason might be the Qur'an's dictum against usury and interest-earning) and why Africa is dependent on exporting raw materials rather than commercial products." (Publishers Weekly) **330.9 B369**

**The Myth of the Rational Market: A History of Risk, Reward, and Delusion on Wall Street** by Justin Fox." Fox leads us on a chronological journey of modern economic theory, featuring the cast of scholars who constructed the 20th- and 21st-century financial landscape... A must-read for anyone interested in the markets, our economy or government, this dense but spellbinding work brings modern finance and economics to life."(Publishers Weekly) **330.1 F792**

**Portfolios of the Poor: How the World's Poor Live on \$2 a Day** by Daryl Collins, Jonathan Morduch, Stuart Rutherford, and Orlanda Ruthven. "Ten years ago, the authors of this unusual study began collecting detailed yearlong diaries in Bangladesh, India, and South Africa, with a focus on those living on less than two dollars a day per person. They found, to their surprise, that none of the families lived hand to mouth; even the poorest relied on complex combinations of financial strategies. While the authors do offer prescriptions for how to expand those options, it's their scrupulous attention to actual behavior that makes this book invaluable." (The New Yorker) **339.46 P8495**

**Shop Class as Soulcraft: An Inquiry Into the Value of Work** by Matthew B. Crawford. "A fascinating, important analysis of the value of hard work and manufacturing...Crawford makes real the experience of working with one's hands to make and fix things and the importance of skilled labor. His philosophical background is evident as he muses on how to live a pragmatic, concrete life in today's ever more abstract world and issues a clarion call for reviving trade and skill development classes in American preparatory schools. The result is inspired social criticism and deep personal exploration"(Library Journal) **331.015 C899**

**Spent: Sex, Evolution, and Consumer Behavior** by Geoffrey Miller. "We have a natural desire to look good in the eyes of others, and modern consumers persuade one another that they are healthy, clever, and popular by the goods and services they consume. This book concerns where we are today in this complicated world, which Miller calls consumerist capitalism, and where we go in the future."(Booklist) **339.4 M648**



LOS ANGELES  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

## [SOCIAL SECURITY AND PENSIONS]

<http://www.ssa.gov/> The website for the Social Security Administration in Baltimore, Maryland.

[http://www.aarp.org/money/social\\_security/http://www.aarp.org/money/social\\_security/](http://www.aarp.org/money/social_security/http://www.aarp.org/money/social_security/) The AARP Social Security site has a benefits calculator.

<http://www.issa.int/> The website for the International Social Security Association.

[http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/social\\_security](http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/social_security)

<http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/pension>

An introduction to Social Security and Pension law from the Cornell University Law School.

<http://www.pbqc.gov/> The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation is an independent government agency which insures pensions.

<http://www.econlib.org/library/Enc/Pensions.html> This article on pensions is from the Concise Encyclopedia of Economics.

## [JOB HUNTING GUIDE]

### Los Angeles Public Library's Job Hunting Guide

This guide lists more than 200 employment-related Web sites and resources, offers referrals to assistance available in-person and by telephone, and highlights selected online and print resources available from the library. The guide is designed for first-time job seekers, the unemployed, job seekers making career transitions, and employers with job opportunities.

The guide is divided into five chapters and provides valuable information about:

Part 1: [Coping with Unemployment, Financial and Health Care Issues](#)

Part 2: [Where to Look for Jobs](#)

Part 3: [Exploring Career Opportunities, Education and Training](#)

Part 4: [Researching Potential Employers](#)

Part 5: [Interviewing, Resumes, Cover Letters, Exams, Dress for Success, etc.](#)

[http://www.lapl.org/resources/guides/job\\_hunting/index.html](http://www.lapl.org/resources/guides/job_hunting/index.html)

