

DONALD COX

Curriculum vitae

Office address:

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Current/Past Positions:

Professor, Department of Economics, Boston College, 1995-present
Department Chair, 2012-2015
Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2021-
Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Boston College, 1987-1995
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Washington University, 1981-1987
Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, 1980-1981

Education:

Ph.D. Economics, Brown University, 1980
Thesis title: *The Effects of Career Interruptions on the Earnings of Women: A Longitudinal Study*
B.S. Economics, Boston College, 1975

Research Interests:

Economics of the Family, Evolutionary Economics, Economic Development

Honors and Awards:

National Fellowship, Hoover Institute, 1984-85
National Science Foundation Grant, 1986-89
National Institutes of Health Grants, 1989-91, 1996-2000, 2003-08

Professional Activities:

Consultant, World Bank, 1986-2000
Social Sciences and Population Study Section, National Institutes of Health, 1997-2004
Columnist, EconLib website, 2001-2006
College of CSR Reviewers, Center for Scientific Review, NIH, 2010-present
Coeditor, Economics, Economics as an Evolutionary Science section (EconEvoSci), 2021-

Publications:

- “Insights into Social Life Using Evolutionary Basics and Econ 101” forthcoming, *Journal of Legal Economics*, 2024.
- “Paternal Provisioning Results from Ecological Change” (with Ingela Alger, Paul L. Hooper, Jonathan Stieglitz, and Hillard S. Kaplan), May 2020. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117 (20): 10746-10754.
- “Evolution of the Family: Theory and Implications for Economics” (with Ingela Alger), November 2019. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Economics and Finance*.
- “Inheritance, Bequests and Labor Supply,” 2014. *IZA World of Labor*, 69.
- “The Evolution of Altruistic Preferences: Mothers versus Fathers” (with Ingela Alger), 2013. *Review of Economics of the Household*, 11 (3): 421-446.
- “Motives for Care that Adult Children Provide to Parents: Evidence from ‘Point Blank’ Survey Questions” (with Beth Soldo), 2013. *Journal of Comparative Family Studies*, 44 (4): 491-517.
- “Integrating Evolutionary and Social Science Approaches to the Family,” 2010. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 33 (1): 20-21.
- “Intergenerational Transfers,” 2009. In the *Encyclopedia of Life Course and Human Development*. M. E. Hughes, A. Pienta, and R. Crosnoe, eds. New York: Macmillan.
- “Extended Family and Kinship Networks: Economic Insights and Evolutionary Directions” (with Marcel Fafchamps), 2008. *Handbook of Development Economics: Volume 4*. T. P. Schultz and J. Strauss, eds. New York: Elsevier.
- “Intergenerational Caregiving and Exchange: Economic and Evolutionary Approaches,” 2008. In *Caring and Exchange Within and Across Generations*, A. Booth, A. C. Crouter, S. Bianchi, and J. A. Seltzer, eds. Washington, D.C.: Urban Institute Press: 81-125.
- “Biological Basics and Economics of the Family,” 2007. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21 (2): 91-108.
- “On the Demand for Grandchildren: Tied Transfers and the Demonstration Effect” (with Oded Stark), 2005. *Journal of Public Economics*, 89 (9-10): 1665-1697. Reprinted in *Handbook on the Economics of Happiness*, 2007. L. Bruni and P. L. Porta, eds., Cheltenham, U.K.: Edward Elgar Publishing.
- “How Responsive are Private Transfers to Income? Evidence from a Laissez-Faire Economy” (with Bruce Hansen and Emmanuel Jimenez), 2004. *Journal of Public Economics*, 88 (9-10): 2193-2219.
- “Intergenerational Linkages in Consumption Behavior” (with Serena Ng and Andreas Waldkirch), 2004. *Journal of Human Resources*, 39 (2): 355-381.

- “Private Interhousehold Transfers in Vietnam in the Early and Late 1990s,” 2004. In *Economic Growth, Poverty and Household Welfare in Vietnam*, P. Glewwe, N. Agrawal and D. Dollar, eds. Washington, DC: The World Bank.
- “Private Transfers within the Family: Mothers, Fathers, Sons and Daughters,” 2003. In *Death and Dollars: The Role of Gifts and Bequests in America*, A. Munnell and A. Sunden, eds. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press: 168-209.
- “Risk Sharing and Private Transfers: What About Urban Households?” (with Emmanuel Jimenez), 1998. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 46 (3): 621-37.
- “Motives for Private Transfers Over the Life-Cycle: An Analytical Framework and Evidence for Peru” (with Zekeriya Eser and Emmanuel Jimenez), 1998. *Journal of Development Economics*, 55 (1): 57-80.
- “Private Transfers in Vietnam” (with James Fetzer and Emmanuel Jimenez), 1998. In *Household Welfare and Vietnam’s Transition*, D. Dollar, P. Glewwe, and J. Litvack, eds. Washington, DC: The World Bank: 179-200.
- “Family Safety nets and Economic Transition: A Study of Worker Households in Poland” (with Emmanuel Jimenez and Wlodek Okrasa), 1997. *Review of Income and Wealth*, 43 (2): 191-209.
- “Family Safety Nets During Economic Transition: A Study of Inter-household Transfers in Russia” (with Zekeriya Eser and Emmanuel Jimenez), 1997. In *Poverty in Russia: Public Policy and Private Responses*, J. Klugman, ed. Washington, DC: The World Bank: 211-248.
- “Discussion of Davies’ ‘Explaining Intergenerational Transfers’,” 1996. In *Household and Family Economics*, P. Menchik, ed. Boston: Kluwer Academic Publishers: 83-90.
- “The Connection Between Public Transfers and Private Interfamily Transfers” (with George Jakubson), 1995. *Journal of Public Economics*, 57 (1): 129-167.
- “Erratum” (with Mark Rank), 1995. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 77 (3): 569.
- “Private Transfers and the Effectiveness of Public Income Redistribution in the Philippines” (with Emmanuel Jimenez), 1995. In *Public Spending and the Poor: Theory and Evidence*, D. van de Walle and K. Nead, eds. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press: 321-346.
- “The Effects of Borrowing Constraints on Consumer Liabilities” (with Tullio Jappelli), 1993. *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, 25 (2): 199-213.
- “Female Labor Force Participation and Earnings in Venezuela” (with George Psacharopoulos), 1992. In *Women’s Employment and Pay in Latin America*, G. Psacharopoulos and Z. Tzannatos, eds. The World Bank: Washington DC.

- “Inter-Vivos Transfers and Intergenerational Exchange” (with Mark Rank), 1992. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 74 (2): 305-314. To be reprinted in *The Economics of the Distribution of Wealth*, J. B. Davies, ed., Cheltenham, U.K.: Edward Elgar Publishing, Ltd.
- “Social Security and Private Transfers in Developing Countries: The Case of Peru” (with Emmanuel Jimenez), 1992. *World Bank Economic Review*, 6 (1): 155-169.
- “Selectivity Bias in Assessing Educational Outcomes,” 1992. *International Encyclopedia of Education*, T. Husen and T. N. Postlethwaite, eds. Oxford: Pergamon Press.
- “The Relative Effectiveness of Private and Public Schools: Evidence from Two Developing Countries” (with Emmanuel Jimenez), 1990. *Journal of Development Economics*, 34 (1-2): 99-121. Reprinted in *Market Approaches to Education: Vouchers and School Choice*, E. Cohn, ed. Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1997.
- “Credit Rationing and Private Transfers: Evidence from Survey Data” (with Tullio Jappelli), 1990. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 72 (3): 445-454.
- “Social Objectives Through Private Transfers: A Review” (with Emmanuel Jimenez), 1990. *World Bank Research Observer*, 5 (2): 205-218.
- “Intergenerational Transfers and Liquidity Constraints,” 1990. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 105 (1): 187-217.
- “Male-Female Wage Discrimination in Nineteenth-Century France” (with John Nye), 1989. *Journal of Economic History* 49 (4): 903-920.
- “Motives for Private Income Transfers,” 1987. *Journal of Political Economy* 95 (3): 508-546.
- “Warm Feelings and Cold Calculations: Economic Theories of Private Transfers” (with Robert Defina), 1986. *Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia Business Review*, (March/April): 15-22.
- “Interfamily Transfers and Income Redistribution” (with Fredric Raines), 1985. In *Horizontal Equity, Uncertainty and Economic Well-Being*, M. David and T. Smeeding, eds. Chicago: University of Chicago Press: 393-421.
- “Panel Estimates of the Effects of Career Interruptions on the Earnings of Women,” 1984. *Economic Inquiry*, 22 (3): 386-403.
- “Inequality in the Lifetime Earnings of Women,” 1982. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 64 (3): 501-504.
- “The Decline in Personal Saving,” 1981. *Federal Reserve Bank of New York Quarterly Review*, 6 (1): 25-32.
- “Workers Ineligible for Retirement Benefits” (with Lucy Mallan), 1978. *Social Security Bulletin* 41 (12): 3-11.

Work in progress:

- “Intergenerational Transfers and the Great Recession” (with Megan Way).
- “Who Does the Baby Look Like? Relationship Quality, Perceived Resemblance, and Paternal Solicitude.”
- “The Evolutionary Biology and Economics of Sexual Preferences and Infidelity.”

Grants and Awards:

- “Biological Basics and Intergenerational Transfers,” \$1.5 million, National Institutes of Health, 2003-2010.
- “Income from Household and Government Transfers,” part of a larger project, “Economic Growth and Household Welfare Policy Lessons from Vietnam,” funded by the World Bank, Spring, 2001.
- “A Study of Private Safety Nets in Developing Countries.” Research funded by the World Bank, Summer, 1997.
- “A Study of Private Safety Nets in Developing Countries.” Research funded by the World Bank, Summer, 1998. “The Demonstration Effect in Intergenerational Transfers.” National Institutes of Health, 1996-2000. (with Oded Stark).
- “Family Safety Nets and Economic Transition in Eastern Europe.” The National Council for Soviet and East European Research, 1995-96. (with Wlodek Okrasa).
- “Private Safety Nets and Poverty in Kyrgyzstan.” Research funded by the World Bank, Summer, 1994.
- “Private Transfers and Economic Transition: An Investigation of the Russian Longitudinal Monitoring Survey.” Research funded by the World Bank, Summer, 1994.
- “The Role and Magnitude of the Private Safety Net During Economic Transition: Private Inter-household Transfers in Vietnam.” Research funded by the World Bank, Summer, 1994.
- “Informal Networks and Economic Transition in the Eastern Bloc.” Research Grant, IRIS Research Program, University of Maryland, Summer, 1994, with Wlodek Okrasa.
- “Private Safety Nets and Poverty in Pakistan.” Research funded by the World Bank, with Zekeriya Eser, Summer, 1994.
- “Inter-Household Transfers in a Shortage Economy: The Case of Poland.” Research funded by the Research Committee of the World Bank, 1993, with Emmanuel Jimenez and Wlodek Okrasa.
- “Non-Market Transfers in Developing Countries.” Grant from Research Budget Support from the World Bank, 1991, with Emmanuel Jimenez and Oded Stark.

“An Empirical Study of Intergenerational-Transfer Motives.” National Institutes of Health Grant, 1989-1991.

“Intergenerational Transfer Behavior in Developing Countries.” World Bank Research Contract, 1989.

“The Connection Between Public Transfers and Private Interfamily Transfers.” University of Wisconsin Institute for Research on Poverty Small Grants Program, 1986.

“The Relative Effectiveness of Private and Public Schools: Evidence from Colombia and Tanzania.” World Bank Research Contract, 1986.

Washington University Summer Grant, 1986.

“A Study of Motives for Interfamily Transfers.” National Science Foundation Grant, 1986-1989.

Washington University Summer Grant, 1982.

Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant, Employment and Training Administration and Social Science Research Council, 1979.

Conferences and Presentations:

2023 Keynote address: Annual Meeting of the Academy of Economic and Financial Experts

2017 Toulouse Economics and Biology Workshop, The Evolution and Economics of the Family

2013 The World Bank, Toulouse School of Economics

2011 Population Association of America Meetings, Human Behavior and Evolution Society Annual Meetings, Gerontological Society of America Meetings, University of Chicago Population Research Center

2010 Human Behavior and Evolution Society Annual Meetings, Gerontological Society of America Meetings

2009 American Economic Association Meetings, Max Planck Institute, University of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana

2008 University of Chicago Center for Cognitive and Social Neuroscience, Boston College Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Seminar Series, University of California-Riverside, Gerontology Society of America Meetings, The World Bank

2007 University of Maryland, RAND Summer Institute, U. Mass-Boston, Carleton University, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Swarthmore College

2006 Population Association of America Meetings, Stonehill College, Penn State Symposium on Family Issues

- 2005 Grantee Workshop on Intergenerational Family Resource Allocation at the National Institutes of Health; Oregon State University; Northeastern University; University of Virginia; Handbook of Agricultural Economics Conference, Bellagio, Italy; Washington University in St. Louis; Department of Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University; Evolving Family Project, Cornell University; Workshop on Intergenerational Relations and Support, Cornell University
- 2004 Health and Retirement Study Research Conference on Older Families, University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2003 American Economic Association Meetings, University of Pennsylvania, University of Washington, Population Association of America Meetings