

On the uneven distribution of human know-how

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The author

Richard R. Nelson (born 1930 in New York City) is an American professor of economics at Columbia University.[1] He is one of the leading figures in the revival of evolutionary economics thanks to his seminal book *An Evolutionary Theory of Economic Change* (1982) written jointly with Sidney G. Winter.[2] He is also renowned for his work on industry, economic growth, the theory of the firm, and technical change.



Introduction

- What is human know how
- What is the research question
- What is the aim of the three parts of the work?

The nature of know-how

- Provide a list of the characteristics of human know how
- Define social and physical technologies and think about an example

Coevolution

- What does it mean that the advance in technology is an evolutionary process?
- What is the meaning of «what works and what does not, and what works better than what, must be learned through actual experience and actual competition»
- Know-how evolves as technology evolves; provide an example
- What are the characteristics of the rapidly evolving fields?
- What is the key for technological advancements

Achievements are unbalanced

- What determines advancements in knowledge?
- What are the implications of the author's argument?

Education

- What are the difficulties faced in this sector?
- Which kind of knowledge characterize this sector?
- What education, business management and economics have in common?

A conclusion

- What are the problems with advancing social technologies?
- What are the advantages of routinization?