

PubPol 736: POVERTY, INEQUALITY AND PUBLIC POLICY

Fall 2016

Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 – 11:30am, 1220 Weill Hall

Instructor: Prof. Natasha Pilkauskas
Office: 5219 Weill Hall
Email: npilkaus@umich.edu
Office hours: Tuesdays 1:00-3:00pm or by appointment. Sign up for a slot here: [Calendar](#)

Course Description

This is a course dedicated to an in-depth study of poverty and inequality in the United States. In particular, we will examine how poverty and inequality are measured, consider the underlying causes of poverty/inequality, consequences of poverty/inequality and then consider how our views of these causes shape public policy. We will examine theories of the culture of poverty, social stratification and discrimination, concentrated poverty and the underclass, economic and family structure drivers as well as institutional causes of poverty such as education and incarceration. We will also consider how special populations are particularly affected by poverty, such as children.

The aim of this course is for students to come away with an understanding of recent historical trends in terms of thinking about poverty and its causes and how that thinking influences policy making.

Course Design

There will usually be a short overview/lecture, but much of the class will be focused on discussion. Students will be expected to come to class prepared, having done the readings and to engage in class and small group discussions.

Expectations and Grading - *Detailed information on assignments provided separately. Note assignments/due dates differ for PhDs.*

Grades will be based on:

- Class participation/discussion questions – 20%
- Ethnography assignment – 30% - selection due 9/13, written assignment due 11/10, presentations 11/10 & 11/15
- Problem statement – 5% - due 9/27
- Policy description – 10% - due 10/11
- Policy analysis – 10% - due 11/1
- Final policy paper – 20% - due 12/13
- Policy debate – 5% - in class 12/6

General Academic Expectations:

<http://fordschool.umich.edu/academic/expectation>

Some Useful Policy Websites

American Enterprise Institute – <http://www.aei.org>

Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count – <http://www.kidscount.org/>

The Brookings Institute – www.brookings.edu

Center for American Progress – www.americanprogress.org

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities – www.cbpp.org

Census Bureau – <http://www.census.gov>

Children’s Defense Fund – www.childrensdefense.org

Center for Law and Social Policy – www.clasp.org

Center for Research on Child Wellbeing (Princeton) – <http://crcw.princeton.edu/>

Child Trends – www.childtrends.org

Future of Children – www.futureofchildren.org

The Green Book – <http://greenbook.waysandmeans.house.gov/>

Heritage Foundation – www.heritage.org

Institute for Research on Poverty – www.ssc.wisc.edu/irp

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development – www.oecd.org

Pew Charitable Trust – <http://www.pewtrusts.org>

Urban Institute – www.urban.org

U.S. Census Bureau (population info and poverty statistics) – www.census.gov

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: ACF: www.acf.hhs.gov ASPE: www.aspe.hhs.gov

Class Calendar and Readings

SECTION 1: DEFINITION, TRENDS, BACKGROUND

9/6/16 - Class 1: Introductions, syllabus, expectations and assignments. *Why do we care about poverty/inequality?*

9/8/16 - Class 2: History of poverty policy in the U.S., views of poverty and values, quick overview of policies

Required:

- Iceland J. *Poverty in America, a Handbook*. Chapt 1 "Early views of poverty in America" (1-11).
- Edin & Shaefer (2015). *\$2 a day – living on almost nothing in America*. Chapt 1 (1-33)
- Ellwood, David (1988). Chapt 2: Values and the helping conundrum. *In Poor Support: Poverty in the American Family*. Only through page 26 (stop at history 14-26).

Recommended:

- Corbett, Thomas (2013). "The rise and fall of poverty as a policy issue" *Focus* 30, 2.
- Edin, K. & Shaefer, L. (2016). "20 years since welfare "reform"". *The Atlantic* <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2016/08/20-years-welfare-reform/496730/>
- Ehrenfreund, M. (2016). "How welfare reform changed American poverty, in 9 charts". https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/08/22/the-enduring-legacy-of-welfare-reform-20-years-later/?wpisrc=nl_evening&wpmm=1

9/13/16 - Class 3: *Measuring poverty*

Required:

- Haveman, 2009. "What does it mean to be poor in a rich society?" (6pgs) <http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc262n.pdf>
- Johnson, D. & Smeeding, T.M. "A Consumer's Guide to Interpreting Various U.S. Poverty Measures." *Fast Focus*. No. 14-2012. Institute for Research on Poverty. (5pgs) <http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/fastfocus/pdfs/FF14-2012.pdf>

Recommended:

- Dhongde, S. & Haveman, R. (2016). "Multi-dimensional deprivation in the U.S." *Social Indicators Research*.

9/15/16 - Class 4: Trends and characteristics of poverty, working poor, chronic poverty

Required:

- Scan/look through Census poverty numbers: <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2015/demo/p60-252.pdf>
- Rank, M. (2013) Poverty in America is mainstream, NYTimes (3pages) <http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/11/02/poverty-in-america-is-mainstream/>

Recommended:

- Geography of poverty – USDA. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/rural-economy-population/rural-poverty-well-being/geography-of-poverty.aspx>
- Rural child poverty. <http://www.prb.org/Publications/Articles/2009/ruralchildpoverty.aspx>
- <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2015/09/16/the-typical-white-family-still-makes-25000-more-than-the-typical-black-one/>
- Child poverty. <http://www.tcf.org/work/rediscovering-government/detail/inequality-begins-at-birth-the-tragedy-of-child-poverty-in-america/>
- Conservative estimates of poverty. Winship, S. “Poverty after welfare reform”. Manhattan Institute. <https://www.manhattan-institute.org/html/poverty-after-welfare-reform.html>

9/20/16 - Class 5: Extreme poverty - \$2/day – **Guest lecturer Luke Shaefer**

Required:

- Edin & Shaefer (2015). *\$2 a day – living on almost nothing in America*. Chapt 5 (27pages)
- Shaefer & Edin (2014). The rise of extreme poverty in the United States. *Pathways*. (5 pages) http://web.stanford.edu/group/scspi/_media/pdf/pathways/summer_2014/Pathways_Summer_2014_ShaeferEdin.pdf

9/22/16 - Class 6: Measuring inequality (economic inequality vs opportunity) – **CLASS CANCELLED IF YOU CAN MAKE IT – COME ON 9/21 TO THE UNDERGRAD SECTION IN 1210 AT 2:30PM TO SEE GUEST LECTURER FABIAN PFEFFER. If you can't make it to that section, watch the video of the lecture to be posted online.**

Required:

- Desilver, D. (2013). The many ways to measure economic inequality. Pew Research Center. <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/09/22/the-many-ways-to-measure-economic-inequality/>
- Briker, J., Henriques, A., Krimmel, J. & Sabelhaus, J. (2016). Measuring income and wealth at the top using administrative and survey data. Brookings

papers on economic activity.

<http://www.brookings.edu/about/projects/bpea/papers/2016/bricker-et-al-income-wealth-top>

- Stone, C., Trisi, D., Sherman, A., & DeBot, B. (2015) A guide to statistics on historical trends in income inequality. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. <http://www.cbpp.org/research/poverty-and-inequality/a-guide-to-statistics-on-historical-trends-in-income-inequality>

Recommended:

- This issue is dedicated to inequality: <http://ann.sagepub.com/content/663/1.toc>

9/27/15 - Class 7: Trends in inequality (income and wealth) and intergenerational mobility

Required:

- Pew Charitable Trusts (2012). Pursuing the American Dream. http://www.pewtrusts.org/~media/legacy/uploadedfiles/pcs_assets/2012/pursuingamericandreampdf.pdf
- Reardon, S. & Bischoff, K. (2016). The continuing increase in income segregation 2007-2012. Stanford CEPA report. <https://cepa.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/the%20continuing%20increase%20in%20income%20segregation%20march2016.pdf>

Recommended:

- Holand, J. (2016) "The average black family would need 228 years to build the wealth of a white family today". The Nation. <https://www.thenation.com/article/the-average-black-family-would-need-228-years-to-build-the-wealth-of-a-white-family-today/>
- Edsall, T. (2016). How the other fifth lives. NYTimes. http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/27/opinion/campaign-stops/how-the-other-fifth-lives.html?_r=0
- Reeves, R. (2015). The dangerous separation of the American upper middle class. Brookings Social Mobility Memo. <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/social-mobility-memos/posts/2015/09/03-separation-upper-middle-class-reeves>
- Semuels, A. (2016). "Poor at 20, poor for life." *The Atlantic*. <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2016/07/social-mobility-america/491240/>

SECTION 2: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF POVERTY AND INEQUALITY AND LINKS TO POLICY

9/29/16 - Class 8: Culture of poverty / Flawed character / Class

Required:

- Lewis, O. (1964). "The culture of poverty". *Scientific American* (6pages)
- Patterson, O. (2006). "A poverty of the mind" NY Times (5 pages)
http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/26/opinion/a-poverty-of-the-mind.html?_r=0
- Tough, P. (2007). "The class-consciousness raiser" NY Times Magazine (9 pages) <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/06/10/magazine/10payne-t.html>
- Confessore, N. (2012). "Tramps like them" NY Times Sunday Book Review (4 pages) <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/12/books/review/charles-murray-examines-the-white-working-class-in-coming-apart.html>
- Wilcox, B. (2012). "Values inequality" The Wall Street Journal (3 pages)
<http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052970203806504577181750916067234>

Recommended:

- Cohen, P. (2010). "Culture of poverty makes a comeback" NY Times
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/18/us/18poverty.html>

10/4/16 - Class 9: Policies that address our flawed character – WORK FIRST! EITC, TANF, proposals on SNAP and housing. Consider argument that policies create poverty.

Required:

- Who the EITC helps (4pages) <http://www.tcf.org/blog/detail/who-the-eitc-helps-and-why-it-works>
- Bernstein, J. (2013) "Where have all the jobs gone?" NY Times (3pages)
<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/05/04/opinion/where-have-all-the-jobs-gone.html>
- Gunn, D. (2016) "Whose responsibility are the working poor?" (3pages)
<https://psmag.com/whose-responsibility-are-the-working-poor-34a342b62560#.gwmsaav92>
- Cooper, D. (2016). EPI Briefing Paper – Balancing paychecks and public assistance. **Just the introduction and key findings** (2pages)
<http://www.epi.org/files/2015/balancing-paychecks-and-public-assistance.pdf>

Recommended

- Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Intro to TANF
<http://www.cbpp.org/research/policy-basics-an-introduction-to-tanf>
- Overview of the EITC:
<http://www.tcf.org/blog/detail/the-eitcour-biggest-program-for-the-working-poor>

- Intro to SNAP: <http://www.cbpp.org/research/policy-basics-introduction-to-the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>
- Cassidy, M. (2015) "How can the EITC be improved?" <https://tcf.org/content/commentary/how-can-the-eitc-be-improved/>

10/6/16 - Class 10: Social Stratification: Race and Discrimination

Take the implicit bias test - do the one on race. You do not need to share your results but it is worth reflecting upon.

- <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

Required:

- Pager, D. & Shepherd, H. (2008) "The sociology of discrimination: racial discrimination in employment, housing, credit and consumer markets." *Annual Review of Sociology*, 34: 181-209. (19pages)
- Wilson, W.J. (2009). "More than Just Race: Being Black and Poor in the Inner City." Norton & Company, New York. **Chapter 1 – structural and cultural forces that contribute to racial inequality.** P 1-24.
- Sawhill, I. & Reeves, R. (2016). "The case for race conscious policies." (4pages) <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/social-mobility-memos/posts/2016/02/04-case-for-race-conscious-policies-sawhill-reeves>

Recommended:

- Blank, R. (2005). "Tracing the economic impact of cumulative disadvantage." *American Economic Review*, 95, 2.
- Leonard, J. (1990). "The impact of affirmative action regulation and equal employment law on black employment." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 4, 4.
- Pager, D. (2007). "The use of field experiments for studies of employment discrimination: Contributions, critiques, and directions for the future." *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 609(1), 104-133.
- Reeves, R. (2015). "Five bleak facts on black opportunity." Brookings. <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/social-mobility-memos/posts/2015/01/15-mlk-black-opportunity-reeves>

10/11/16 - Class 11: Concentration of poverty – Urban underclass, segregation, neighborhoods,

Required:

- Massey, D. & Denton, N. (1993) "American apartheid, segregation and the making of the underclass." In Grusky, & Szelenyi, *The Inequality Reader*. p. 170-181. (9 pages)

- Wilson, W.J. (1999). "Jobless poverty, a new form of social dislocation in the inner-city ghetto." In Grusky, & Szelenyi, *The Inequality Reader*. p. 159-169. (10 pages)
- Wilson, W.J. (2009). "More than Just Race: Being Black and Poor in the Inner City." Norton & Company, New York. **Chapter 2 – the forces shaping concentrated poverty** pp. 25-61.

Recommended

- Sharkey, P. (2009). "Neighborhoods and the Black-White mobility gap." http://www.pewtrusts.org/~media/legacy/uploadedfiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/reports/economic_mobility/pewsharkeyv12pdf.pdf
- Evidence of rising segregation in income – <http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2012/08/01/the-rise-of-residential-segregation-by-income/>
- Dukmasova, M. (2015). "Our impoverished debate about housing segregation." http://www.slate.com/articles/business/metropolis/2015/07/_concentrated_poverty_the_term_has_noble_intentions_but_it_s_damaging_our_single.html
- Badger, E. (2015). "The wealthy are walling themselves off in cities increasingly segregated by class." Washington Post Wonkblog. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2015/02/23/the-wealthy-are-walling-themselves-off-in-cities-increasingly-segregated-by-class/>
- Fry, R. (2012). "The rise of residential segregation by income." Pew Research Center, Social & Demographic Trends. <http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2012/08/01/the-rise-of-residential-segregation-by-income/>
- Sharkey, P. (2013) *Stuck in place, urban neighborhoods and the end of progress toward racial equality*. The University of Chicago Press.

10/13/16 - Class 12: Policies addressing concentration of poverty/neighborhoods

Required:

- DeLuca & Rosenbaum (2008). "Escaping poverty, can housing vouchers help?" *Pathways*. 29-32. (4pages) http://inequality.stanford.edu/_media/pdf/pathways/winter_2008/DeLucaRosenbaum.pdf
- Wolfers, J. (2015) "Why the new research on mobility matters: An economists view." NYtimes Upshot (5 pages)- On Raj Chetty & Nathaniel's Work on MTO: http://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/05/upshot/why-the-new-research-on-mobility-matters-an-economists-view.html?_r=0
- Chang, A. (2016). "Living in a poor neighborhood changes everything about your life" (28pages more like 10). <http://www.vox.com/2016/6/6/11852640/cartoon-poor-neighborhoods>

- Desmond (2016). "The eviction economy." NYTimes (5 pages)
<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/06/opinion/sunday/the-eviction-economy.html>
- Badger, E. (2016). "The basic reason why there just isn't enough decent housing for the poor" Washington Post Wonkblog (2 pages).
https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/07/26/the-basic-reason-why-there-just-isnt-enough-decent-housing-for-the-poor/?tid=sm_tw

Recommended:

- Ptacin, M. (2016). "Grocery store on wheels rolls into Kansas City's food deserts" <http://www.kansascity.com/living/food-drink/article88805117.html>

If you're not familiar with housing policies in the U.S.

- Intro to housing vouchers: <http://www.cbpp.org/research/introduction-to-the-housing-voucher-program>
- <http://www.cbpp.org/research/policy-basics-introduction-to-public-housing>

If you want to know more about the Chetty's work

- <http://www.equality-of-opportunity.org/index.php/executive-summaries>
- http://www.equality-of-opportunity.org/images/mto_paper.pdf

More on eviction.

- Desmond, M. (2016). Forced Out. The New Yorker.
<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2016/02/08/forced-out>

10/20/16 - Class 13: Economic drivers – work and wages

Required:

- Blank, R. (2009). "Economic change and the structure of opportunity for less-skilled workers" In Cancian and Danziger (Eds) *Changing Poverty, Changing Policies*. P 63-87.
- Autor, D. (2010). "The polarization of job opportunities in the U.S. labor market." **Introduction and Summary Only (1-7)**
<http://economics.mit.edu/files/5554>
- Furman, J. (2016) "Financial inclusion in the United States" (2 pages)
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/06/10/financial-inclusion-united-states>

Recommended:

- Uchitelle, L. (2006). "Retraining laid-off workers but for what? NYTimes
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/26/business/yourmoney/retraining-laidoff-workers-but-for-what.html>
- More detail on financial inclusion
https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/20160610_financial_inclusion_cea_issue_brief.pdf

10/25/16 - Class 14: Economic Policies – fix jobs, fix the labor market, labor laws – minimum wage, unions and work scheduling

Required:

- Should we raise the minimum wage? (7 pages)
<http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2013/12/should-we-raise-the-minimum-wage-11-questions-and-answers/282326/>
- Raising the minimum wage is a terrible idea (3pages):
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2013/06/22/a-15-minimum-wage-is-a-terrible-idea/> OR
<http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2013/12/04/making-low-wages-liveable/raising-minimum-wage-is-misguided-policy>
- Raising min wage is a good idea (1page):
- <http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2013/12/04/making-low-wages-liveable/raise-the-minimum-wage-to-12-an-hour>
- Unions are bad (2 pages):
http://townhall.com/columnists/johnhawkins/2011/03/08/5_reasons_unions_are_bad_for_america
- Unions are good (2 pages):
<http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2015/10/unions-are-basically-dead/412831/>
- LaLonde, R. (1995). "The promise of public sector-sponsored training programs" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 9, 2
<http://pubs.aeaweb.org/doi/pdfplus/10.1257/jep.9.2.149> (18 pages)

Recommended

- Dimon, J. (2016). Why we are giving our employees a raise.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/12/opinion/jamie-dimon-why-were-giving-our-employees-a-raise.html>
- Brady, D., Baker, R. & Finnigan, R. (2013). "When unionization disappears: State-level unionization and working poverty in the United States". *American Sociological Review*, 78, 5, 872-896.
- Union membership and intergenerational mobility:
http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/10/upshot/how-an-areas-union-membership-can-predict-childrens-advancement.html?emc=edit_tnt_20150909&nid=63431886&tntemail0=y&r=0

10/27/16 - Class 15: Family structure as a cause of poverty

Required:

- Moynihan Report (1965). "The negro family the case for national action." (50 pages)
<https://web.stanford.edu/~mrosenfe/Moynihan's%20The%20Negro%20Family.pdf>

- Ribar, D. (2015) "Why marriage matters for child wellbeing." *Future of Children*, 25, 2 p11-23.
<http://www.futureofchildren.org/publications/docs/WhyMarriageMatters.pdf>
- Edin, K. & Kefalas, M. (2005). "Unmarried with children", *Contexts*, 16-22.

Recommended:

- Adamy, J. (2016). "How income inequality is fueling the rise of unmarried parents". *The Wall Street Journal*.
<http://blogs.wsj.com/economics/2016/07/14/how-income-inequality-is-fueling-the-rise-of-unmarried-parents/>

11/1/16 - Class 16: Policy change/policy ideas when FS is the key driver (marriage promotion, childbearing/abstinence, child support and disconnected fathers, TANF)

Required:

- Coontz, S. (2002). "Marriage, Poverty and Public Policy", *The American Prospect*, <http://prospect.org/article/marriage-poverty-and-public-policy> (12 pages)
- Schneider, D. (2015). "Lessons Learned from Non-Marriage Experiments." *Future of Children*, 25, 2, 155-174.
<http://futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/publications/docs/lessonlearned.pdf>
- Haskins, R. (2015). The family is here to stay – or not. *Future of Children*, 25, 2, 129-154.
<http://www.futureofchildren.org/publications/docs/HeretoStay.pdf>

Recommended:

- Marriage and Child Wellbeing (2005). *Future of Children*
http://futureofchildren.org/publications/journals/journal_details/index.xml?journalid=37
- Marriage and Child Wellbeing Revisited (2015). *Future of Children*.
http://www.futureofchildren.org/publications/journals/journal_details/index.xml?journalid=84

11/3/16 - Class 17: Education

Required:

- Goldin, C. & Katz, L. "The future of inequality, the other reason education matters so much". (7 pages)
http://scholar.harvard.edu/files/goldin/files/the_future_of_inequality.pdf
- Bailey & Dynarski Changing inequality in college entry and completion. NBER working paper -<http://www.nber.org/papers/w17633.pdf>
- Porter, E. (2015). "The education gap between rich and poor is growing" (4 pages) NYTimes.

<http://nytimes.com/2015/09/23/business/economy/education-gap-between-rich-and-poor-is-growing-wider.html>

- Reardon, Waldfogel & Bassok. (2016). "The good news about education inequality" NY Times (2 pages)
<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/28/opinion/sunday/the-good-news-about-educational-inequality.html?smprod=nytcore-iphone&smid=nytcore-iphone-share&r=2>
- Dynarski, S. (2016) "Why American schools are even more unequal than we thought". NYTimes Upshot (2 pages)
- <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/14/upshot/why-american-schools-are-even-more-unequal-than-we-thought.html>

Recommended:

- Reardon, S. (2011). The widening academic achievement gap between the rich and the poor: new evidence and possible explanations. In Duncan, G & Murnane, R. (Eds) *Whither Opportunity* p 91-115.
- Strauss, R. (2013) "Schooling ourselves in an unequal America."
<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/06/16/schooling-ourselves-in-an-unequal-america/>
- Badger, E. (2015). "The one thing rich parents do for their kids that makes all the difference" Wonkblog Washington Post.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/05/10/the-incredible-impact-of-rich-parents-fighting-to-live-by-the-very-best-schools/>

11/8/16 - Class 18: Policy related to education change (early education, college enrollment, apprenticeships, two-generation models, resource gaps & improving schools, school segregation and choice).

Required:

- Magnuson, K. (2013) Reducing the effects of poverty through early childhood intervention. Fast Focus: (5 pages)
<http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/fastfocus/pdfs/FF17-2013.pdf>
- **Executive Summary** (2 pages). Yoshikawa, Weiland, Brooks-Gunn, Burchinal, Espinosa, Gormley, Ludwig, Magnuson, Phillips & Zaslow (2013). Investing in our future: The evidence base on preschool education. *Society for Research in Child Development & The Foundation for Child Development*.
- Leonhardt, D. (2010). "The case for \$320,000 kindergarten teachers." (4 pages) NYTimes
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/28/business/economy/28leonhardt.html>
- Duncan, Magnuson & Murnane (2016). "Reforming preschools and schools." (5 pages) *Academic Pediatrics*, 16
[http://www.academicpedsjnl.net/article/S1876-2859\(15\)00376-9/pdf](http://www.academicpedsjnl.net/article/S1876-2859(15)00376-9/pdf)

Recommended:

- Chase-Lansdale, L. and Brooks-Gunn, J. (2014). Two Generation Programs in the 21st Century. *Future of Children*, 24, 1

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/future_of_children/v024/24.1.chase-landsdale.html

- Murnane, R. (2007). "Improving the education of children living in poverty." <http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ795871.pdf>
- Balfanz, R. (2009). Can the American high school become an avenue for advancement for all? *The Future of Children*, 19, 1 17-36. https://muse.jhu.edu/journals/future_of_children/v019/19.1.balfanz.pdf
- Duncan, G. & Murnane, R. (2016). "Rising inequality in family incomes and children's educational outcomes" *Russell Sage Journal*. <http://www.rsjournal.org/doi/full/10.7758/RSF.2016.2.2.06>

SECTION 3: ETHNOGRAPHIES

11/10/16 - Class 19: In-Class Presentation of Ethnographies

11/15/16 - Class 20: In-Class Presentation of Ethnographies

SECTION 4: SPECIAL POPULATIONS/SPECIAL TOPICS

11/17/16 - Class 21: Special Topics: Children and Intergenerational Transmission

Required:

- An hereditary meritocracy. *The Economist* (6 pages) <http://www.economist.com/news/briefing/21640316-children-rich-and-powerful-are-increasingly-well-suited-earning-wealth-and-power>
- Smeeding, T. (2016) Gates, gaps and intergenerational mobility: the importance of an even start. In Kirsch, I. & Braun, H. (Eds). *The Dynamics of Opportunity in America* Educational Testing Service. (32 pages)
- Miller, C. (2015). "Class differences in child-rearing are on the rise" *NYTimes* Upshot (5 pages) <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/18/upshot/rich-children-and-poor-ones-are-raised-very-differently.html>

11/22/16 - Class 22: Special Topics: More on Children – other policies (shift work, nurse home visiting, parenting classes, paid parental leave, WIC)

Required:

- Children's Defense Fund. End child poverty now (about 40 pages more like 20) <http://www.childrensdefense.org/newsroom/mediaresources/ending-child-poverty-now.pdf>
- **Executive Summary Only.** Garfinkel, I, Harris, D., Waldfogel, J. & Wimer, C. (2016). Doing more for our Children, The Century Foundation. https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/production.tcf.org/app/uploads/2016/03/16013632/DoingMoreForOurChildren_Final.pdf

- Currie, J. (1997). "Choosing among alternative programs for poor children". *Future of Children*, 7, 2. (14 pages)
http://www.futureofchildren.org/publications/docs/07_02_06.pdf

Recommended:

- Whitehurst, G. (2016). "Family support or school readiness? Contrasting models of public spending on children's early care and learning. *Brookings Economic Studies*. <https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Family-support3.pdf>
- Non-Standard Work/Shifting schedules (4 pages):
<http://www.epi.org/files/pdf/88777.pdf>
- Benefits of Paid parental leave (4pages):
<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/01/upshot/the-economic-benefits-of-paid-parental-leave.html>
- WIC Works. Addressing the Nutrition and Health Needs of Low-Income Families for 40 years. <http://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/wic-works-addressing-the-nutrition-and-health-needs-of-low-income-families>
- Boo, K. (2006). Swamp Nurse – on nurse home visiting:
<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2006/02/06/swamp-nurse>
- Currie, J. (2016). "How can we reduce child poverty and support parental employment?" *Academic Pediatrics*, 16.
[http://www.academicpedsjnl.net/article/S1876-2859\(16\)00059-0/pdf](http://www.academicpedsjnl.net/article/S1876-2859(16)00059-0/pdf)
- Issue of Academic Pediatrics touching on child poverty
<http://www.academicpedsjnl.net/issue/S1876-2859%2816%29X0005-8>

11/29/16 - Class 23: Incarceration, effects on employment, families

Required:

- Western, B & Pettit, B. (2010). "Collateral costs: Incarceration's effect on economic mobility." (20 pages)
http://www.pewtrusts.org/~media/legacy/uploadedfiles/pcs_assets/2010/collateralcosts1pdf.pdf
- Pager, D. (2004). Mark of a criminal record. *Focus* (3 pages)
<http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc232i.pdf>
- Coates, Ta-Nehisi (2015). Read sections I-III but I recommend the whole thing. <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2015/10/the-black-family-in-the-age-of-mass-incarceration/403246/#Chapter%20IX>

Recommended:

- Western, B. (2001). Incarceration, Unemployment and Inequality, *Focus*, Spring 2001 32-36.
<http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc213.pdf>
- Western, B. (2008). Prisoner reentry
http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/papers/2008/12/prison-to-work-western/12_prison_to_work_western.pdf

- Boys with incarcerated fathers are screwed before they even get to school
<http://www.vox.com/2014/4/24/5647660/boys-incarcerated-fathers-school-behavior-prison-pipeline>

12/1/16 – *Class Cancelled*

12/6/16 - *Class 24: Politics of poverty and inequality* **In class debate!**

Required – read the articles relating to the side you’re on. If you want to understand more, and probably debate better, read the other sides too:

Right

- Rector, R. (2008). “Understanding and reducing poverty in America.” *Heritage Foundation*.
<http://www.heritage.org/research/testimony/understanding-and-reducing-poverty-in-america>
- Rector, R. & Sheffield R. (2011). “Understanding poverty in the United States: Surprising facts about America’s poor.” *Heritage Foundation*.
<http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2011/09/understanding-poverty-in-the-united-states-surprising-facts-about-americas-poor>
- Ryan, P. (2016). “A better way, our vision for a confident America”. Poverty, opportunity and upward mobility. Better.gop.
http://abetterway.speaker.gov/_assets/pdf/ABetterWay-Poverty-PolicyPaper.pdf

Middle

- Aber, Butler, Danziger, Ellwood, Gueron, Haidt, Haskins, Holzer, Hymowitz, Mead, Mincy, Reeves, Strain & Waldfogel, (2015). Opportunity, responsibility and security: a consensus plan for reducing poverty and restoring the American dream. AEI/ Brookings Working Group on Poverty and Opportunity.
<http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/reports/2015/12/aei-brookings-poverty-report/full-report.pdf>
- Haskins, R. (2016) “Renewing communities and providing opportunities through innovative solutions to poverty.” Brookings.
<http://www.brookings.edu/research/testimony/2016/06/22-renewing-communities-and-providing-opportunities-through-innovative-solutions-to-poverty-haskins>

Left

- Boteach, Vallas, & Schultz (2016). “A progressive agenda to cut poverty and expand opportunity.” Center for American Progress.
<https://cdn.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/03081022/RoadmapOpportunity-report.pdf>
- Greenstein, R. (2016). “Commentary: House GOP’s attention to poverty is welcome, but plan is seriously flawed”. Center on Budget and Policy

Priorities. <http://www.cbpp.org/poverty-and-inequality/commentary-house-gops-attention-to-poverty-is-welcome-but-plan-is-seriously>

Recommended:

- Porter, E. (2016). "Finding common political ground on poverty." NYTimes <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/03/business/finding-common-political-ground-on-poverty.html>

12/8/16 - Class 25 – War on poverty? Did it work?

Required:

- Lowrey, A. (2014). "50 years later, war on poverty is a mixed bag." NYTimes (4 pages) <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/05/business/50-years-later-war-on-poverty-is-a-mixed-bag.html>
- Boteach, Stegman, Baron, Ross & Wright (2014). "The war on poverty: Then and Now". Center for American Progress. (32 pages) <https://www.americanprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/PovertyAnniversary.pdf>

Recommended:

- Fox, L., Wimer, C., Garfinkel, I., Kaushal, N & Waldfogel, J.. "Waging war on poverty: Poverty trends using a historical supplemental poverty measure." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 34, no. 3 (2015): 567-592.

12/13/16 - Class 26: Wrap up – Health, Gender, Immigration

Take another implicit bias test – on gender. Again, you do not need to share your results but it is worth reflecting upon.

<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

Required:

- Irwin, N. & Bui, Q. (2016). "The rich live longer everywhere, for the poor, geography matters." (3 pages) <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/04/11/upshot/for-the-poor-geography-is-life-and-death.html>
- England, P. (2005). "Gender inequality in labor markets: the role of motherhood and segregation." *Social Politics*, 12 (16 pages) <http://sp.oxfordjournals.org/content/12/2/264.full.pdf+html>
- Peri, G. "Immigrant workers, native poverty and labor market competition." Policy Brief Vol 1, 3, Center for Poverty Research, UC Davis (2 pages) http://poverty.ucdavis.edu/sites/main/files/file-attachments/policy_brief_peri_immigration_0.pdf

Recommended:

- Case A. & Paxson, C. (2006). "Children's health in the United States" *Future of Children*

- [https://www.princeton.edu/~accase/downloads/Children's Health and Social Mobility.pdf](https://www.princeton.edu/~accase/downloads/Children's_Health_and_Social_Mobility.pdf)
- Ruffing, K. & Pavetti, L. (2012). SSI and children with disabilities: just the facts. <http://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/12-14-12ss.pdf>