

INEQUALITY, POVERTY AND GLOBALISATION

Economic and Politics

Course contact hours: 45

Recommended credits: 6 ECTS – 3 US

OBJECTIVES

Inequality defines the world we live in. We will focus on the evolution of economic inequality in the long run and the determinant factors, with special attention to the links to the globalisation process. At the turn of the 21st century, the richest five percent of people receive one-third of total global income, the next 15 percent richer had another third and the remaining third of total global income had to be shared by the poorest 80 percent of the population. Our aim is to know why there is poverty and which strategies have been used to reduce it.

CONTENTS

International and global inequality

1. Concepts of inequality: international and global inequality
2. Development in the 20th century
3. Factors explaining international inequality
4. Poverty in Rich Countries. Poverty in poor countries

In depth study of the relation between inequality and

5. Inequality at country level
6. Colonisation
7. Health, Violence, Obesity, Gender....
8. Education

Does globalisation make the world more unequal?

9. Did growth breed inequality or did inequality breed growth?
10. Origins of the big divergence between countries
11. Trade and inequality
12. The role of mass migration

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

A minimum attendance of 70% (19 lectures) is required in order to complete all course assessment activities. Punctuality is expected. Late arrival is marked as absence. During students presentations no entry is allowed once the presentation has started.

Mid-term exam (25%): To be written in class. The exam will consist of 20 multiple choice questions.

Presentation (35%): on an article chosen from the reading list. 40% of the mark will be ppt and 55% the oral presentation (individually graded) and 5% the partner evaluation.

Final Exam (30%): To be written in class. The exam will be a 20 multiple choice questions of which fifteen questions will be on presentation topics and five questions on the lectures and readings from the second part of the course.

Participation (10%): Each week students may write a question on the topics analysed.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Required reading:

Milanovic, Branko (2005), *Worlds apart: measuring international and global inequality*. Princeton, Princeton University Press.

Lindert, Peter and Williamson, Jeffrey G. (2001), "Does Globalization Make the World More Unequal", NBER WP 8228.

Ranis, Gustav (2007) "Migration, Trade, Capital, and Development: Substitutes, Complements, and Policies", Yale University Economic Growth Center Discussion Paper No. 950.

Williamson, Jeffrey G. (2006), *Inequality and Schooling Responses to Globalization Forces: Lessons from History*, National Bureau of Economic Research, n. 12553.

Piketty, Thomas and Emmanuel Saez (2003) "Income Inequality in the United States, 1913-1998", *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 118, 1, pp. 1-39.

Dell, F (2007), "Top incomes in Germany Throughout the Twentieth century: 1891-1998" in A.B. Atkinson and T. Piketty, *Top incomes over the 20th century*, OUP, pp.365-425.

Alesina, Alberto and Edward Glaeser, "The Ideology of Distribution", Chapter 7, in *Fighting Poverty in the US and Europe*, Oxford, OUP, pp.183-216. 13th MARCH

Engerman, Stanley L. and Sokoloff, Kenneth L. (2005), "Colonialism, Inequality and Long-Run Paths of Development", NBER Working Paper 11057.

Frankema, Ewout (2006) "The Colonial Origins of Inequality: Exploring the Causes and Consequences of Land Distribution", Research Memorandum GD-81, Groningen Growth and Development Centre.

Blau, Francine D. And Lawrence M. Kahn, "The Gender Pay Gap" in David B. Grusky and Szonja Szelényi, *The Inequality Reader*, Boulder, 426-445.

Schneider, Markus P. A. (2012) "Race & Gender Differences in the Experience of Earnings Inequality, 1995 to 2010", Paper Prepared for the 32nd General Conference of The International Association for Research in Income and Wealth

Wilkinson, Richard and Kate Pickett (2010), "Physical Health and life expectancy", in *The Spirit Level*, Penguin, pp. 73-87.

Avendano, Mauricio and Ichiro Kawachi (2014), "Why do Americans have shorter life expectancy and worse health than do people in other high income countries?", *The Annual Review of Public Health*, 35, pp. 307-325.

Wilkinson, Richard and Kate Pickett (2010) "Obesity:wider income gaps, wider waists", in *The Spirit Level*, Penguin, pp. 89-102.

Ogden, Cynthia et al (2010) "Obesity and socioeconomic status in Children and Adolescents: United States 2005-2008", *NCSH*, n.51.

Wilkinson, Richard and Kate Pickett (2010), "Violence: gaining respect" and "Imprisonment and punishment", in *The Spirit Level*, Penguin, pp. 129-144 and 145-156.

Wilkinson, Richard and Kate Pickett, "Teenage births: recycling deprivation", in *The Spirit Level*, Penguin, 2010, pp. 119-128.

Kearney, M and Levine, Phillip (2012), Why is the Teen Birth Rate in the United States so High and Why Does it Matter?, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 26, 2, pp. 141-166.

Wilkinson, Richard and Kate Pickett (2010), "Educational Performance" and "Social mobility", in *The Spirit Level*, Penguin, pp. 103-117 and 157-169.

Dumas, Christelle and Arnaud Lefranc (2012), "Early Schooling, Later Outcomes", in Timothy Smelting et al, *From Parents to Children: The Intergenerational Transmission of Advantatge*, Russell Sage Foundation, pp. 164-189.

Haveman, Robert Timothy Smeeding (2006) "The Role of Higher Education in Social Mobility", *The Future of Children*, 16, 2, pp. 125-150.