Wealth & Poverty
Week 1 & Week 2
Spring 2021

Overview

This course is designed to provide students with a deep understanding of the complexities of economic growth which has widened over the last 40 years in the United States and the Global Great Deal of the underlying forces causing this trend and the policy responses that have been implemented to address the growing inequality. The course will also provide students with a deep understanding of the economic theories underlying the policy responses to the growing inequality. The course is also intended to provide insights into the political and public policy debates that have arisen in light of the widening inequality and the policy responses to the growing inequality.

Course Structure

Students will be expected to attend scheduled and course structured lectures through Zoom.

Required readings and assignments

Readings will be available on eCourses. Some readings will be drawn from Professor Rick Hudson's New Yorker Magazine Articles, The Economist Articles, Economic Articles, Economic Articles, Economic

- Herbert Croly, The Promise of American Life (1909)
- Theodore Roosevelt, The New Nationalism (1910)
- Louis Brandeis, Other People's Money (1914)
- Adolf Berle and Gardiner Means, The Modern Corporation and Private Property (1932)
- Friedrich Hayek, The Road to Serfdom (1944)
- Karl Popper, The Open Society and its Enemies (1945)
- United States Supreme Court, Brown v. Board of Education (1954)
- Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream" speech (1963)
- Martin Luther King, Jr., Speech at the Great March on Detroit (1963)
- Ellis Hawley, The New Deal and the Problem of Monopoly (1966)
- Robert Heilbroner, Between Capitalism and Socialism (1970)
- Robert Wiebe, The Search for Order, 1877-1920 (1967)
- Eric Goldman, Rendezvous with Destiny: A History of Modern American Reform (1952)
- John Kenneth Galbraith, American Capitalism: The Concept of Countervailing Power (1952)
- John Rawls, Justice as Fairness (1985)

Additional (optional) readings: In the event you have additional time and energy for some additional reading, or if you'll have some time in the future, here are some books that you may find helpful.

- Lina Kahn, "Amazon's Antitrust Paradox," Yale Law Journal January, 2017);
- Lawrence Bartels, Unequal Democracy: The Political Economy of the New Gilded Age, Princeton University Press, 2008;
- Rebecca Blank, Changing Inequality, University of California Press, 2011; Edward Conrad, Unintended Consequences, Penguin, 2012;
- Philip Dray, There is Power in a Union, Doubleday, 2010;
- Robert Frank and Philip Cook, The Winner-Take-All Society, Penguin, 1995;
- Clement Fatovic, America's Founding and the Struggle Over Inequality, University of Kansas, 2016;
- Robert Frank, Falling Behind, University of California Press, 2007;
- John Kenneth Galbraith, The Affluent Society, Houghton-Mifflin, 1958;
- Jacob Hacker and Paul Pierson, American Amnesia, Simon and Schuster, 2016;
- Jody Heymann, Forgotten Families, Oxford University Press, 2006;
- Jacqueline Jones, American Work: Four Decades of Black and White Labor, Norton, 1998;
- Robert Kaiser, So Damn Much Money, Knopf, 2009;
- Branko Milanovic, The Haves and the Have Nots, Basic Books, 2012;
- Katherine Newman, A Different Shade of Gray, New Press, 2003;
- Benjamin Page and James Simmons, What Government Can Do: Dealing with Poverty and Inequality, University of Chicago Press, 2000;
- Thomas Piketty, Capitalism in the Twenty-First Century, Harvard University Press, 2014;
- Robert Reich, The System, Knopf 2020;
- Robert Reich, The Common Good, Knopf, 2018;
- Robert Reich, Saving Capitalism: For the Many, Not the Few, Knopf, 2015;
- Reich, Aftershock, Knopf, 2010;
- Reich, Supercapitalism, Knopf, 2007;
- Reich, The Work of Nations, Knopf, 1992;
- Amartya Sen, Development as Freedom, Knopf, 1999;
- David Shipler, The Working Poor, Knopf, 2004;
- Joe Soss, Jacob Hacker, and Suzanne Mettler, eds., Remaking America: Democracy andPublic Policy in an Age of Inequality, Russell Sage, 2007;
- Joseph Stiglitz, The Price of Inequality, Norton, 2012;
- Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett, The Spirit Level, Bloomsbury Press, 2009.

US Government Data

Overall government search – FirstGov.com US Department of Education – ed.gov

US Department of Labor – dol.gov

Data on income: Current Population Survey – census.gov

Data on US budget – gpo.gov

Census Inequality Data - https://www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/income-inequality.html

OECD Data - https://data.oecd.org/

The Federal Reserve - https://www.federalreserve.gov/data.htm

The UC Berkeley Library has a public policy librarian who can help you conduct research: https://guides.lib.berkeley.edu/sb.php?subject_id=4558