

**UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE SANTA CATARINA  
CENTRO DE FILOSOFIA E CIÊNCIAS HUMANAS  
DEPARTAMENTO DE FILOSOFIA  
PROGRAMA DE PÓS-GRADUAÇÃO EM FILOSOFIA**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Semester / 2016**

**Instructor:**

Prof. Dr. Alessandro Pinzani

**Course title:**

ON POVERTY

**Course codes:**

FIL 3131 (Tópicos especiais em ética)

FIL 3313 (Seminário avançado na área de ética e filosofia política III)

**Course aims:**

The course aims at discussing the concept of poverty and at showing its ambiguity. We shall discuss first the different definitions of the concept according to different approaches, and secondly analyze the discourses on poverty, focusing the shift from the traditional view of poverty as fate to the idea that the poor are responsible for their situation.

**Course requirements:**

- a) Admission to the course: The course is open to regularly enrolled participants of graduate programs of the UFSC (including DINTER students). Students of other universities or so-called “alunos especiais” should contact the professor to get permission to attend classes.
- b) Class language: The course will be held in English. Students are required to be proficient in this language (in reading, speaking and writing).
- c) Class attendance and participation policy: Students are allowed to miss a maximum of four classes. They are expected to participate actively through presentations and through discussion of the topics. Therefore, they are expected to read every week the text(s) that shall be discussed in class.

**Schedule:**

Classes will be held on **Tuesday** from 14:20 to 18:00

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics assignment and readings</b> (RQR = Required readings; RCR = Recommended readings)
August 09	Introduction to the seminar and distribution of the presentations.
August 16	<i>What is Poverty? Who is Poor?</i> (RQR: Alcock 1; Townsend 1) (RCR: Gordon; Wisor et alii)
August 23	<i>Measuring Poverty</i> (RQR: Alcock 2; Ringen) (RCR: Sen 1; Sen 2; Townsend 2; Woodward and Abdallah)
August 30	Reading week
September 06	<i>Simmel on the Poor</i> (RQR: Simmel) (RCR: Coser)
September 13	<i>Social Exclusion</i> (RQR: Lister; Byrne) (RCR: Room)
September 20	<i>The Feminization of Poverty</i> (RQR Pearce; Chant 1) (RCR: Chant 2; Millar; Cagatay; Pressman)
September 27	<i>Sufficientism</i> (RQR: Axelsen & Nielsen)
October 04	<i>The lazy poor I</i> (RQR: Malthus) (RCR: Dean; Somers & Block; Townsend J.)
October 11	Reading week
October 18	Anpof
October 25	<i>The lazy poor I</i> (RQR: Murray; Ellwood & Summers) (RCR: Baggulay & Mann; New Zealand Business Roundtable: Prideaux)
November 01	<i>Poverty and Rights</i> (RQR: Nickel)
November 08	<i>A Kantian Perspective I</i> (O’Neill 1)
November 15	Holyday
November 22	<i>A Kantian Perspective II</i> (O’Neill 2)

November 29 *International Policies against Poverty* (RQR: Pogge) (RCR: Townsend 3)  
December 06 Final discussion

### Required Readings:

- Alcock, Peter (2006): *Understanding Poverty*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. London: Palgrave Macmillan [1993] (Alcock 1 = chapter 5 “Defining Poverty”, pp. 63-80; Alcock 2 = chapter 6 “Measuring Poverty”, pp. 81-101).
- Axelsen, David V.; Nielsen, Lasse (2015): “Sufficiency as Freedom from Duress”. *The Journal of Political Philosophy*, vol. 24, n<sup>o</sup>. 5, pp. 406-426.
- Byrne, David (2005): *Social Exclusion*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Maidenhead: Open University Press (chapter 1 “Conceptualizing Social Exclusion: The political foundations – classical and neo-liberal”, pp. 19-32; chapter 3 “Conceptualizing Social Exclusion: The language of social science of social exclusion”, pp. 52-66).
- Chant, Sylvia (2006) Re-thinking the “Feminization of Poverty” in Relation to Aggregate Gender Indices. In: *Journal of Human Development*, vol. 7, n<sup>o</sup>. 2, pp. 201-220 (Chant 1).
- Ellwood, David T.; Summers, Lawrence H. (1986): “Is Welfare Really the Problem?”. *National Affairs*, Vol. 83, pp. 57-78.
- Lister, Ruth (2004): *Poverty*. Cambridge: Polity Press (chapter 4 “Poverty and Social Exclusion”, pp. 74-98).
- Malthus, Thomas R., (1992) [1798]. *An Essay on the Principle of Population*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (pp. 13-29; 207-230)
- Murray, Charles (1984): *Losing Ground. American Social Policy 1950-1980*, Basic Books, New York (chapter 12 “Incentives to Fail I: Maximizing Short-Term Gains”, pp. 154-166; chapter 14 “The Destruction of Status Rewards”, pp. 178-191; chapter 16 “The Constraints on Helping”, pp. 205-218).
- Nickel, James W. (2005): “Poverty and Rights”. *The Philosophical Quarterly*. Vol. 55, No. 220, 385-402.
- O’Neill, Onora (1986): *Faces of Hunger. An Essay on Poverty, Justice, and Development*. London: Allen & Unwin (O’Neill 1 = chapter 7 “Obligation and Need”, pp. 121-143; O’Neill 2 = chapter 8 “Obligations to the Poor”, pp. 144-164).
- Pearce, Diana (1978): “The Feminization of Poverty”. *The Urban & Social Change Review*. Special Issue on Women and World. Vol. 11, n<sup>o</sup>. 1/2, pp. 28-36.
- Pogge, Thomas (2002). *World Poverty and Human Rights. Cosmopolitan Responsibilities and Reforms*. Cambridge: Polity Press (chapter 8 “Eradicating Systematic Poverty: Brief for a Global Resources Dividend”, pp. 196-215)
- Ringen, Stein (1988): “Direct and Indirect Measures of Poverty”. *Journal of Social Policy*. Vol. 17, n<sup>o</sup> 3, pp. 351-365.
- Simmel, Georg, 1965 [1903]. “The Poor”. *Social Problems*, Vol. 13, N<sup>o</sup>. 2, pp. 118-140
- Townsend, Peter (1987): “Deprivation”. *Journal of Social Policy*. Vol. 16, n<sup>o</sup>2, pp. 125-146 (Townsend 1).

### Recommended readings:

- Atkinson, Anthony B. (1987): “On the Measurement of Poverty”. *Econometria*, vol. 55, n<sup>o</sup> 4, pp. 749-764.
- Bagguley, Paul; Mann, Kirk (1992): “Idle Thieving Bastards? Scholarly Representations of the ‘Underclass’”. *Work, Employment & Society*, vol. 6, n<sup>o</sup> 1, pp.113-126.
- Cagatay, Nilüfer (1998): *Gender and Poverty*. UNDP Working Papers 5.
- Chant, Sylvia (ed.) (2010): *The Handbook of Gender and Poverty*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar (Chant 2)
- Coser, Lewis A. (1965): “The Sociology of Poverty. To the Memory of Georg Simmel”. *Journal of Social Policy*. Vol. 17, n<sup>o</sup> 3, pp. 140-148
- Dean, Mitchell (1991): *The Constitution of Poverty. Toward a Genealogy of Liberal Governance*. Routledge, London e New York (Chapters 4 “Population, subsistence, poverty” and 5 “The Malthusian Effect”, pp. 68-105).
- Gordon, David 2002: “The International Measurement of Poverty and Anti-Poverty Policies”. In: Townsend, P.; Gordon, D. (eds.). *World Poverty. New Policies to Defeat an Old Enemy*. Bristol: The Policy Press, pp. 53-80.
- Millar, Jane (2003): “Gender, Poverty and Social Exclusion”. In: *Social Policy and Society*, vol. 2, pp. 181-188.
- New Zealand Business Roundtable (1998): *Towards a Code of Social and Family Responsibility*.
- Pressman, Steven (2003): *Feminist explanations for the feminization of poverty*. LIS Working Paper Series, N<sup>o</sup> 351
- Prideaux, Simon J. (2010): “The welfare politics of Charles Murray are alive and well in the UK”. *International Journal of Social Welfare*, vol. 19, pp. 293-302.

- Room, G. J. (1999): "Social Exclusion, Solidarity and the Challenge of Globalization". *International Journal of Social Welfare*, vol. 8, pp. 166-174.
- Sen, Amartya (1983): "Poor, Relatively Speaking". *Oxford Economic Papers*. New Series. Vol. 35, n° 2, pp. 153-169 (Sen 1).
- Sen, Amartya (1985): "A Sociological Approach to the Measurement of Poverty: A Reply to Professor Peter Townsend". *Oxford Economic Papers*. New Series. Vol. 37, n° 4, pp. 669-676 (Sen 2).
- Somers, Margaret; Block, Fred, 2005. "From Poverty to Perversity: Ideas, Markets, and Institutions over 200 Years of Welfare Debate". *American Sociological Review*. Vol. 70, pp. 270-287.
- Townsend, Joseph (1786): *A Dissertation on the Poor Laws*. (The full text is available at: <http://socserv.socsci.mcmaster.ca/~econ/ugcm/3ll3/townsend/poorlaw.html>)
- Townsend, Peter (1985): "A Sociological Approach to the Measurement of Poverty: A Rejoinder to Professor Amartya Sen". *Oxford Economic Papers*. New Series. Vol. 37, n° 4, pp. 659-668 (Townsend 2).
- Townsend, Peter (2002): "Poverty, social exclusion and social polarisation: the need to construct an international welfare state". In: Townsend, P.; Gordon, D. (eds.). *World Poverty. New Policies to Defeat an Old Enemy*. Bristol: The Policy Press, pp. 3-24 (Townsend 3).
- Wisor, Scott; Bessell, Sharon; Castillo, Fatima; Crawford, Joanne; Donaghue, Kieran; Hunt, Janet; Jaggard, Alison; Liu, Amy; Pogge Thomas (2015): *The Individual Deprivation Measure. A Gender-Sensitive Approach to Poverty Measurement*. Melbourne: IWDA (pp. 1-9 and 27-39).
- Woodward, David; Abdallah, Saamah (2010): *Redefining Poverty. A Rights-Based Approach*. New Economy Foundation

#### **Further readings:**

- Alkire, Sabina 2002. *Valuing Freedoms. Sen's Capability Approach and Poverty Reduction*. Oxford: Oxford UP
- Banerjee, Abhijit V.; Duflo, Esther 2011. *Poor Economics. A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty*. New York: Public Affairs.
- Basu, Kaushik; Kanbur, Ravi (eds.) (2009). *Arguments for a Better World. Essays in Honor of Amartya Sen. Vol. I: Ethics, Welfare, and Measurement*. Oxford: Oxford UP.
- Brock, Gillian (ed.) 1998: *Necessary Goods. Our Responsibilities to Meet Others' Needs*. Lahnam (MD): Rowman & Littlefield.
- Brown, Larry (ed.) 1993. *The Link Between Nutrition and Cognitive Development in Children*. Medford (MA): Center on Hunger, Poverty and Nutrition Policy, School of Nutrition, Tufts University.
- Chen, Shaohua; Ravallion, Martin (2007): *Absolute Poverty Measures for the Developing World*. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 4211.
- Comim, Flavio; Qizibash, Mozzafar; Alkire, Sabina (eds.) 2008. *The Capability Approach. Concepts, Measures and Applications*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP.
- Dean, Hartley 2010: *Understanding Human Needs. Social issues, policy and practice*. Bristol: Policy Press.
- Deneulin, Séverine; Shahani, Lila (eds.) 2009. *An Introduction to the Human Development and Capability Approach. Freedom and Agency*. London: Earthscan.
- Doyal, Len; Gough, Ian 1991: *A Theory of Human Need*. London: Macmillan.
- Easterly, William 2001: *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics*. Cambridge (MA): MIT Press.
- Ehrenreich, Barbara 2001. *Nickel and Dime. On (Not) Getting By in America*. New York: Metropolitan Books.
- Flik, Robert J.; van Praag, Bernard M. S. 1991: "Subjective Poverty Line Definitions". *De Economist*, vol. 139, n° 3, 311-330.
- Geremek, Bronislaw (1994): *Poverty: A History*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Hagenaars, Aldi J. M.; van Praag, Bernard M. S. 1985: "A Synthesis of Poverty Line Definitions". *Review of Income and Wealth*, vol. 31, n° 2, 139-154.
- Hagenaars, Aldi J. M. 1986: *The Perception of Poverty*. Amsterdam: North Holland Publishing Company.
- Hamilton, Lawrence 2003: *The Political Philosophy of Needs*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP.
- Himmelfarb, Gertrud (1984): *The Idea of Poverty. England in the Early Industrial Age*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.
- Khader, Serene J. 2011. *Adaptative Preferences and Women's Empowerment*. Oxford: Oxford UP.
- Leão Rego, Walquíria; Pinzani, Alessandro (forthcoming): "Money, Autonomy, Citizenship. Effects of the Programa Bolsa Família on Its Participants". In: *Philosophy and Public Issues*.

- Levine, David P.; Rizvi, S. Abu Thurab, 2005. *Poverty, Work, and Freedom. Political Economy and the Moral Order*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP.
- Lipton, Michael 1988. *The Poor and the Poorest: Some Interim Findings*. Washington: World Bank.
- Lora, Eduardo (coord.) 2008. *Beyond Facts. Understanding Quality of Life*. Cambridge (MA): Harvard UP.
- Narayan, Deepa; Patel, Raj, Schafft, Kai; Rademacher, Anne, Koch-Schulte, Sarah (eds.) 2000. *Voices of the Poor: Can Anyone Hear Us?* New York: Oxford UP.
- Narayan, Deepa; Chambers, Robert; Shah, Meera (eds.) 2001. *Voices of the Poor: Crying Out for Changes*. New York: Oxford UP.
- Narayan, Deepa; Patesh, Patti (eds.) 2002. *Voices of the Poor: From Many Lands*. New York: Oxford UP.
- Noble, Kimberly G. et alii, 2015. "Family income, parental education and brain structure in children and adolescents". *Nature Neuroscience*, vol. 18, 773–778 (doi:10.1038/nn.3983)
- Nussbaum, Martha; Sen, Amartya (eds.) 1993. *The Quality of Life*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Nussbaum, Martha; Glover, Jonathan (eds.) 1995. *Women, Culture, and Development. A Study on Human Capabilities*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Nussbaum, Martha 2000. *Women and Human Development. The Capabilities Approach*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP.
- Nussbaum, Martha 2011. *Creating Capabilities. The Human Development Approach*. Cambridge (MA): Belknap.
- Piven, Frances Fox; Cloward, Richard A. 1993 [1971]. *Regulating the Poor. The Functions of Public Welfare*. Updated edition. New York: Vintage.
- Pogge, Thomas 2010: *Politics as Usual. What Lies Behind the Pro-Poor Rhetoric*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Reader, Soran (ed.) 2005: *The Philosophy of Needs*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP.
- Reddy, Sanjay; Pogge, Thomas, 2005. *How Not to Count the Poor*. In: [www.columbia.edu/~sr793/count.pdf](http://www.columbia.edu/~sr793/count.pdf) (acessado em 12 de junho de 2015).
- Sen, Amartya 1987. *Commodities and Capabilities*. New Delhi: Oxford UP.
- Sen, Amartya 1992. *Inequality Reexamined*. Cambridge (MA): Harvard UP.
- Sen, Amartya 1999. *Development as Freedom*. New York: Alfred Knopf.
- Sen, Amartya 2009. *The Idea of Justice*. London: Allen Lane.
- Stedman Jones, Gareth, 2004. *An End to Poverty? A Historical Debate*. New York: Columbia UP.
- Streeten, Paul P., 1995. *Thinking About Development*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP.
- Thomson, Garrett 1987: *Needs*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul.
- Tirado, Linda 2015: *Hand to Mouth. Living in Bootstrap America*. New York: Berkley
- Townsend, Peter 1970: *The Concept of Poverty*. London: Heinemann.
- Townsend, Peter 1979: *Poverty in the United Kingdom*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.
- Wilkinson, Richard; Pickett, Kate 2009: *The Spirit Level. Why Equality is Better for Anyone*. London: Allen Lane.

### Grading procedures:

1) Graded assignments:

At the end of the course, students should deliver a paper in English on a topic chosen together with the instructor. The oral presentation of topics and the participation to the debates will be graded too.

2) Grades weight:

- Final paper: 60%
- Presentation: 20%
- Participation in the discussion: 20%

Florianópolis, August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016



Prof. Alessandro Pinzani