Course Outline:
Session 1: The Contours of Research in Social Dynamics & Stratification
Session 2: Poverty in High-Income Countries
Session 3: Intergenerational Mobility
Session 4: Families and the Reproduction of Inequality
Session 5: Welfare States in Comparative Perspective
Session 6: European Social Policy: What Use Is Social Investment?
Session 7: Labour Markets & Labour Movements
Session 8: Globalization & Technological Change
Session 9: Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration
Session 10: Global Inequality and Stratification
Sessions 11 & 12: Presentation of course projects.

Assessment Methods
Class Project (Written) – 50% of Grade
Class Project (Presentation) – 20% of Grade
Final Exam – 30% of Grade

Class Project: Details will be provided in Session 1.

Final Exam:
The final exam will last one hour. On the final lecture of the course, I will provide a list of six key questions discussed throughout the course, and the exam will present you with two of these. You will have to briefly discuss the questions, providing supporting arguments from prior literature to support your argument.
**Session 1**: The Contours of Research in Social Dynamics: Concepts, Measures, Actors

**Topics**: Introduction to perspectives on stratification and inequality. Dimensions of social class.

**Required:**


**Misc. Topics:**
- Course outline.
- Discussion of final exam projects.
Session 2: Poverty in High-Income Countries

Topics: determinants of poverty; role of worker power in shaping in-work poverty; gender and poverty

Required:


Optional:


Misc. Topics:
- Writing academic papers, Pt. 1.
Session 3: Intergenerational Mobility

Topics: Intergenerational mobility from different perspectives: the role of contextual factors, education, national income structures.

Required:


Optional:

- Raj Chetty in 14 charts: Big findings on opportunity and mobility we should all know. [Link](#).
- OECD – “A broken social elevator? How to promote social mobility.” [Link](#).
- Jonsson, Grusky, Di Carlo, and Pollak. (2009). It’s a Decent Bet That Our Children Will be Professors Too. [Link](#).

Misc. Topics:

- Writing academic papers, Pt. 2.
Session 4: Families and the Reproduction of Inequality

Topics: childhood inequalities, family structure, within-family disparities, inherited disadvantage

Required:


Optional:


Misc. Topics:

- Research grants.
Session 5: Welfare States in Comparative Perspective

Topics: Welfare state structures and change over time, targeting vs. universalism

Required:


Optional:


Misc. Topics:
- Public sources of useful data.
Session 6: European Social Policy: What Use Is Social Investment?

Topics: active labour market policy, social investment, concept stretching

Required:


Optional:


Misc. Topics:

- The dissertation.
Session 7: Labour Markets & Labour Movements

**Topics:** organized labour, worker power, within-firm inequality, between-firm inequality, labor market inequalities

**Required:**


**Optional:**


**Misc. Topics:**

- Publications and the academic publication process.
Session 8: Globalization & Technological Change

Topics: technological change, globalization, consequences for labour market change

Required:


Optional:

Mishel, Lawrence and Josh Bivens. 2017. “The zombie robot argument lurches on: There is no evidence that automation leads to joblessness or inequality.” Economic Policy Institute. [Link.](#)

Misc. Topics:

- Academic conferences: where and why?
Session 9: Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration

Required:


Optional:


Misc. Topics:

- The job market.
Session 10: Global Inequality and Stratification


Optional:


Misc. Topics:

- After the PhD – what’s next?
Sessions 11 & 12: Presentation of student papers-projects for the course.

- Details will be provided during Session 1.