

## **INEQUALITY, POVERTY AND GLOBALISATION**

*Total length of the module: 45 hours*

*Number of sessions: 30*

*Length of each session: 1,5 h*

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE**

Inequality defines the world we live in. At the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the richest five percent of people received one-third of total global income, the next 15 percent richer got another third while the poorest 80 percent of the population had to share the remaining third. In this course we will study the development of international and global inequality, inequality within nations, gender inequality and poverty in the long run. The main questions that the student will be able to discuss are: has inequality increased over time?, does globalisation make the world more unequal?, what policies have been implemented in order to reduce inequality and how effective have they been?, and why should we care about poverty?

### **REQUIREMENTS**

Fluent in English

### **CONTENTS**

#### International and global inequality

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

#### Does globalisation make the world more unequal?

5. Did growth breed inequality or did inequality breed growth?
6. Origins of the big divergence between countries
7. Trade and inequality
8. The role of migration

#### In depth study of the relation between inequality and

9. Welfare State

10. Gender
11. Colonisation
12. Schooling

## GRADING

Mid-term exam (30%): To be written in class. The exam will consist of two parts, one with multiple choice questions and the other with one essay question on the material from the lectures and readings.

Presentation (30%): Based on an article chosen from a given reading list.

Final Exam (30%): To be written in class. The exam will consist of two parts, one with multiple choice questions and the other with one essay question on the material from the lectures and readings.

Participation (10%): Attendance is compulsory.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Aghion, Philippe & Williamson, Jeffrey G. (1998), *Growth, Inequality and Globalization: Theory, History and Policy*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Beneria, Lourdes, (2003), *Gender, Development and Globalization. Economics as if all People Mattered*, London & NY, Routledge.

Brenner, Y.S.; Kaelble, H. & Thomas, M. (1991), *Income Distribution in Historical Perspective*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

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

Sen, Amartya (2000), *Development as freedom*, New York, Anchor Books.

Wilkinson, Richard and Kate Pickett (2009), *The Spirit level : why more equal societies almost always do better* , London Allan Lane.