

# TRANSDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO INEQUALITY

**Convenors:** (bios at the end of the Syllabus):

**Bernardino León** (SciencesPo), **Javier Carbonell** (University of Edinburgh), **Javier Soria** (Paris School of Economics), **Pablo Sánchez** (European Central Bank).

Year 2021/2022  
Spring Semester

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this seminar-based course is to examine the multiple faces of **inequality**. This course outlines a transdisciplinary research agenda to review the insights of political theory, economics, sociology, anthropology, political science and digital studies.

The course is organized in **12 two-hours-long seminars**, with 2 topics in each (24 topics in total). By drawing on these very different approaches, students will be able to look both at the multifarious forms that inequality can take—from income inequality to the disproportionate ways in which some groups are targeted by security actors—and to rethink the blind spots of their own disciplines by confronting it with cognate ones (i.e., what does economics miss when studying inequality? What does philosophy overlook?). To that end, this course will provide students with cutting-edge literature in these fields, as well as an array of methodological tools ranging from quantitative methods to ethnography, to delve into this pressing matter.

In addition, this transdisciplinary approach proposes to study inequality **beyond artificial macro/micro and quantitative/qualitative divides** predominant in the social sciences, in order to examine the origins, reproduction and consequences of inequalities to respond to a pressing question: *what can we do to tackle inequality?*

## Type of course

Seminar course

## Language of instruction

English

## Zoom etiquette

- When you are listening, make sure your microphone is muted
- If you have a comment or question, indicate that using the chat function
- When possible, you are encouraged to turn on your camera
- Turn on the camera and microphone when you speak
- Be on time for the lecture
- Use your real name
- Avoid inappropriate backgrounds

## PEDAGOGICAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, the student is expected to :

1°) Have a profound **grasp of the different ways of analysing inequalities**, understanding the strengths and weakness of the different methodological approaches to inequality: econometric, ethnographic, philosophical, inter alia.

2°) Be able to **write a research paper** drawing on more than one discipline. To that end, students will enhance their writing skills and they will learn how to write a paper proposal.

3°) Apply a **wide range of quantitative and qualitative methods from different social sciences** (which will be taught in four optional *methods workshops* throughout the semester)

## COURSE GRADE SYSTEM

To validate the course, the student is expected to pass the following assignments:

**1° Weekly summaries (25%):** Each week you will have to write a 500-word-long summary that must critically engage with the TWO core readings for that week, **analysing and comparing both of them**. Students should try to go beyond a summary of the content and reflect on topics and questions raised by the readings, linking it to other week's material or even to relevant material from outside this course.

**Due date:** every week, the day before the session.

**Mark :** they will not have a numerical mark, only a **PASS or FAIL**. Only those that show an evident lack of effort in putting together an argument will fail. Submitting all of them in time with a pass will qualify automatically as a perfect mark in participation (i.e., 20/20). Failing to submit one of them in time without justification will count as a 0 for that week. If at the end of the year, all weekly seminar notes are submitted in time with a PASS, you will obtain a 20/20 for this assignment. Not submitting it on time is an automatic FAIL. Not submitting or failing more than three weekly debate notes at the end of the year will mean failing with a 0 this assignment. The final marks will be based on this :

12/12 = 20/20  
11/12 = 16/20  
10/12 = 12/20  
9 (or less)/12 = **0/20**

**2° Research proposal (10%):** You will be assigned a final paper advisor. With his help, you will write a one-page long research proposal outlining the topic, relevance and methods of your final paper. This proposal will be done under the guidance of a supervisor, which will be assigned to you depending on your topic and approach. You will be able to, either choose to answer one of the research questions we put forward or to **CHOOSE YOUR OWN RESEARCH QUESTION**, after checking with us.

**Deadline:** Session 8

**3° Final paper : « special issue » (50%):** The final assignment will be a final research paper on a topic discussed during the course. This paper will be between 3,000 and 3,500 words.

This **paper will be part of a « special issue »** , together with other 3-5 papers, which will have a common introduction and a common conclusion. This will be explained in detail later on.

**Deadline:** TBD

**4<sup>o</sup>) Participation (15%):** If you participate fairly regularly in class you will be able to obtain a perfect mark in this section 20/20.

## **COURSE OVERVIEW (21-22)**

**Session 1:** Introduction to the Course: Transdisciplinarity and Inequality (

**Session 2:** What is Inequality?

**Session 3:** Economic Inequality in Advanced Economies I: Trends and Growth

**Session 4:** Economic Inequality in Advanced Economies II: Trade and labour market explanations

**Session 5:** Economic Inequality in Advanced Economies III: Political explanations

**Session 6:** Education I: Intergenerational Mobility and Educational Inequalities

**Session 7:** Education II: The Myth of Meritocracy

**Session 8:** The Consequences of Inequality I: Welfare States, Crises, and COVID 19

**Session 9:** The Consequences of Inequality II: Race, Poverty and the Emergence of the Punitive State

**Session 10:** Normative Dilemmas about Equality: Legitimising Inequality

**Session 11:** The Challenges to Tackle Inequalities

**Session 12:** Capitalism, baby

## **ANALYTICAL COURSE OVERVIEW**

Session 1: Introduction to the Course: Transdisciplinarity and Inequality (26th of February)

*Topic 1: What is Transdisciplinarity? (Berna León) - ONLINE*

*Topic 2: A quick Introduction to Inequality (Javier Soria)*

Session 2: What is inequality (2nd of February) - ONLINE

*Topic 1: Bourdieu and the different Forms of Capital (Berna León)*

*Topic 2: Distincion : Topic 2: Is Cultural Taste “Objective”? (Berna León)*

Session 3: Economic Inequality in Advanced Economies I: Trends and Growth (9th of February)

*Topic 1: The Long Run Evolution of Economic Inequality (Pablo Sánchez)*

*Topic 2: Income Inequality and Growth (Pablo Sánchez)*

Session 4: Economic Inequality in Advanced Economies II: Differing Explanations (16th of February)

*Topic 1: Trade and Skill-biased Technological Change (Pablo Sánchez)*

*Topic 2: Labour Market Institutions (Pablo Sánchez)*

Session 5: Economic Inequality in Advanced Economies III: Political Explanations Political explanations (23rd of February)

*Topic 1: Anti-System Politics (Hopkin) (Javier Carbonell and Jonathan Hopkin)*

*Topic 2: The Politics of Taxation, Hacker and pierson (Javier Carbonell)*

Session 6: Education I: Intergenerational Mobility and Educational Inequalities (9th of March)

*Topic 1 Measurement and Trends in Intergenerational Mobility (Javier Soria)*

*Topic 2 Segregation and Affirmative Action (Javier Soria)*

Session 7: Education II: The Myth of Meritocracy (16th of March)

*Topic 1: What is wrong with meritocracy, Mijs (Javier Carbonell)*

*Topic 2: Credentialism, Sandel (Javier Carbonell)*

Session 8: The Consequences of Inequality I: Welfare States, Crises, and COVID 19 (23rd of March)

*Topic 1: The Welfare State in a Comparative Perspective and Political Polarization (Pablo Sánchez)*

*Topic 2: COVID-19 and Inequalities (Pablo Sánchez)*

Session 9: The Consequences of Inequality II: Race, Poverty and the Emergence of the Punitive State (30th of March)

*Topic 1: Free markets and the emergence of the punitive state (Berna León)*

*Topic 2: Punishing the Poor (Berna León)*

Session 10: Normative Dilemmas about Equality: Legitimising Inequality (6th of April)

*Topic 1: Piketty: "Inequality is a Political Choice" (Javier Carbonell)*

*Topic 2: What is a Just Distribution of Wealth? Rawls' "Theory of Justice" (Javier Carbonell)*

Session 11: The Challenges to Tackle Inequalities (13th of April)

*Topic 1: Attitudes towards taxation (Javier Soria)*

*Topic 2: Tax evasion in a globalized world (Javier Soria)*

Session 12: Capitalism, baby (20th of April)

*Topic 1: The extension of Global capitalism, Milanovic (Javier Carbonell)*

*Topic 2: Recap (Javier Carbonell)*

## DETAILED OUTLINE (20-21)

(All essential readings are highlighted in yellow and you can find them in our Moodle & Google Drive)

### Session 1: Introduction to the Course: Transdisciplinarity and Inequality

#### ***Topic 1: What is Transdisciplinarity?***

- Essential reading:

Bourdieu, P. (1988). Vive la Crise!: For Heterodoxy in Social Science. *Theory and Society*, 17(5), 773-787. Retrieved from [www.jstor.org/stable/657639](http://www.jstor.org/stable/657639)

- Further readings:

Lenoir, R. (2006). Scientific habitus: Pierre Bourdieu and the collective intellectual. *Theory, culture & society*, 23(6), 25-43.

Basaran, T., Bigo, D., Guittet, E. P., & Walker, R. B. J. (2016). Transversal Lines. *International political sociology: Transversal lines*

#### ***Topic 2: A quick Introduction to Inequality***

- Essential reading:

Chancel, L., Piketty, T., Saez, E., & Zucman, G. (Eds.). (2022). World inequality report 2022. **[summary]**

- Further readings:

Atkinson, A. B. (2015). *Inequality: What can be done?*. Harvard University Press [Introduction].

Milanovic, B. (2016). *Global inequality: A new approach for the age of globalization*. Harvard University Press. [Introduction]

## Session 2: What is Inequality?

### ***Topic 1: Is class just about money? Bourdieu and the different Forms of Capital***

- Essential reading:

Bourdieu, P. (1986). *Handbook of Theory and Research for the Sociology of Education*.

- Further readings:

Bourdieu, P., & Wacquant, L. J. (1992). *An invitation to reflexive sociology*. University of Chicago press.

Bourdieu, P., & Wacquant, L. (2013). Symbolic capital and social classes. *Journal of classical sociology*, 13(2), 292-302.

Bourdieu, P. (1989). Social space and symbolic power. *Sociological theory*, 7(1), 14-25.

Bourdieu, P. (1988). *Homo academicus*. Stanford University Press.

Wacquant, L. J. (1993). From ruling class to field of power: An interview with Pierre Bourdieu on La Noblesse d'Etat. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 10(3), 19-44.

Oakley, K., Laurison, D., O'Brien, D., & Friedman, S. (2017). Cultural capital: Arts graduates, spatial inequality, and London's impact on cultural labor markets. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 61(12), 1510-1531.

Williams, S. J. (1995). Theorising class, health and lifestyles: can Bourdieu help us?. *Sociology of health & illness*, 17(5), 577-604.

Friedman, S. (2016). Habitus clivé and the emotional imprint of social mobility. *The Sociological Review*, 64(1), 129-147.

Riley, D. (2017). Bourdieu's class theory. *Catalyst*, 1(2), 107-136.

Burawoy, M. (2018). Making sense of Bourdieu: from demolition to recuperation and critique. *Catalysts*, 2(1), 51-87.

**Topic 2: Is Cultural Taste “Objective”?**

- Essential reading:

Bourdieu, P. (1984). *Distinction: A social critique of the judgement of taste*. Harvard university press. **Introduction and chapter 3.**

- Further readings:

Warde, A. (2008). Dimensions of a social theory of taste. *Journal of Cultural Economy*, 1(3), 321-336.

Friedman, S. (2012). Cultural omnivores or culturally homeless? Exploring the shifting cultural identities of the upwardly mobile. *Poetics*, 40(5), 467-489.

Lamont, M., & Fournier, M. (Eds.). (1992). *Cultivating differences: Symbolic boundaries and the making of inequality*. University of Chicago Press.

Bryson, B. (1996). " Anything but heavy metal": Symbolic exclusion and musical dislikes. *American sociological review*, 884-899.

Coulangeon, P., & Lemel, Y. (2007). Is ‘distinction’really outdated? Questioning the meaning of the omnivorization of musical taste in contemporary France. *Poetics*, 35(2-3), 93-111.

Webster, J. (2020). Taste in the platform age: Music streaming services and new forms of class distinction. *Information, Communication & Society*, 23(13), 1909-1924.

Kane, D. (2003). Distinction worldwide?: Bourdieu's theory of taste in international context. *Poetics*, 31(5-6), 403-421.

Friedman, S. (2011). The cultural currency of a ‘good’ sense of humour: British comedy and new forms of distinction. *The British journal of sociology*, 62(2), 347-370.

**Session 3: Economic Inequality in Advanced Economies I: Trends and Growth**

**Topic 1: The Long Run Evolution of Economic Inequality**

- Essential reading:

Piketty, T. (2014). *Capital in the XXI Century*. Harvard University Press. **[Introduction]**

- Further readings:

Alvaredo, F., Atkinson, A. B., Piketty, T., & Saez, E. (2013). The top 1 percent in international and historical perspective. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 27(3), 3-20.

Piketty, T. (2022): *A brief history of equality*, Harvard University Press [introduction]  
Piketty, T. (2003). Income inequality in France, 1901–1998. *Journal of Political Economy*, 111(5), 1004-1042.

Pomeranz, K. (2000). *The great divergence: China, Europe, and the making of the modern world economy*. Princeton University Press. Introduction & Chapters 5-6

Piketty, T., Yang, L., & Zucman, G. (2019). Capital accumulation, private property, and rising inequality in China, 1978–2015. *American Economic Review*, 109(7), 2469-96.

Alvaredo, F., Assouad, L., & Piketty, T. (2019). Measuring Inequality in the Middle East 1990–2016: The World's Most Unequal Region?. *Review of Income and Wealth*, 65(4), 685-711.

Alvaredo, F., Chancel, L., Piketty, T., Saez, E., & Zucman, G. (2018, May). The elephant curve of global inequality and growth. In *AEA Papers and Proceedings* (Vol. 108, pp. 103-08).

Angus, M. (2001). *Development Centre Studies The World Economy A Millennial Perspective: A Millennial Perspective*. OECD Publishing.

### ***Topic 2: Income Inequality and Growth***

- Essential reading:

Voitchovsky, S. (2011). *Inequality and Economic Growth*. In Brian Nolan, Wiemer Salverda, and Timothy M. Smeeding (Eds.). *The Oxford Handbook of Economic Inequality*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- Further readings:

Aghion, P., Caroli, E., & Garcia-Penalosa, C. (1999). Inequality and economic growth: the perspective of the new growth theories. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 37(4), 1615-1660.

Banerjee, A. V., & Duflo, E. (2003). Inequality and growth: What can the data say? *Journal of Economic Growth*, 8(3), 267-299.

Cingano, F. (2014). Trends in Income Inequality and its Impact on Economic Growth. OECD Social, Employment and Migration Working Papers, No. 163. OECD Publishing, Paris.

Frank, M. W. (2009). Inequality and growth in the United States: Evidence from a new state-level panel of income inequality measures. *Economic Inquiry*, 47(1), 55-68.

Morelli, S., & Atkinson, A. B. (2015). Inequality and crises revisited. *Economia Politica*, 32(1), 31-51.

OECD (2015). The Impact of Income Inequality on Economic Growth. In *In It Together: Why Less Inequality Benefits All*. Paris: OECD Publishing. Persson, T., &

Tabellini, G. (1994). Is inequality harmful for growth? *American Economic Review*, 600-621.

Piketty, T., & Saez, E. (2013). Top incomes and the great recession: Recent evolutions and policy implications. *IMF Economic Review*, 61(3), 456-478.

Voitchovsky, S. (2005). Does the profile of income inequality matter for economic growth? *Journal of Economic Growth*, 10(3), 273-296

## **Session 4: Economic Inequality in Advanced Economies II: Differing Explanations**

### ***Topic 1: Trade and Skill-biased Technological Change***

- Essential reading:

Van Reenen, J. (2011). Wage inequality, technology and trade: 21st century evidence. *Labour economics*, 18(6), 730-741.

- Further reading:

Acemoglu, D., & Autor, D. (2011). Skills, tasks and technologies: Implications for employment and earnings. In *Handbook of Labor Economics* (Vol. 4, pp. 1043-1171). Elsevier.

Acemoglu, D., & Restrepo, P. (2017). Robots and Jobs: Evidence from US Labor Markets. NBER Working Paper, No. 23285.

Autor, D., & Dorn, D. (2013). The growth of low-skill service jobs and the polarization of the US labor market. *American Economic Review*, 103(5), 1553-97.

Autor, D. H., Dorn, D., & Hanson, G. H. (2016). The China shock: Learning from labor-market adjustment to large changes in trade. *Annual Review of Economics*, 8, 205-240.

Autor, D., Dorn, D., & Hanson, G. H. (2015). Untangling trade and technology: Evidence from local labour markets. *Economic Journal*, 125(584), 621-46.

Autor, D. H., Levy, F., & Murnane, R. J. (2003). The skill content of recent technological change: An empirical exploration. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 118(4), 1279-1333.

Dauth, W., Findeisen, S., Südekum, J., & Woessner, N. (2017). German Robots - The Impact of Industrial Robots on Workers. CEPR Discussion Papers, No. 12306.

Goos, M., Manning, A., & Salomons, A. (2014). Explaining job polarization: Routine-biased technological change and offshoring. *American Economic Review*, 104(8), 2509-26.

Jaumotte, F., Lall, S., & Papageorgiou, C. (2013). Rising income inequality: technology, or trade and financial globalization? *IMF Economic Review*, 61(2), 271-309.

Kristal, T., & Cohen, Y. (2016). The causes of rising wage inequality: the race between institutions and technology. *Socio-Economic Review*, 15(1), 187-212.

Milanovic, B., & Squire, L. (2005). Does tariff liberalization increase wage inequality? Some empirical evidence. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No. 3571, World Bank, Washington.

### ***Topic 2: Labour Market Institutions***

- Essential reading:

Autor, D., Dorn, D., & Hanson, G. H. (2015). Untangling trade and technology: Evidence from local labour markets. *Economic Journal*, 125(584), 621-46.

- Further readings:

Ahlquist, J. S. (2017). Labor unions, political representation, and economic inequality. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 20, 409-432.

Checchi, D., & García-Peñalosa, C. (2008). Labour market institutions and income inequality. *Economic Policy*, 23(56), 602-649.

Hope, D., & Martelli, A. (2019). The transition to the knowledge economy, labour market institutions, and income inequality in advanced democracies. *World Politics*, 71(2).

Koeniger, W., Leonardi, M., & Nunziata, L. (2007). Labor market institutions and wage inequality. *ILR Review*, 60(3), 340-356.

Wallerstein, M. (1999). Wage-setting institutions and pay inequality in advanced industrial societies. *American Journal of Political Science*, 43(3), 649-680.

## Session 5: Economic Inequality in Advanced Economies III: Political Explanations

### ***Topic 1: Anti-System Politics (Jonathan Hopkin)***

- Essential reading:

Hopkin, J. (2020) *Anti-System Politics: The Crisis of Market Liberalism in Rich Democracies*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

- Further readings:

Hopkin, J., & Alexander Shaw, K. (2016). Organized Combat or Structural Advantage? The Politics of Inequality and the Winner-Take-All Economy in the United Kingdom. *Politics & Society*, 44(3), 345–371.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0032329216655316>

Korpi, W. (2006) "Power Resources and Employer-Centered Approaches in Explanations of Welfare States and Varieties of Capitalism: Protagonists, Consenters, and Antagonists", *World Politics* Vol. 58, No. 2. pp. 167-206.

Pogge, T. and Mehta K. (eds.) (2016) *Global Tax Fairness*, Oxford University Press.

Rixen, T. (2011) "From double tax avoidance to tax competition: Explaining the institutional trajectory of international tax governance." *Review of International Political Economy* 18.2, pp. 197-227.

***Topic 2: The Politics of Taxation Policy***

- Essential reading:

Hacker, J. S. and Pierson, P. (2010) "Winner-Take-All Politics: Public Policy, Political Organization, and the Precipitous Rise of Top Incomes in the United States." *Politics & Society* 38(2), pp. 152–204 [Introduction & Pages 175-204]

- Further readings:

Iversen, T. & Soskice (2019) *Democracy and Prosperity: Reinventing Capitalism through a Turbulent Century*: Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey. [Pages 17-26 & 30-35 & 40-46]

Bonica, A., McCarty, N., Poole, K. T. and Rosenthal H. (2013) "Why Hasn't Democracy Slowed Rising Inequality?", *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 27, No. 3. pp. 103-123.

Genschel, P. and P. Schwarz (2011). "Tax competition: a literature review." *Socio-Economic Review* 9(2): 339-370.

Scheve, K. and Stasavage, D (2016) *Taxing the Rich: A History of Fiscal Fairness in the United States and Europe*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

**Session 6: Education I: Intergenerational Mobility & Educational Inequality**

***Topic 1: S Measurement and Trends in Intergenerational Mobility***

- Essential readings:

Corak, M. (2013). Income inequality, equality of opportunity, and intergenerational mobility. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 27(3), 79-102.

· Further readings:

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED (at least the figures) Manduca, R., Hell, M., Adermon, A., Blanden, J., Bratberg, E., Gielen, A. C., ... & Sirniö, O. (2020). Trends in Absolute Income Mobility in North America and Europe. IZA Discussion Paper

Van der Weide, R., Lakner, C., Mahler, D. G., Narayan, A., & Ramasubbaiah, R. (2021). Intergenerational mobility around the world.

Williams, H. L. (2015). Intergenerational mobility: Theory, measurement, and empirics.

Corak, M. (2020). Intergenerational mobility: what do we care about? What should we care about?. *Australian Economic Review*, 53(2), 230-240.

Jácome, E., Kuziemko, I., & Naidu, S. (2021). *Mobility for All: Representative Intergenerational Mobility Estimates over the 20th Century* (No. w29289). National Bureau of Economic Research.

Chetty, R., Hendren, N., Kline, P., Saez, E., & Turner, N. (2014). Is the United States still a land of opportunity? Recent trends in intergenerational mobility. *American Economic Review: Papers & Proceedings* 2014, 104(5): 141–147 [This is the short version of the paper, which remains the only mandatory reading. However, I strongly encourage you to have a look at the full version paper here (at least the figures) <https://opportunityinsights.org/paper/recentintergenerationalmobility/>]

Chetty, R., Hendren, N., Jones, M. R., & Porter, S. R. (2020). Race and economic opportunity in the United States: An intergenerational perspective. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 135(2), 711-783.

Alesina, A., Hohmann, S., Michalopoulos, S., & Papaioannou, E. (2021). Intergenerational mobility in Africa. *Econometrica*, 89(1), 1-35.

Kaila, M., Nix, E., & Riukula, K. (2021). Disparate Impacts of Job Loss by Parental Income and Implications for Intergenerational Mobility.

**Topic 2: Segregation and Affirmative Action**

- Essential reading:

Chetty, R., Friedman, J. N., Saez, E., Turner, N., & Yagan, D. (2020). Income segregation and intergenerational mobility across colleges in the united states. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 135(3), 1567-1633. [You can read the non-technical summary attached in PDF below but I still suggest to read the full paper and check

related materials available here:

<https://opportunityinsights.org/paper/undermatching/> and  
<https://opportunityinsights.org/paper/mobilityreportcards/>

- Further readings:

Arcidiacono, P., & Lovenheim, M. (2016). Affirmative action and the quality-fit trade-off. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 54(1), 3-51.

Alex Bell, Raj Chetty, Xavier Jaravel, Neviana Petkova, John Van Reenen. (2019). Who Becomes an Inventor in America? The Importance of Exposure to Innovation, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 134, Issue 2, Pages 647–713 [You can read the non-technical summary attached in PDF below]

Chetty, R., Friedman, J. N., Hilger, N., Saez, E., Schanzenbach, D. W., & Yagan, D. (2011). How does your kindergarten classroom affect your earnings? Evidence from Project STAR. *The Quarterly journal of economics*, 126(4), 1593-1660.

Fryer Jr, R. G., & Loury, G. C. (2005). Affirmative action and its mythology. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 19(3), 147-162.

Holzer, H., & Neumark, D. (2000). Assessing affirmative action. *Journal of Economic literature*, 38(3), 483-568.

**- For those interested in the French/Parisian context**

Bonneau, C., Charousset, P., Grenet, J. & Thebault, G. (2021). Grandes écoles: quelle « ouverture » depuis le milieu des années 2000 ?. IPP Policy Brief, no. 61.

Pasquali, P. (2021). Hérédité: Les élites, les grandes écoles et les mésaventures du mérite (1870-2020). *La Découverte*.

Fack, G., & Grenet, J. (2015). Improving college access and success for low-income students: Evidence from a large need-based grant program. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 7(2), 1-34.

Fack, G & Grenet, J. (2014). Can we Increase the Social and Academic Mix in the Education System? The Impact of Allocation Procedures on Lycée Students in the Paris Region . IPP Policy Brief, no. 11.

Grenet, J. & Souidi, Y. (2018). Multi-Collège Catchment Areas in Paris: an Effective Tool for Combating Social Segregation?. IPP Policy Brief, no. 35.

## Session 7: Education II: The myth of Meritocracy

### *Topic 1: What is wrong with meritocracy*

- Essential reading:

Mijs, J. J. (2016). The unfulfillable promise of meritocracy: Three lessons and their implications for justice in education. *Social Justice Research*, 29(1), 14-34.

- Further readings:

Mijs, J. B. (2019) 'The paradox of inequality: income inequality and belief in meritocracy go hand in hand', *Socio-Economic Review*, mwy051, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ser/mwy051>

Mijs, J. B. & Savage, M. (2020) 'Meritocracy, Elitism and Inequality', *The Political Quarterly*, Vol. 91, No. 2, April–June 2020

Reeves, R. V. (2017) *Dream Hoarders How the American Upper Middle Class Is Leaving Everyone Else in the Dust, Why That Is a Problem, and What to Do About It*. Brookings Institute Press, New York.

### *Topic 2: Credentialism and the tyranny of merit*

- Essential reading:

Sandel, M. J. (2020) *The Tyranny of Merit: What's Become of the Common Good*, Penguin Books, London.

- Further readings:

O'Brien, D., Laurison, D., Miles, A., & Friedman, S. (2016). Are the creative industries meritocratic? An analysis of the 2014 British Labour Force Survey. *Cultural Trends*, 25(2), 116-131.

Markovitz, D. (2019) *The Meritocracy Trap: How America's Foundational Myth Feeds Inequality, Dismantles the Middle Class, and Devours the Elite*, Penguin Books, London.

**Session 8: The Consequences of Inequality I: Welfare States, Crises, and COVID 19**

***Topic 1: The Welfare State in a Comparative Perspective and Political Polarization***

- Essential reading:

Esping-Andersen, G., & Myles, J. (2011). Economic inequality and the welfare state. In Brian Nolan, Wiemer Salverda, and Timothy M. Smeeding (Eds.). *The Oxford Handbook of Economic Inequality* (pp. 639–664). Oxford: Oxford University Press

Further readings:

Autor, D., Dorn, D., Hanson, G., & Majlesi, K. (2017). Importing Political Polarization? The Electoral Consequences of Rising Trade Exposure. NBER Working Paper, No. 22637.

Autor, D., Dorn, D., Hanson, G., & Majlesi, K. (2017). Importing Political Polarization? The Electoral Consequences of Rising Trade Exposure. NBER Working Paper, No. 22637.

Autor, D., Dorn, D., Hanson, G., & Majlesi, K. (2017). Importing Political Polarization? The Electoral Consequences of Rising Trade Exposure. NBER Working Paper, No. 22637.

Dippel, C., Gold, R., & Heblich, S. (2015). Globalization and its (dis-)content: Trade shocks and voting behaviour. NBER Working Paper, No. 21812.

Duca, J. V., & Saving, J. L. (2016). Income inequality and political polarization: time series evidence over nine decades. *Review of Income and Wealth*, 62(3), 445-466.

Kelly, N. J., & Enns, P. K. (2010). Inequality and the dynamics of public opinion: The self-reinforcing link between economic inequality and mass preferences. *American Journal of Political Science*, 54(4), 855-870.

Korpi, W., & Palme, J. (1998). The paradox of redistribution and strategies of equality: Welfare state institutions, inequality, and poverty in the Western countries. *American Sociological Review*, 63(5), 661-687.

Mahler, V. A., & Jesuit, D. K. (2006). Fiscal redistribution in the developed countries: new insights from the Luxembourg Income Study. *Socio-Economic Review*, 4(3), 483-511.

Solt, F. (2008). Economic inequality and democratic political engagement. *American Journal of Political Science*, 52(1), 48-60.

Wang, C., Caminada, K., & Goudswaard, K. (2012). The redistributive effect of social transfer programmes and taxes: A decomposition across countries. *International Social Security Review*, 65(3), 27-48.

**Topic 2: COVID 19 and Inequalities**

- Essential reading:

Blundell, Richard, Monica Costa Dias, Robert Joyce, and Xiaowei Xu. (2020) "COVID-19 and Inequalities." *Fiscal Studies* 41, no. 2: 291–319. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-5890.12232>.

Further readings:

Darvas, Zsolt (2021) "The Unequal Inequality Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic." *Working Paper 06/2021, Bruegel*, 2021, 1–25.

Clark, Andrew E., Conchita D'Ambrosio, and Anthony Lepinteur.(2021) "The Fall in Income Inequality during COVID-19 in Four European Countries." *Journal of Economic Inequality* 19, no. 3 (2021): 489–507. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10888-021-09499-2>.

**Session 9: The Consequences of Inequality II: Race, Poverty and the Emergence of the Punitive State**

**Topic 1: Punishing the Poor**

- Essential reading:

Wacquant, L. (2009). *Punishing the poor: The neoliberal government of social insecurity*. Duke university Press. **Essential: Prologue (pp. xi-xxiii) and Chapter 1 (pp. 1-31)**. If you are interested, consider reading how these policies were introduced in France: Chapter 9 "Carceral Aberration Comes to France" (pp. 270-286).

- Further readings:

Bourdieu, P., Accardo, A., & Emanuel, S. (1999). *The weight of the world: Social suffering in contemporary society*. Alhoda UK.

**Topic 2: Over-policing and discrimination**

- Essential reading:

Goffman, A. (2015). *On the run: Fugitive life in an American city*. Picador.

- Further readings:

Bourgois, P. (2003). *In search of respect: Selling crack in El Barrio* (Vol. 10). Cambridge University Press.

Bigo, D., & McCluskey, E. (2018). What Is a PARIS Approach to (In) securitization? *Political Anthropological Research for*. The Oxford handbook of international security, 116.

## Session 10: Normative Dilemmas about Equality : Legitimising Inequality

### *Topic 1: Piketty: "Inequality is a Political Choice"*

- Essential reading:

Piketty, T. (2020). *Capital and ideology*. Harvard University Press. [Introduction, pp. 1-10].

- Further readings:

Snow, D. A. (2004). Framing processes, ideology, and discursive fields. *The Blackwell companion to social movements*, 1, 380-412.

### *Topic 2: What is a Just Distribution of Wealth? Rawls' "Theory of Justice"*

- Essential reading:

Rawls, J. (2009). *A theory of justice*. Harvard university press. [3-19 & 52-56 & 65-70 & 78-81]

- Further readings:

Barry, B. (1989) *Theories of Justice*, University of California Press, Berkeley.

Barry, B. (1973) "John Rawls and the Priority of Liberty", *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 2. Pp. 274-290.

Cohen, G. (1997) 'Where the Action is: On the Site of Distributive Justice' (1997), *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, Vol. 26 (1), pp. 3-30.

Dworkin, R. (2000) *Sovereign Virtue: The Theory and Practice of Equality*, Harvard University Press. Chap. 1-4.

Kymlicka, W. (2002) *Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Introduction*, Oxford University Press, Oxford. Chap. 3.

Nagel, T. (2003) 'Rawls and Liberalism' in S. Freeman (ed.), *The Cambridge companion to Rawls*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Massachusetts.

Rawls, J. (1993) *Political Liberalism*, Columbia University Press, New York.

Rawls, J. & Kelly, E. (2001) *Justice as Fairness: A Restatement*, Harvard University Press.

Van Parijs, P. (2003) 'Difference Principles' in S. Freeman (ed.), *The Cambridge companion to Rawls* (2003) Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Massachusetts.

## **Session 11: The Challenges to Tackle Inequalities**

### ***Topic 1: Topic 1: Inequality, Social Mobility and Preferences for Redistribution***

- Essential reading:

Stantcheva, S. (2021). *Why Do We Not Support More Redistribution? New Explanations from Economics Research*. Chapter 28 of Blanchard, O., & Rodrik, D. (Eds.). (2021). *Combating Inequality: Rethinking Government's Role*. MIT press.

- Further readings:

Alesina, A., Miano, A., & Stantcheva, S. (2018). Immigration and redistribution (No. w24733). National Bureau of Economic Research.

Alesina, A., Stantcheva, S., & Teso, E. (2018). Intergenerational mobility and preferences for redistribution. *American Economic Review*, 108(2), 521-54.

Alesina, A., Murard, E., & Rapoport, H. (2021). Immigration and preferences for redistribution in Europe. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 21(6), 925-954.

Kuziemko, Ilyana, Michael Norton, Emmanuel Saez, and Stefanie Stantcheva. 2015. "How Elastic Are Preferences for Redistribution? Evidence from Randomized Survey Experiments." *American Economic Review* 105(4): 1478–1508

**Topic 2: Tax Evasion in a Globalized World**

- Essential reading:

Zucman, G. (2014). Taxing across borders: Tracking personal wealth and corporate profits. *Journal of economic perspectives*, 28(4), 121-48.

- Further readings:

Saez, E., & Zucman, G. (2019). The Triumph of Injustice: How the Rich Dodge Taxes and How to Make Them Pay [INTRODUCTION]

Piketty, Thomas, and Gabriel Zucman. 2014. "Capital is Back: Wealth-Income Ratios in Rich Countries, 1700–2010." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 129(3): 1255–1310

Zucman, Gabriel. 2013a. "The Missing Wealth of Nations: Are Europe and the U.S. Net Debtors or Net Creditors?" *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 128(3): 1321–64.

**Session 12: Capitalism, baby**

**Topic 1: The extension of global Capitalism**

- Essential reading:

Milanovic, B. (2020) *Capitalism, Alone: The Future of the System that Rules the World*, Harvard University Press.

- Further readings:

Allen, D. (2016). Equality and American Democracy: Why Politics Trumps Economics. *Foreign Affairs*, 95(1), 23–28. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43946622>

Brown W. (2020) *Why Is Democracy So Hard?* University of California, Berkeley Memorial Lecture for Erik Olin Wright, January 2020. *Politics & Society*. 2020;48(4):539-552. doi:10.1177/0032329220962655

Hopkin, J., & Blyth, M. (2019). The global economics of european populism: Growth regimes and party system change in europe (The Leonard schapiro lecture 2017). *Government and Opposition*, 54(2), 193-225. doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/gov.2018.43>

**Topic 2: Recap (No readings)**

## BACKGROUND READINGS

- Piketty, T. (2020). *Capital and ideology*. Harvard University Press.
- Milanovic, B. (2016). *Global inequality: A new approach for the age of globalization*. Harvard University Press.
- Saez, E., & Zucman, G. (2019). *The triumph of injustice*. HighBridge.
- Bourdieu, P. (1984). *Distinction: A social critique of the judgement of taste*. Harvard university press.
- Bourdieu, P., & Wacquant, L. J. (1992). *An invitation to reflexive sociology*. University of Chicago press.
- Rawls, J. (2009). *A theory of justice*. Harvard university press.
- Sen, A. (1992). *Inequality reexamined*. Oxford University Press.

## COURSE CONVENORS

**Bernardino León Reyes** is a PhD candidate and Teaching Associate at SciencesPo. He undertakes his doctoral investigation within the project [GuardInt](#), a three-year-long collaboration between SciencesPo, King's College London and the WZB Berlin that examines shortcomings in the scrutiny of European intelligence services. He holds a BA in *Sociology and Philosophy* from the Sorbonne, an MSc in *International Relations Theory* from the LSE and an MSc in *Anthropology of Politics* from University College London. His research interests revolve around the topics of democracy, surveillance and inequality, and it has been funded by the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) and by the "La Caixa" Foundation.

**Javier Carbonell** is a PhD candidate at the University of Edinburgh where he studies mainstream parties' response to the rise of the far-right. He is a Steering Committee member of the Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism (ASEN), an Associate of LSE IDEAS and the editor of LSE Eurocrisis Blog. He completed an MSc in International Relations at the LSE and is also a member of the Global Populist Parties Dataset (LSE Systemic Risk Centre) and the New Nationalism Project (University of Toronto) research groups.

**P. Javier Soria Espin** is a PhD candidate in Economics at the Paris School of Economics (PSE) funded by the Bank of Spain Graduate Fellowship. Before coming to PSE, Javier completed a Degree in Economics

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**Pablo Sánchez Martínez** is a trainee economist at the Monetary Policy Strategy Division of the European Central Bank. He completed a MRes in Economics (Public Policy and Development) at the Paris School of Economics (PSE) and a BSc in Political Economy (King's College London). In addition, he has worked as research assistant at the Observatoire Macroéconomie in CEPREMAP and as an assistant statistician at the Banque de France. His main academic interests are related to quantitative macroeconomics, monetary and fiscal policy, macroeconometrics and the intersection between inequality and macroeconomics.

## INVITED INSTRUCTORS

To be announced.