

**“Social Policy and Socio-Economic Outcomes in Industrialized Countries:
Lessons from the Luxembourg Income Study”**

PROFESSOR JANET GORNICK

Sociology 85902 ☼ Political Science 83502 0 ☼ Economics 87500

SPRING 2008 ☼ Mondays 4:15 – 6:15 p.m. ☼ Room 8203

CLASS SCHEDULE

#1	JANUARY 28	Introduction to the Course and to LIS / User Registration
#2	FEBRUARY 4	Introduction to the Microdata / Technical Issues / Self-Teaching Packages / Sample Files <i>Handouts on assignments will be distributed.</i>
#3	FEBRUARY 11	Poverty I
#4	FEBRUARY 25	Poverty II Guest lecture: Tim Smeeding, Former Director of LIS
#5	MARCH 3	Inequality
#6	MARCH 10	Gender, Women, Work, and Family I
#7	MARCH 17	Multi-Level and Pooled Time-Series Models Guest lecture: Markus Jäntti, LIS Research Director
#8	MARCH 26	Gender, Women, Work, and Family II <i>NOTE: THIS IS A WEDNESDAY.</i>
#9	MARCH 31	Student presentations: research project designs.
#10	APRIL 7	Political Questions I
#11	APRIL 14	Political Questions II
#12	APRIL 28	Wealth: Preliminary Lessons from the LWS
#13	MAY 5	Student Presentations
#14	MAY 12	Student Presentations
#15	MAY 19	Student Presentations / <i>Final Papers due.</i>

LOGISTICS.

☀ **Professor:**

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Office hours will be held at the Graduate Center and will be by appointment. Email the professor at any time to arrange a date and time.

☀ **Assignments:**

A research project culminating in a final paper	70%
Five brief summaries of class readings (choose five of seven classes)	20%
Attendance and class participation	10%

The research project will require a series of brief written “installments”, to be turned in throughout the semester. While the installments will not be individually graded, they are required. On February 4, a handout will be distributed, describing the requirements for the written assignments.

☀ **Required Readings and Other Materials:**

In the first class, the professor will distribute “memory sticks”. These “sticks” include the syllabus, some basic information about the Luxembourg Income Study, and all of the readings marked with an ** below. Other readings will be distributed throughout the semester. Students are responsible for purchasing the one required book (and should do it quickly as we will read it in February).

☀ **Study Groups:**

Students are strongly encouraged to form study groups. Groups might include students using the same software; or exploring similar methodological approaches; or sharing common substantive areas of interest/research. *Note that neither programming nor statistical techniques will be taught in class.*

REQUIRED READING

- **** Students should purchase this item (note: one book.)
- *** Professor will distribute in hard copy.
- ** Professor will distribute electronic copies.
- * Students should download from LIS website.

CLASS #1

JANUARY 28

Introduction to the Course and to LIS / User Registration

Required Reading:

Gornick, Janet C., and Timothy M. Smeeding. 2008. "Luxembourg Income Study." In William A. Darity, Jr. (Ed.) International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences, 2nd edition. 9 vols. Detroit: Macmillan Reference: 519-522. **

Atkinson, A.B. 2004. "Luxembourg Income Study (LIS): Past, Present and Future." Socio-Economic Review. 2(2): 165-190. **

Förster, Michael F. and Koen Vleminckx. 2004. "International Comparisons of Income Inequality and Poverty: Findings from the Luxembourg Income Study." Socio-Economic Review. 2(2): 191-212. **

Gornick, Janet C. 2004. "Women's Economic Outcomes, Gender Inequality, and Public Policy: Findings from the Luxembourg Income Study." Socio-Economic Review. 2(2): 213-238. **

Smeeding, Timothy, Günther Schmaus and Serge Allegrezza. 1985. "An Introduction to LIS." LIS Working Paper 1 (scanned copy). **

CLASS #2

FEBRUARY 4

Introduction to the Microdata / Technical Issues / Self-Teaching Packages / Sample Files

Required Reading:

Read items listed under Class # 1.

And explore the LIS website: www.lisproject.org.

CLASS #3

FEBRUARY 11

Poverty I

Required Reading:

Scruggs, Lyle and James P. Allan. 2006. "The Material Consequences of Welfare States: Benefit Generosity and Absolute Poverty in 16 OECD Countries." Comparative Political Studies. 39(7):880-904. (Originally LIS WP 409, 2005.) **

Brady, David. 2005. "The Welfare State and Relative Poverty in Rich Western Democracies, 1967-1997." Social Forces. 83(3), March: 1329-1364. (Originally LIS WP 390, 2005.) **

Wiepking, Pamala, and Ineke Maas. 2005. "Gender Differences in Poverty: A Cross-National Study." European Sociological Review. 2(1), July: 187-200. (Originally LIS WP 389, 2004.) **

Kraus, Margit, and Katja Hölsch. 2004. "Poverty Alleviation and the Degree of Centralisation in European Schemes of Social Assistance." Journal of European Social Policy. (14)2, May: 143-164. (Originally LIS WP 342, 2004.) ***

CLASS #4

FEBRUARY 25

Poverty II

Guest lecture: Tim Smeeding

Required Reading:

Lee Rainwater and Timothy M. Smeeding. 2003. *Poor Kids in a Rich Country: America's Children in Comparative Perspective*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation Press. ****

CLASS #5

MARCH 3

Inequality I

Required Reading:

Alderson, Arthur S., Jason Beckfield, and François Nielsen. 2005. "Exactly How Has Income Inequality Changed? Patterns of Distributional Change in Core Societies." International Journal of Comparative Sociology. 46: 405-423. (Originally LIS WP 422, 2005.) **

Voitchovsky, Sarah. 2005. "Does the Profile of Income Inequality Matter for Economic Growth?" Journal of Economic Growth. 10 (3): 273-296, September. (Originally LIS WP 354, 2003.) **

Kenworthy, Lane. 2004. "An Equality-Growth Tradeoff?" Chapter 4 in *Egalitarian Capitalism*, New York: Russell Sage Foundation. (Originally LIS WP 362, 2003.) ***

Jäntti, Markus. 1997. "Inequality in Five Countries in the 1980s: The Role of Demographic Shifts, Markets and Government Policies," *Economica*. 65(255): 415-440. (Originally LIS WP 146, 1996.) **

CLASS #6

MARCH 10

Gender, Women, Work, and Family I

Required Reading:

Bardasi, Elena, and Janet C. Gornick. 2008 (forthcoming January.) "Working for Less? Women's Part-Time Wage Penalties Across Countries." *Feminist Economics*. (Originally LIS WP 467, 2007.) ***

Gornick, Janet C. 1999. "Gender Equality in the Labor Market." In Diane Sainsbury (ed.) *Gender and Welfare State Regimes*. Oxford, U.K.: Oxford University Press, 210-242. (Originally LIS WP 206, 1999.) ***

Gornick, Janet C., Marcia K. Meyers, and Katherin E. Ross. 1998. "Public Policies and the Employment of Mothers: A Cross-National Study." *Social Science Quarterly* 79(1): 35-54. (Originally LIS WP 140, 1996.) **

Gornick, Janet C., and Jerry A. Jacobs. 1998. "Gender, The Welfare State, and Public Employment: A Comparative Study of Seven Industrialized Countries." *American Sociological Review* 63(5): 688-710. (Originally LIS WP 168, 1997.) **

CLASS #7

MARCH 17

Multi-Level and Pooled Time-Series Models

Guest lecture: Markus Jäntti

Required Reading:

Mandel, Hadas and Moshe Semyonov. 2005. "Family Policies, Wage Structures, and Gender Gaps: Sources of Earnings Inequality in 20 Countries." *American Sociological Review*. 70(6): 949-967. (Originally LIS WP 364, 2003.) **

Brady, David. 2006. "Structural Theory and Relative Poverty in Rich Western Democracies, 1969-2000." *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* 24: 153-175. (Originally LIS WP 407, 2005.) **

CLASS #8

MARCH 26 NOTE: THIS IS A WEDNESDAY.

Gender, Women, Work, and Family II

Required Reading:

Sigle-Rushton, Wendy, and Jane Waldfogel. 2007. "Motherhood and Women's Earnings in Anglo-American, Continental European, and Nordic Countries." Feminist Economics 13(2): 55-91. (Originally LIS WP 454, 2006.) ***

Mandel, Hadas, and Moshe Semyonov. 2006. "A Welfare State Paradox: State Interventions and Women's Employment Opportunities in 22 Countries." American Journal of Sociology. 111(6): 1910-1949. (Originally LIS WP 246, 2003.) **

Pettit, Becky, and Jennifer Hook. 2005. "The Structure of Women's Employment in Comparative Perspective." Social Forces. 84(2): 779-801 (Originally LIS WP 330, 2005.) **

Christopher, Karen. 2002. "Single Motherhood, Employment, or Social Assistance: Why are U.S. Women Poorer than Women in Other Affluent Nations?" Journal of Poverty. 6(2): 61-80. (Originally LIS WP 285, 2001.) **

CLASS #9

MARCH 31

Student presentations: research project designs

Summaries of research project design due.

CLASS #10

APRIL 7

Political Questions I

Required Reading:

Vincent A. Mahler. 2004. "Economic Globalization, Domestic Politics and Income Inequality in the Developed Countries: A Cross-National Study," Comparative Political Studies, volume 37, number 9 (November): 1025-1053. (Originally LIS WP 273, 2001.) **

Jesuit, David. 2003. "The Regional Economic Dynamics of European Electoral Politics: Participation in National and European Contests in the 1990s." European Union Politics 4(2): 139-164. (Originally LIS WP 281, 2002.) **

Mahler, Vincent. 2002. "Exploring the Subnational Dimension of Income Inequality: An Analysis of the Relationship between Inequality and Electoral Turnout in the Developed Countries." International Studies Quarterly. 46(1), March: 117-142. (Originally LIS WP 292, 2002.) **

Huber, Evelyne, John Stephens, David Bradley, Stephanie Moller, and Francois Nielsen. 2003. "Distribution and Redistribution in Post-Industrial Democracies." World Politics. 55(2), (January): 193-228. (Originally LIS WP 265, 2001.) **

CLASS #11

APRIL 14

Political Questions II

Required Reading:

Brady, David and Kevin Leicht. *Forthcoming*. "Party to Inequality: Right Party Power and Income Inequality in Affluent Western Democracies." Research in Social Stratification and Mobility. (Originally LIS WP 460, 2007.) **

Brady, David. 2003. "The Politics of Poverty: Left Political Institutions, the Welfare State and Poverty." Social Forces, 82(2), December: 557-588. (Originally LIS 352, 2003.) **

Branko Milanovic. 2000. "The Median Voter Hypothesis, Income Inequality and Income Redistribution: An Empirical Test with the Required Data." European Journal of Political Economy. 16(3): 367-410. (Originally LIS WP 265, 2000.) **

Mulé Rosa. 1998. "Does Democracy Promote Equality?" Democratization. 5(1): 1-22. (Originally LIS WP 175, 1998.) ***

CLASS #12

APRIL 28

Wealth: Preliminary Lessons from the Luxembourg Wealth Study.

Required Reading:

Sierminska, Eva, Andrea Brandolini, and Timothy Smeeding. 2006. "Comparing Wealth Distribution across Rich Countries: First Results from the Luxembourg Wealth Study". LWS Working Paper 1. *

Eva Sierminska, Andrea Brandolini, and Timothy Smeeding. 2006. "Cross-National Comparison of Income and Wealth Status in Retirement: First Results from the Luxembourg Wealth Study (LWS.)" LWS Working Paper 2. *

Gornick, Janet, Teresa Munzi, Eva Sierminska and Timothy M. Smeeding. 2006. "Older Women's Income and Wealth Packages: The Five-Legged Stool in Cross-National Perspective." LWS Working Paper 3. *

Sierminska, Eva and Yelena Takhtamanova. 2006. "Wealth Effects Out of Financial and Housing Wealth: Cross Country and Age Group Comparisons." LWS Working Paper 4. *

Jappelli, Tullio and Maria Chiuri. 2006. "Do the Elderly Reduce Housing Equity? An International Comparison." LIS Working Paper 436. *
(*Note: This last one is a LIS paper.*)

CLASS #13

MAY 5

Student Presentations

CLASS #14

MAY 12

Student Presentations

CLASS #15

MAY 19

Students Presentations

Finals Papers Due