

WEST COAST POVERTY CENTER

Seminar Series on Poverty and Public Policy, Winter 2007

The West Coast Poverty Center continues its inaugural seminar series on poverty research and its contributions to public policy in Winter 2007. The seminar series speakers include nationally prominent poverty researchers brought to campus through the auspices of the West Coast Poverty Center, as well as local faculty engaged in cutting-edge poverty research. The five seminars offered every quarter are open to faculty and graduate students from all disciplines having a definitive interest in poverty research and policy issues.

Time, Location and Format: Most of the seminars occur on Monday afternoons from 3-4:30 PM in either the Parrington Hall Commons or the Forum (located on the third floor of Parrington Hall). A continuously updated schedule of seminar dates and topics will be announced periodically throughout the quarter. The format for seminars entails a generally brief (30 minute or so) presentation by the speaker, sometimes a formal response by a discussant, and in all seminars an extended open and lively dialog between the speaker and the seminar participants for the remaining time of the seminar. Particular emphasis will be placed on illuminating the ways in which poverty knowledge is informed by a diversity of disciplinary perspectives.

Topical Areas: Research on poverty encompasses a rich and diverse array of disciplinary approaches, each offering unique insights into the relationships between labor markets, family demography, local and international migration, the distribution of health and poverty, and multiple levels of public policy. Over the course of the 2006-2007 academic year, poverty researchers from a range of disciplinary traditions will address a comprehensive set of topics that pertain to the causes, consequences, and public policy responses to poverty. Examples include the relationship between poverty and various forms of health disparities, old and emergent patterns of racial and economic segregation, the policy and political implications of alternative approaches to the conceptualization and measurement of poverty, new evidence concerning patterns of segmented assimilation, and research findings pertaining to policy initiatives intended to reduce poverty.

Graduate Credit: Graduate students from all disciplines who have a substantive emphasis on poverty as a part of their individual program of study may receive 1 credit per term for attendance and participation at 3 seminars, or 2 credits for attendance at every seminar plus an integrative paper of approximately 10 pages. Questions pertaining to graduate credit may be directed to Virginia Hawkins, WCPC Program Coordinator, at wcpc@u.washington.edu.

The West Coast Poverty Center: The West Coast Poverty Center at the University of Washington is one of three regional poverty research centers funded nationally by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. Administered jointly by the School of Social Work and the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, the West Coast Poverty Center functions as a hub for research, education, and policy analysis pertaining to the causes of poverty and its solutions in the realm of public policy.

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wpc@u.washington.edu 206.616.2858

Friday, January 12Parrington Hall Commons
12:30 - 2:00 PM**“The Influence of Early-Life Events on Human Capital, Health Status, and Labor Market Outcomes Over the Life Course”**

Rucker C. Johnson, Assistant Professor, Goldman School of Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley (Jointly Sponsored with the Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology)

Wednesday, January 24Parrington Hall Forum
12:00 - 2:00 PM**“Mothers, Poverty, and Public Policy”**

Nancy Folbre, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts (Jointly Sponsored with the Evans School of Public Affairs and the Walker-Ames Lecture Series)

Monday, January 29Parrington Hall Commons
3:00 - 4:30 PM**“Social Capital and Welfare Reform”**

Jo Anne Schneider, Associate Research Professor, George Washington Institute for Public Policy and Department of Anthropology, George Washington University

Monday, February 12Parrington Hall Commons
3:00-4:30 P.M**“Understanding ‘Power Talk’: Language, Public Policy, and Democracy”**

Jocelyn Crowley, Associate Professor, Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University

Monday, February 26Parrington Hall Forum
3:00 - 4:30 PM**“Reconstructing the Legacy of Racial Violence”**

Stewart Tolnay, Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology, University of Washington; Amy Bailey, Doctoral Candidate in Sociology, West Coast Poverty Center Fellow and Lynching Project Manager

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