

September 4, 2006

Dear HOPR Students,

Here are some web links and other information for the Poverty and the Human Condition course.

I've set up a course page on my academic website at: <http://academic.mu.edu/phil/jonesj/>

If you click on the link for courses, it will take you to a page where you can link to the HOPR course. I've got the course syllabus, this memo and some additional material. I'll be adding material over the course of the semester. I'll email when the site is updated.

The main link for US govt statistics on poverty is provided by the Census Bureau at:

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/poverty.html>

There are lots of links that you can explore. We will go over this link in class. But I'd point your attention, for immediate concerns, to the 1995 report on measuring poverty in the US:

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2005pubs/p60-227.pdf>

For your interest, I'll also put up (in a few days) a copy of an article that I wrote, "Poverty Lines, Social Participation, and Welfare Rights," in *Contemporary Philosophy* 15(July, August 1993), 8-15. It also deals with the issues of defining and measuring poverty.

For some other good websites on poverty, I'd suggest

the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities at <http://www.cbpp.org/>. They produce a number of very helpful reports. In the lower left hand corner of the page, you can see the number of areas in which they work including poverty and income and welfare reform.

I'd also suggest the US Basic Income Guarantee Network at <http://www.usbig.net/>. The notion of a Basic Income Guarantee is rarely discussed in this country -- at least at in terms of public policy debates -- but has been quite common in countries such as Sweden.

As for Bibliographies, please see my website. You will find three links: JSTOR Poverty Bib, JSTORStigma, SocialWelfare, WelfareReformBib, and the bibliography from my 1990 book, *Poverty and the Human Condition*. These bibliographies are by no means complete. They reflect the various areas of concerns that I have and I think you might find them of interest in the course. I obviously don't expect you to read everything on these lists!

For history and background on Poverty and Social Welfare Programs in the US, I've put 4 books on reserve in the library. They are all quite excellent.

Michael Katz, *In the Shadow of the Poorhouse: A Social History of Welfare in America* and *The Undeserving Poor: From the War on Poverty to the War on Welfare*; Joel Handler and Yesheskel Hasenfeld, *The Moral Construction of Poverty: Welfare Reform in America*; Joel Handler, *Social Citizenship and Workfare in the United States and Western Europe*. I've also put Gilbert Rist, *The History of Development: From Western Origins to Global Faith* and my book, *Poverty and the Human Condition* on reserve.