



# GLOBAL URBAN POVERTY

CPLN 623 / Spring 2015

## Syllabus Summary

Faculty

**Andrew T. Lamas**

[ATLamas@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:ATLamas@sas.upenn.edu)

Community and Economic Development  
City and Regional Planning  
Master of City Planning



# Texts and Readings

- Sudhir Anand, Paul Segal, and Joseph E. Stiglitz, *Debates on the Measurement of Global Poverty* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010).
- Joseph E. Stiglitz, Amartya Sen, Jean-Paul Fitoussi, *Mismeasuring Our Lives: Why GDP Doesn't Add Up* (New York: New Press, 2010).
- Branko Milanovic, *The Haves and the Have-nots: A Brief and Idiosyncratic History of Global Inequality* (New York: Basic, 2011).
- Branko Milanovic, *Worlds Apart: Measuring International and Global Inequality* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 2005).
- Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom* (New York: Knopf, 1999).
- Richard Burdett, Teddy Cruz, David Harvey, and Pedro Gadanho, *Uneven Growth: Tactical Urbanisms for Expanding Megacities* (New York: Museum of Modern Art, 2014).
- Martha C. Nussbaum, *Women and Human Development: The Capabilities Approach* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000).
- Martha C. Nussbaum, *Creating Capabilities: The Human Development Approach* (Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2011).
- Paul Farmer, *Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor* (Berkeley and Los Angeles, University of California Press, 2004).
- Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo, *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty* (New York: Public Affairs, 2011).
- Muhammad Yunus, *Creating a World Without Poverty: Social Business and the Future of Capitalism* (New York: Public Affairs, 2007).
- Muhammad Yunus, *Building Social Business: The New Kind of Capitalism that Serves Humanity's Most Pressing Needs* (New York: Public Affairs, 2010).
- Dan Morrell, "Who Is Poor?," *Harvard Magazine*, January-February 2011.
- Jeffrey D. Sachs, *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time* (New York: Penguin, 2005).
- Daryl Collins, Jonathan Morduch, Stuart Rutherford, and Orlanda Ruthven, *Portfolios of the Poor: How the World's Poor Live on \$2 a Day* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2010).
- C.K. Prahalad, *The Fortune at the Bottom of the Pyramid, Revised and Updated 5th Anniversary Edition: Eradicating Poverty Through Profits* (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson FT Press, 2014).
- Mike Davis, *Planet of Slums* (London: Verso, 2006).
- Janice Perlman, *Favela: Four Decades of Living on the Edge in Rio de Janeiro* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010).
- Paul Collier, *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).
- Hernando de Soto, *The Mystery of Capital: Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else* (New York: Basic Books, 2003).
- Vandana Shiva, *Earth Democracy: Justice, Sustainability, and Peace* (Boston: South End Press, 2005).
- Thomas Pogge, *World Poverty and Human Rights: Cosmopolitan Responsibilities and Reforms*, second edition (Cambridge: Polity, 2008).
- Peter Singer, *The Life You Can Save: Acting Now to End World Poverty* (New York: Random House, 2009).
- David P. Ellerman, *Helping People Help Themselves: From the World Bank to an Alternative Philosophy of Development Assistance* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2004).
- Subcomandante Marcos, "Do Not Forget Ideas Are Also Weapons," *Le Monde diplomatique*, 2000. [Translated by Harry Forster, this essay is excerpted from "[La droite intellectuelle et le fascisme liberal](#)," *Le Monde diplomatique* (August 2000).
- Laurence Chandy and Geoffrey Gertz, "[Two Trends in Global Poverty](#)," *Global Economy and Development* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, May 17, 2011).
- William Easterly, *The Tyranny of Experts: Economists, Dictators, and the Forgotten Rights of the Poor* (New York: Basic Books, 2013).
- William Easterly, *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2006).
- Daniel Ben-Ami, "[Bill Gates' Attack on Capitalism is Nothing to Cheer](#)," *The Guardian* (March 15, 2013).
- Gilbert Rist, *The History of Development: From Western Origins to Global Faith*, fourth edition (London: Zed Books, 2014).
- Joseph Hanlon, Armando Barrientos, and David Hulme, *Just Give Money to the Poor: The Development Revolution from the Global South* (Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press, 2010).
- Paul Polak, *Out of Poverty: What Works When Traditional Approaches Fail* (San Francisco, CA: Berrett-Koehler, 2008).
- Dambisa Moyo, *Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There Is a Better Way for Africa* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009).

# Weekly Class Topics

## WEEK ONE

### Conceptualizing Global Urban Poverty

- State of the field
- Classic texts and documents
- Key actors, institutions, debates, challenges
- Defining your own intellectual agenda

## WEEK TWO

### Poverty Data: Measurement, Representation, Analysis, Meaning

- GDP per capita and income per capita
- [Human Development Index](#) [beginning with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP)'s *Human Development Report 2010*]
- Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) [United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Oxford University's Poverty and Human Development Initiative]
- Other measures and considerations

## WEEK THREE

### Globalization, Urbanization, Privatization, and Financialization

- Theories and histories of change
- Political economy and finance
- Temporal and spatial dimensions
- The rise and critique of microfinance

## WEEK FOUR

### International Institutions—Part One: United Nations

- United Nations, [The Millennium Development Goals Report 2014](#) (New York, United Nations, 2014).
- United Nations Development Program, [Human Development Reports](#) (HDR 2010 and [HDR 2014](#)).
- UN Habitat, [UN Habitat / World Urban Forum: Urban Equity in Development—Cities for Life, Medellin, Colombia, 2014](#).

## WEEK FIVE

### International Institutions—Part Two: World Bank and International Monetary Fund

- [World Bank: Poverty](#)
- [Global Monitoring Report 2014/2015: Ending Poverty and Sharing Prosperity](#)
- [Urban Development](#)
- Jaime Saavedra-Chanduvi, [“Why Didn't the World Bank Make Reducing Inequality One of Its Goals?,”](#) *Let's Talk Development* (Washington, DC: World Bank, 2013).
- [The IMF and the Millennium Development Goals \(2014\)](#)
- [IMF Support for Low-Income Countries \(2014\)](#)
- [Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers \(2014\)](#)

## WEEK SIX

### Philanthropic Institutions: Ford Foundation

- [Building Assets to Reduce Poverty and Injustice](#)
- [Expanding Livelihood Opportunities for Poor Households](#)
- [Expanding Community Rights Over Natural Resources](#)

## WEEK SEVEN

### Global Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs): Oxfam International

- [Oxfam International: The Power of People Against Poverty](#)
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## WEEK EIGHT

### Socially Responsible Businesses and “Creative Capitalism”

- Bill Gates, interview with *TIME Magazine* editor Richard Stengel, “How To Fix Capitalism,” [video](#), (New York: TIME, 2008).
- Michael Kinsley, ed., *Creative Capitalism: A Conversation with Bill Gates, Warren Buffett, and Other Economic Leaders* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2008).
- Bill Gates, [“3 Myths that Block Progress for the Poor,” 2014 Gates Annual Letter](#) (Seattle, WA: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 2014).
- Hudson Institute, [“‘Creative Capitalism:’ Can It Meet the Needs of the World’s Poor?,”](#) edited transcript of panel discussion, William Easterly (Brookings Institution and New York University), Eugene Steuerle (The Urban Institute), and Allen Hammond (World Resources Institute), (Washington, DC: Hudson Institute, 2008).
- William Easterly, [“The Flaw in Bill Gates’ Approach to Ending Global Poverty,”](#) guest editorial, *Seattle Times* (March 24, 2014).
- [Stanford Social Innovation Review](#)
- Slavoj Žižek, “First as Tragedy, Then as Farce: Cultural Capitalism,” [video](#) (RSA, 2010).
- The individual as global philanthropist: Peter Singer, “The Why and How of Effective Altruism,” [video](#) (TED, 2013).

## WEEK NINE

### Workforce Development Institutions

- Case Study: Mondragon, Basque Country, SPAIN: [Mondragon Corporation](#)
- Case Study: Bologna, Emilia-Romagna, ITALY: [Emilian Model](#) / [Italian Cooperatives as a Model](#) / [Emilian Model and Challenges](#)
- Case Study: Chicago, USA: [Manufacturing Renaissance](#) / [Manufacturing Renaissance Council Model](#)
- Case Study: Bronx, New York, USA: [Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute \(PHI\)](#) / [Cooperative Home Care Associates](#)
- Peggy Clark and Steven L. Dawson, with Amy J. Kays, Frieda Molina and Rick Surpin, [Jobs and the Urban Poor: Privately Initiated Sectoral Strategies](#) (Washington, DC: Aspen Institute, 1995).
- [Gordon Berlin](#), longtime workforce development expert (at [MDRC](#) and the [Ford Foundation: Promoting the Next Generation Workforce Strategies](#)).

## WEEK TEN

### Alternative Economy Institutions: International Co-operative Alliance

- [International Co-operative Alliance](#)
- [Global Co-operative Facts & Figures](#)
- [Co-operative Identity, Values and Principles](#)
- [ICA Position Paper: Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [ICA Briefing: Cooperatives and the Sustainable Development Goals: A Contribution to the Post-2015 Development Debate](#)
- [Co-operative Stories](#) (Cuba, Bolivia, Korea, Denmark, Italy)
- [Co-operative Stories](#) (Cameroon, Indonesia, Zanzibar, Uganda)

**WEEK ELEVEN**

**Radical Analysis and Revolutionary Praxis**

- Peasant Revolts and Struggles of Indigenous Peoples: From Wat Tyler and John Ball to Subcomandante Marcos and Youth Radicalism
- Right to the City movements: From the Paris Commune and 1968 to Tahrir Square and Occupy
- Global Labor Activism, Community Organizing, Religious Currents, and Contemporary Social Movements

**WEEK TWELVE**

**WEEK THIRTEEN**

**WEEK FOURTEEN**

*Note:* The final three weeks will be devoted to site visits, student presentations, and a summary review lecture.



# UNEVEN GROWTH

Tactical Urbanisms  
for Expanding  
Megacities

MoMA

Site Visit  
with Students  
to New York

In 2030, the world's population will be a staggering eight billion people. Of these, two-thirds will live in cities; most will be poor. With limited resources, this unbalanced growth will be one of the greatest challenges faced by societies across the globe. In the coming years, city authorities, urban planners, designers, economists and others will have to join forces to avoid a major social and economic catastrophe and to ensure that these expanding megacities will be habitable. Exploring how emergent forms of tactical urbanism could address rapid and uneven urban growth around the globe, The Museum of Modern Art presents *Uneven Growth: Tactical Urbanisms for Expanding Megacities*, its third iteration of the Issues in Contemporary Architecture series. Following the same model as the critically acclaimed projects *Rising Currents* and *Foreclosed*, *Uneven Growth* is a combination of workshop, exhibition and publication that brings together ideas from an international group of scholars, practitioners and other experts on architecture and urbanism. Featuring proposals for six cities on five continents--**New York, Mumbai, Rio de Janeiro, Istanbul, Hong Kong and Lagos**, each developed by a pair of teams (one local to the host city and one abroad)--*Uneven Growth* also documents the brainstorming processes and the workshops. Contributions from each of the teams and essays by leading scholars on the issue make the publication a rich resource for students and professionals alike. Participating teams include **Cohabitation Strategies with Situ Studio, POP Lab with URBZ, MAS Urban Design ETH with Rua Arquitetos, Atelier d'Architecture Autogérée with Superpool, Network Architecture Lab with MAP Office and Inteligencias Colectivas with NLÉ Architects.**

Richard Burdett, Teddy Cruz, David Harvey, and Pedro Gadanho,  
*Uneven Growth: Tactical Urbanisms for Expanding Megacities*  
(New York: Museum of Modern Art, 2014).

By 2030:

- the world's human population will be **8 billion** people
- **two-thirds** will live in **cities**
- **most** will be **poor**

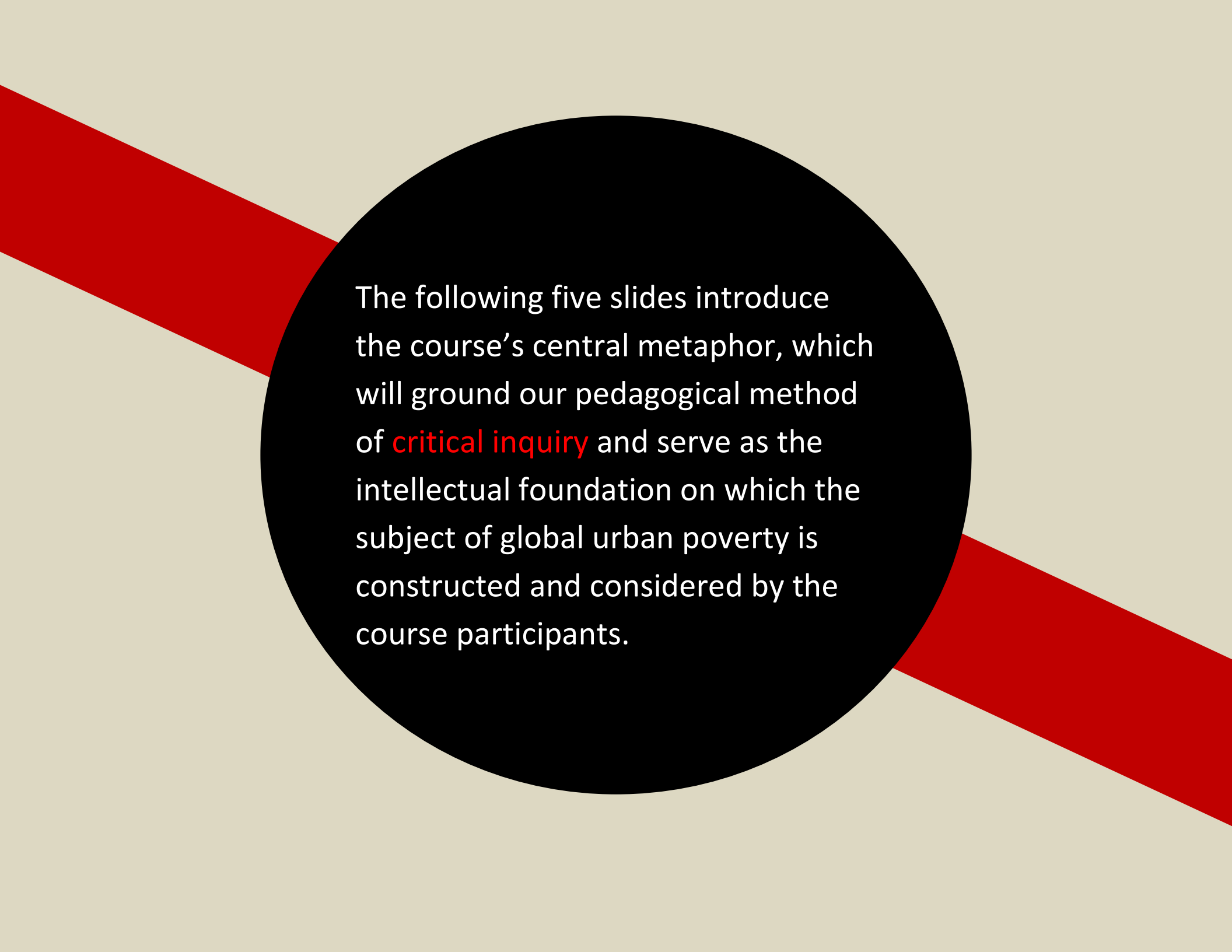
# Community and Economic Development

**Global Urban Poverty (CPLN 626)** is an elective course in the **Community and Economic Development (CED)** concentration in the **Master of City Planning (MCP)** degree program. “CED focuses on how planners and policy leaders influence the social and economic factors shaping metropolitan economies and urban neighborhoods, particularly low-wealth communities and communities of color. CED prepares graduates for positions in housing, community and economic development finance, neighborhood revitalization, workforce development, center city redevelopment, and public sector management of urban and regional economic development.” —[PennDesign: City and Regional Planning](#)

The **Global Urban Poverty** course (Spring 2015) has several goals:

- Students will develop knowledge, skills, and sensibilities for effective engagement in the twenty-first century’s most important debates and projects regarding poverty, inequality, and development.
- Students will learn about dominant and alternative paradigms for studying, undertaking, and evaluating projects promoting development and poverty alleviation in the context of globalization, urbanization, privatization, financialization, and other trends. The paradigms will be situated within the history of political economy, as studied and practiced. Linkages will be made to what students have learned in other MCP courses and elsewhere.
- Students will learn about the ways in which different institutions and actors conceptualize and address urban poverty.
- Students will generate and practice critical analyses of various poverty alleviation theories, models, and practices.
- The course will mix theoretical frameworks and historical analysis with a variety of strategies and tactics for addressing poverty globally and locally, typically through the presentation and critical review of case studies drawn from the following countries: Canada, USA, Mexico, India, Brazil, Turkey, China, Nigeria, Tanzania, Bangladesh, UK, Spain, Italy, Japan, Korea, Cambodia, Venezuela, Denmark, Cameroon, France, Bolivia, South Africa, Israel, Egypt, Indonesia, Japan, Zambia, Haiti, Peru, Philippines, Zanzibar, Uganda, Chile, and Argentina.
- The course begins with three (challengeable) assumptions. The first is that poverty is social not natural. The second is that poverty *anywhere*—even in Philadelphia—is a phenomenon of *global* poverty. The third is that data, knowledge, and expertise are necessary but insufficient for addressing poverty, because ultimately questions of power must be addressed—as poverty does not only present technical problems but also matters of fairness and justice. Students will be challenged to wrestle with these—and their own assumptions—because in the matters that this course addresses much of significance is at stake.





The following five slides introduce the course's central metaphor, which will ground our pedagogical method of **critical inquiry** and serve as the intellectual foundation on which the subject of global urban poverty is constructed and considered by the course participants.

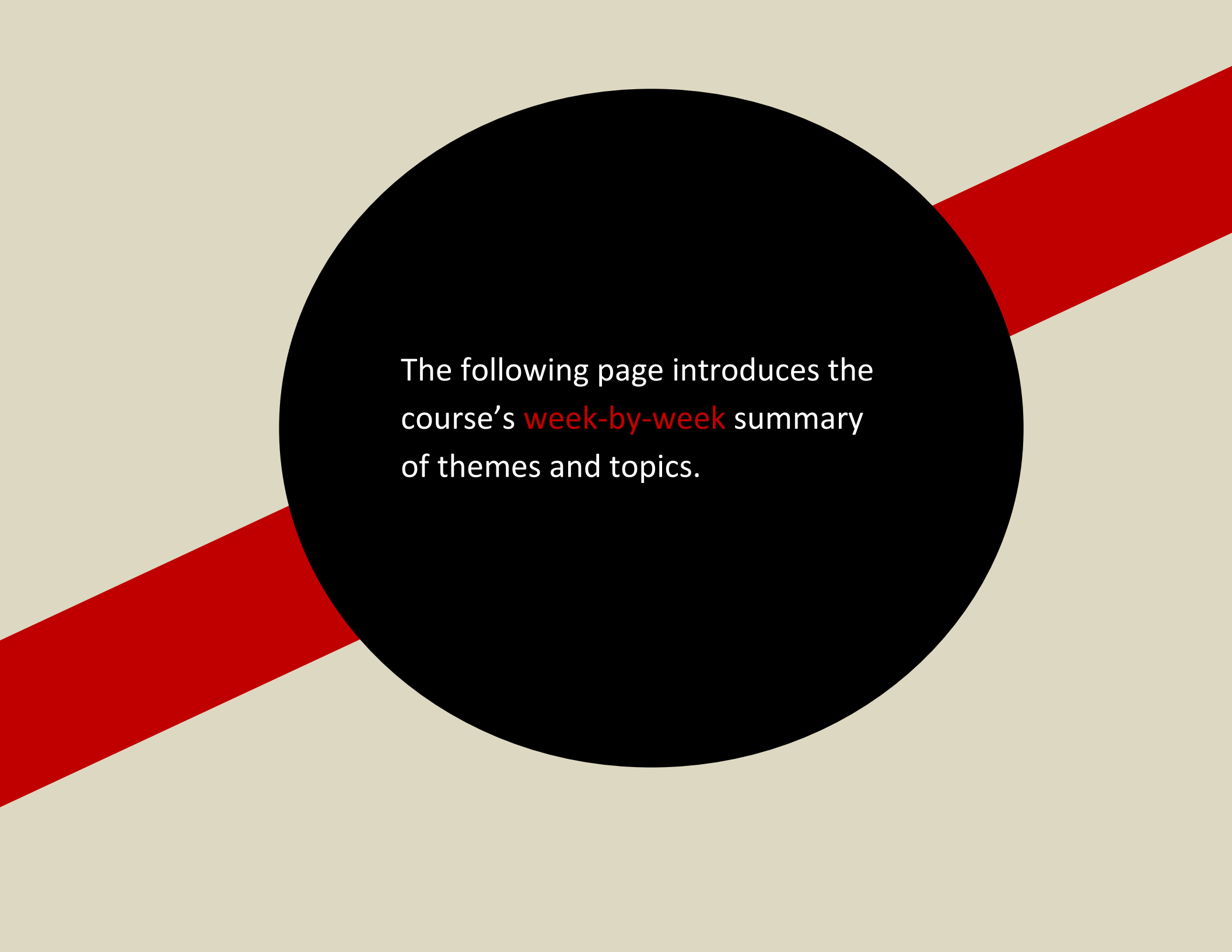
## The world's 85 richest people

have net worth with the same value as that owned by the **bottom 50%** of world population—or 3.5 billion people (including children).

Both groups have \$US 1.7 trillion.

*That's \$20 billion on average if you are in the first group, and \$486 if you are in the second group.*

*Note:* Oxfam International reported the above data at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, in January 2014. When staff at *Forbes Magazine* made its calculations in March 2014, the wealthy had gotten even wealthier: **Change 85 to 67.** ["The 67 People As Wealthy As The World's Poorest 3.5 Billion,"](#) *Forbes* (March 25, 2014). [Wealth = Net Assets = Net Worth]



The following page introduces the course's **week-by-week** summary of themes and topics.