

Spring 2024 EAAMO Bridges Inequality Working Group Syllabus

Website: <http://md4sg.com/workinggroups/inequality.html>

Organizer: Samuel Taggart

Overview: This document contains the spring 2024 syllabus for the EAAMO Bridges Inequality Working Group. This semester's programming covered a range of topics on the broad theme of economic inequality.

Week 1: Universal Basic Income

Main Readings:

- Yanis Varoufakis: "The Universal Right to Capital"
(<https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/basic-income-funded-by-capital-income-by-yanis-varoufakis-2016-10>)
- Berggruen Institute: "A Data Dividend that Works: Steps Toward Building an Equitable Data Economy"
(<https://cdn.sanity.io/files/9xbysn2u/production/f4cbf7b7786dc2a453d0be51f03ab07e402594d0.pdf>)

Related Readings:

- Widerquist, Karl. *Universal Basic Income*. MIT Press, 2024.
- Widerquist, Karl. *A critical analysis of basic income experiments for researchers, policymakers, and citizens*. New York: Springer International Publishing, 2018.
- Zwolinski, Matt, and Miranda Perry Fleischer. *Universal Basic Income: What Everyone Needs to Know®*. Oxford University Press, 2023.

Week 2: Behavioral Economics and Time-Inconsistent Planning

Main Reading:

- Ali, S. Nageeb. "Learning self-control." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 126, no. 2 (2011): 857-893.

Week 3: AI Tools in Public Service Delivery

Main Readings:

- Cheng, Hao-Fei, Logan Stapleton, Anna Kawakami, Venkatesh Sivaraman, Yanghui Cheng, Diana Qing, Adam Perer, Kenneth Holstein, Zhiwei Steven Wu, and Haiyi Zhu. "How child welfare workers reduce racial disparities in algorithmic decisions." In

Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, pp. 1-22. 2022.

- Kawakami, Anna, Venkatesh Sivaraman, Hao-Fei Cheng, Logan Stapleton, Yanghui Cheng, Diana Qing, Adam Perer, Zhiwei Steven Wu, Haiyi Zhu, and Kenneth Holstein. "Improving human-AI partnerships in child welfare: understanding worker practices, challenges, and desires for algorithmic decision support." In *Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, pp. 1-18. 2022.

Related Readings:

- Eubanks, Virginia. *Automating inequality: How high-tech tools profile, police, and punish the poor*. St. Martin's Press, 2018.
- Kawakami, Anna, Luke Guerdan, Yanghui Cheng, Kate Glazko, Matthew Lee, Scott Carter, Nikos Arechiga, Haiyi Zhu, and Kenneth Holstein. "Training towards critical use: Learning to situate ai predictions relative to human knowledge." In *Proceedings of The ACM Collective Intelligence Conference*, pp. 63-78. 2023.

Week 4: Decentralized Division of Resources

Main Readings:

- Alatas, Vivi, Abhijit Banerjee, Arun G. Chandrasekhar, Rema Hanna, and Benjamin A. Olken. "Network structure and the aggregation of information: Theory and evidence from Indonesia." *American Economic Review* (2016).
- Ramezani, Sara, and Ulle Endriss. "Nash social welfare in multiagent resource allocation." In *International Workshop on Agent-Mediated Electronic Commerce*, pp. 117-131. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2009.

Related Reading:

- Aziz, Haris, Bo Li, Hervé Moulin, and Xiaowei Wu. "Algorithmic fair allocation of indivisible items: A survey and new questions." *ACM SIGecom Exchanges* 20, no. 1 (2022): 24-40.

Week 5: Homophily and Inequality

Main Reading:

- Okafor, Chika O. "Social Networks as a Mechanism for Discrimination"
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.15988>

Week 6: Intergenerational Inequality

Main Reading:

- Acharya, Krishna, Eshwar Ram Arunachaleswaran, Sampath Kannan, Aaron Roth, and Juba Ziani. "Wealth dynamics over generations: Analysis and interventions." In *2023 IEEE Conference on Secure and Trustworthy Machine Learning (SaTML)*, pp. 42-57. IEEE, 2023.