Renison University College Land Acknowledgement
With gratitude, we acknowledge that Renison University College is located on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe, and Haudenosaunee peoples, which is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

Term: Fall, 2021
Course Code: Soc 224R/SWREN224R
Course Title: Poverty & Its Social Consequences

Class Times: Thursdays – New lectures posted weekly on Thursdays.
Class Location: Remote - Online
Instructor: Dr. Tracy Peressini
TA: Finesa Dragusha fdragusha@uwaterloo.ca &
     Michaela Anne Panchaud michaela.panchaud@uwaterloo.ca
Office: MS Teams
Office Phone: 519-888-4567, ext. 28602
Office Hours: Daily, late morning or afternoons before 4:30 p.m.
Email: Dr. Peressini – tperessini@uwaterloo.ca

Course Description
Whether it is seeing images of the poor and homeless in the media, reading about the poor and destitute in classical and contemporary literature, or listening to news reports about rising numbers of poor persons, welfare cases or street people in Canada, all of us have been exposed to poverty in one way or another in our lives. Canadian culture and norms and the processes through which we are socialized into them, consist of very vivid and distinct systems of understandings, concepts, ideas, images and stereotypes about poverty in Canada. This course is designed to provide students with a basic knowledge and understanding of the conceptual, theoretical, methodological and statistical measurement associated with poverty and its consequences in Canada. We also briefly look at the current "poverty policy" situation in Canada.

Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students should be able to ...
1. Explain how & why poverty is a political problem.
2. Outline and explain definitions of poverty and their measurement.
4. Review the theoretical foundations of poverty.
5. Draw a portrait of the kinds of people who are affected by poverty.
6. Summarize the consequences of poverty.
7. Identify social justice responses to poverty and their impact.
Required Text

Course Requirements and Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment #</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Assignment Due Date</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 2: Reflection Revision (Pass/Fail)</td>
<td>Part 2: Dec 2nd</td>
<td>Part 2: 5%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infographic &amp; Pod Cast</td>
<td>Infographic: Oct 28th</td>
<td>IG: 20%</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Pod Cast: Nov 18th</td>
<td>PC: 20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td>Oct 21st to Oct 22nd</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Oct 21st <strong>Opens @ 6 a.m.</strong></td>
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<td>Oct 22nd <strong>Closes @ 11:55 p.m.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Test 2</td>
<td>Dec 6th to Dec 7th</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Dec 6th <strong>Opens @ 6 a.m.</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Dec 7th <strong>Closes @ 11:55 p.m.</strong></td>
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Reflection Assignment Due Date: Sept 24th Part 1- 15% Due Date: Dec 2nd Part 2 – 5% Total: 20%

Part 1: This assignment requires you to first read and write a brief summary of Amazing Grace by Jonathan Kozol. Focus on the experience of poverty? Describe what kind of poverty is presented in the book? Identify the problems and issues that the poor face in terms of schooling, nutrition, safety, parenting, drugs and crime. Kozol started his study with the question of what differentiates poor kids who break the chain of poverty and increases the odds of their success - be sure to discuss this question in the context of Kozol’s findings. Answer the question: why and how do impoverished children and youth escape poverty? Finally, pick a child or youth from the book and compare your experiences growing up and the supports you have had in your life that made it possible for you to be here. Please note, I do acknowledge that some of you may not have had opportunities and supports in your childhood and youth, if this is so then reflect on your experiences and what obstacles you have faced and how you overcame them. Your review & reflection should be 5-7 pages, double space, (not including the references/bibliography) in length (.5% reduction for every ½ page over 5 pages), 11 or 12 pitch fonts, preferably Arial or Times New Roman. Your margins should be 1” on both sides and at the top and bottom of your essay. Your submission should take the standard form of an essay with an introduction, body, and conclusion. Please use APA citation & referencing styles. You must upload your paper to LEARN by **11:55 pm Sept 24th**. All assignments must be uploaded to LEARN; no hard copies will be accepted. **Emailed assignments will not be accepted.** If you want to submit your paper after **11:55 pm on Sept 24th**, you must contact me and I will arrange for you to upload your paper to LEARN for a late penalty of 1% per day up to 10 days after the due date, after which your paper will no longer be accepted. Please note, grading inquiries will not be responded to until the grades are posted and published on LEARN.
Part 2 of the assignment requires you to reflect on what you have learned in the course and use it to reflect on how we can improve the life chances of children living in poverty, here and elsewhere in the poverty. In this part you are required to use examples of what you have learned in class that would help you life impoverished youth up and help them to succeed in education and life. The format for part 2 is the same as part 1 and you must upload your paper to LEARN by 11:55 pm Dec 2nd. All assignments must be uploaded to LEARN; no hard copies will be accepted. Emailed assignments will not be accepted. If you want to submit your paper after 11:55 pm on Dec 2nd, you must contact me and I will arrange for you to upload your paper to LEARN for a late penalty of 1% per day up to 10 days after the due date, after which your paper will no longer be accepted.

Infographic Assignment Due Date: October 28th Weight: 20%
For this choice of assignment, you will research, create, and design a two-page infographic on any topic related to poverty. This infographic will be an original piece of work that will include data from a variety of different sources and perspectives. If you are unfamiliar with Infographics just do a google image search for “Infographics” - you will find many examples to follow. Infographics briefly summarize salient data, research, facts and information on a specific topic or issue (for example examine the Official Poverty Dashboard, found in the lectures on definitions and measures of poverty). Infographics come in a variety of formats. Formats include, but are not limited to, graphs and images (these need to have text explanations), issue maps, brochures, one-page newspaper style columns, etc. You are not expected to be graphic artists, but you are expected to submit an infographic that is appealing, neat, tidy, and easy to read/follow, with graphics that are relevant to the information presented, with appropriate citations and references. On a separate sheet provide a bibliography/reference in alphabetical order for your infographic. Please submit your infographic online by 11:55 p.m. on October 28th. Late assignments will be penalized 1% per day for 10 days, after which the late assignment will not be accepted or graded. Please refer to attached pdf file which provides a detailed example of Infographics and the grading rubric that the assignment will be graded with.

Podcast Assignment Due Date: November 18th Weight: 20%
For this assignment you will record a podcast about Poverty in Canada. Base your podcast on your research and information you collected for your infographic. Focusing on the aspect of poverty you chose to do your infographic on, prepare a 10-minute podcast to discuss the issue of poverty. You should briefly discuss the relevant definitions of poverty, measurements and explanations, as well as what the current poverty situation is based on your infographic. You podcast then must address 1 current poverty-related issue, for example how COVID19 disproportionately affects the poor, particularly those of color, women, seniors and immigrants and explain how it is related to poverty and what we can do about. Pick one dimension and discuss its importance and how we can begin to address the problem. For this assignment you can do a monologue or dialog focused on poverty and how it affects Canadians, and what steps we can take in the future to address it. Your target file size should use CD quality Fidelity: 16-bit, 44.1 kHz (mono for the spoken word). The rule of thumb for podcast time vs. file size, you should find that it is almost 1 to 1. For one minute of spoken words, the resultant file will be approx. 1 mb. So, a 10 minute podcast should be between 9-10 mb. Please keep your podcast to 10 minutes as there is an upload limit restriction on LEARN. Please upload your recording to the podcast Dropbox by 11:55 pm on November 18th, 2020. Late assignments will be penalize 1% per day for 10 days, after which the late assignment will not be accepted or graded. Please refer to attached pdf file which provides a detailed example of podcasts, a description of the assignment, and the grading rubric that the assignment will be graded with.
Tests (2x20% each = 40%)
Test 1: Oct 21st @ 12 a.m. to Oct 22nd @ 11:55 p.m.  Weight: 20%
Test 2: Dec 6th @ 12 a.m. to Dec 7th @ 11:55 p.m.  Weight 20%

There will be two equally weighted (20 % each) tests in this course. Both tests will be a combination of short answer and essay questions based on the materials covered in the course (readings, videos, hand outs). **Test 1** on Oct 21st thru 22nd will cover course lectures, readings and any additional materials handed out in class up to and including Oct 7th. Test 1 will cover everything up to week Oct 7th – Measuring Poverty. **Test 2** on Dec 6th thru Dec 7th will cover all course lectures, readings and materials after October 7th. The starting point for test 2 will in week 6, with The Sociology of Poverty – Part 1 until the end of the course.

### Schedule of Lectures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings - Sharma</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sept 9th</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Overview of the Course</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sept 16th</td>
<td>The Politics of Poverty</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sept 23rd</td>
<td>Definitions of Poverty</td>
<td>Appendix</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sept 24th</td>
<td>Reflection Paper Part 1 Due (Weight 15%)</td>
<td>Amazing Grace</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Oct 7th</td>
<td>Measuring Poverty</td>
<td>Appendix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oct 9th – 17th</td>
<td>Reading Week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Oct 21st – 22nd</td>
<td>Test 1 (Weight 20%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Oct 28th</td>
<td>Sociology of Poverty – Part 1 Infographic Due (Weight 20%)</td>
<td>Chapter 2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Nov 4th</td>
<td>Sociology of Poverty – Part 2</td>
<td>Chapter 2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Nov 11</td>
<td>Geography of Poverty</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nov 18th</td>
<td>Explanations of Poverty Podcast Due (Weight 20%)</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nov 25th</td>
<td>Explanations of Poverty</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nov 18th</td>
<td>History of Poverty &amp; Welfare in Canada</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dec 2nd</td>
<td>Models of the Welfare State &amp; UBI Reflection Paper Part 2 Due (Weight 5%)</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Dec 6th – 7th</td>
<td>Test 2 (Weight 20%)</td>
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### Late Work

Due dates are firm. You are responsible for informing the instructor in advance if you are unable to complete an assignment by the scheduled date. Missed due dates are only acceptable in the case of medical problems (with a UW Verification of Illness Form completed by your doctor), for serious compassionate reasons, or as a pre-arranged accommodation for students with disabilities. Late submissions, without advance permission, will be given a 1% reduction in the total possible grade for each 24 hours after the due date for up to 10 days, after which no assignments will be accepted.
**Unclaimed Student Submissions:** In accordance with UW policy, student assignments, papers, quizzes & exams will be stored for 1 year from the start of the course, after which the material(s) in question will be securely destroyed.

**Posting of Final Grades at Renison College**

It is Renison College policy NOT to post grades at any time or report grades via phone or email.

**Final Examination Policy**

For** Fall 2021**, the established examination period is **Dec 9th – 23rd, 2021.** The schedule will be available early in the winter. Students should be aware that **student travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting an alternative final examination time** (see: https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations)

**Accommodation for Illness or Unforeseen Circumstances:**

The instructor follows the practices of the University of Waterloo in accommodating students who have documented reasons for missing quizzes or exams.

See [http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html](http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html)

**Academic Integrity:**

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) and the [Arts Academic Integrity webpage](https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour) for more information.

**Discipline:** Every student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their own actions. [Check the Office of Academic Integrity](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity) for more information.] A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration, should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or Academic Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties are imposed under the University of Waterloo Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties).

Students should also be aware that copyright laws in Canada prohibit reproducing more than 10% of any work without permission from its author, publisher, or other copyright holder. Waterloo’s policy on Fair Dealing is available here: [https://uwaterloo.ca/copyright-guidelines/fair-dealing-advisory](https://uwaterloo.ca/copyright-guidelines/fair-dealing-advisory) Violation of Canada’s Copyright Act is a punishable academic offence under Policy 71 – Student Discipline.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policies-procedures-guidelines/policies-policy-70), Section 4. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant, who will provide further assistance.

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (other than
a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline may be appealed if there are grounds. Students who believe they have grounds for an appeal should refer to Policy 72, Student Appeals (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72). Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo): http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:
Students are encouraged to register with AccessAbility Services (AAS) at the start of each term if they require accommodations due to a disability. However, some students not connected to AAS may require accommodations later in the term. In that case, you should immediately consult with the Acting Academic Dean, Jason C. Blokhuis.

Intellectual Property. Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of the instructor, which can include:
- lecture handouts and presentations (e.g., PowerPoint slides)
- lecture content, both spoken and written (and any audio or video recording thereof)
- questions from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams)
- work protected by copyright (i.e., any work authored by the instructor)

Making available the intellectual property of instructors without their express written consent (e.g., uploading lecture notes or assignments to an online repository) is considered theft of intellectual property and subject to disciplinary sanctions as described in Policy 71 – Student Discipline. Students who become aware of the availability of what may be their instructor’s intellectual property in online repositories are encouraged to alert the instructor.

Mental Health Support
All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health supports if they are needed.

On Campus
- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4567 xt 32655
- MATES: one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counselling Services
- Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek form Student Life Centre

Off campus, 24/7
- Good2Talk: Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-433 ext. 6880
- Here 24/7: Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- OK2BME: set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 21

Full details can be found online at the Faculty of ARTS website Download UWaterloo and regional mental health resources PDF. Download the WatSafe app to your phone to quickly access mental health support information

A respectful living and learning environment for all
Everyone living, learning, and working at Renison University College is expected to contribute to creating a respectful environment free from harassment and discrimination.
If you experience or witness harassment or discrimination, seek help. You may contact Credence & Co., Renison’s external anti-harassment & anti-discrimination officers, by email (info@credenceandco.com) or by phone (519-883-8906). Credence & Co. is an independent K-W based firm which works with organizations toward thriving workplace cultures, including professional coaching, consulting, facilitation, policy development, conflict mediation and ombudsperson functions.

Harassment is unwanted attention in the form of disrespectful comments, unwanted text messages or images, degrading jokes, rude gestures, unwanted touching, or other behaviours meant to intimidate.

According to the Ontario Human Rights Code, discrimination means unequal or different treatment causing harm, whether intentional or not, because of race, disability, citizenship, ethnic origin, colour, age, creed, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, or other personal characteristic.

**Final Words:** Good luck! I hope you enjoy this course & it is a worthwhile experience.

**GRADING RUBRICS**

Please check online for the grading rubrics for each assignment. You will find the appropriate rubric in the description for each assignment on LEARN.

Be sure to review each rubric before completing the assignment. These rubrics are used to grade your assignments. They are for your benefit, so please do use them.