

Course ID:	Course Title:	Spring 2017
BHS 350	Shock Poverty	Prerequisite: Completion of 60 credits or permission of dept
		Credits: 3

MODULE FORMAT CLASS

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	June 5-9	Instructor:	Derek Cook	First day of classes:	June 5
Time:	9:00am-4:00pm	Email:	Derek.Cook@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	End of first day
Room:	A2212	Phone:	403.410.2913	Last day to request revised exam:	n/a
Lab/Tutorial:	NA	Office:	L2049	Last day to withdraw from course:	1 pm on the 4 th day of classes
		Office Hours:	NA	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	TBD
Final Exam:	NA			Last day of classes:	July 31

Course Description

Shock Poverty is defined as instantaneous in its occurrence and devastating in its impact. Shock Poverty can be viewed through two lenses: the global and the personal. What leads to each? How do they impact each other. This course will examine the underlying stressors that leave people vulnerable to poverty and the shocks that can plunge people into poverty. In class, through readings and reflection, we will consider the impact of poverty in our world, the root causes of poverty, and strategies for building resilience that leads to poverty elimination.

Expected Learning Outcomes

1. To explore the implications of poverty, to understand poverty from personal, local, national and international perspectives,
2. To understand the current poverty practices in the context of causal versus symptomatic responses,
3. To understand poverty as both a justice and an economic issue,
4. To develop a strategy to deal with poverty as it confronts our everyday world, and
5. To discover a Christian response to poverty.

Textbooks

Required

Payne, Ruby, de Vol Philip, Dreussi, Smith, Tere. *Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Community*. Aha! Process Inc., 2007

Sharma, Raghuba. *Poverty in Canada*. Oxford University Press, 2012

Recommended

Anne Bradley & Art Lindsley. *For the Least of These: A Biblical Answer to Poverty*. WestBow Press, 2014

Bouma-Prediger, Steven and Walsh, Brian. *Beyond Homelessness: Christian Faith in a Culture of Displacement*. William B. Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2008

Wilkinson Richard & Pickett, Kate. *The Spirit Level. Why Greater Equality Makes Societies Stronger*. Bloomsbury Press, NY., 2009

Course Schedule

Session 1: Introduction to Poverty

Session 2: Poverty Stressors

Session 3: Poverty Stressors and Shocks

Session 4: Building Resilience

Session 5: System Level Responses

Requirements:

Book Review: 20%

Major Project: 50%

Presentation: 20%

Attendance / Participation: 10%

BOOK REVIEW – Due June 30

In a reflective critique, assess the impact of either the work of Bradley & Lindsley, or Wilkinson & Pickett. What questions arise for you as you read the book? Are there implications for Christian ministry? Is there a particular idea that strikes you? Why? Are there concerns or issues that you wish had been addressed? What are they? Can you suggest a solution to your concerns?

PRESENTATION – Due on last day of class (June 9)

Choose a poverty issue that you would like to address. Through the classes, reflect on what you have learned about the topic and discuss the factors that contribute to vulnerability for people experiencing this issue, and factors that contribute to building resilience. Students will present the results of their project to the class on the last day of classes. You will have 10 minutes each. Plan your presentation so that you don't go overtime and allow for a question or two.

PROJECT – Due July 31

Your project will be on a poverty issue that you would like to address and can build on the presentation you prepared for class. It may be presented as a traditional essay, or you may use alternative medium (movie, PowerPoint, art, etc). The project should provide a sound analysis of the root causes of the issue (stressors and shocks), as well as resilience strategies and system level responses. I will expect good, researched social scientific content and clarity of presentation. So that your project has a practical component, please include the following: "If Ambrose University were to take the lead on solving poverty in Canada, what would that look like?"

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. Electronic devices are only permitted in the classroom with my permission.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Other:

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a

laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.