This seminar is intended to provide information about the topic of poverty in the United States and its impact on developmental, social, and educational issues. More than an overview course, we will delve into a number of important topics via readings, discussion, research, and in-class learning activities. At times, multi-media will be employed to assist the content transmission. Since much has been written and published in this area, I have selected some of the important works – but there is much that cannot be covered in one semester. However, the content of the course should inform us regarding various theories, issues, conceptualizations and methodologies to employ in understanding poverty as it impacts our extended areas of interest.

**NOTE:**
To Reduce Size, I have taken out the routine information about the requirements in the course and other “mechanics” of course organization that we place in our syllabi routinely.

**Optional Books for the Individual Reading Assignment**
Please select one of these books to serve as your individual read, book report and presentation. Only one student can select a book. You get them on a first-come, first-serve basis. I will take email requests and use the time stamp to determine the preference. All of these are excellent books. You can’t choose a bad one.

You are to prepare a four page summary of the book and in your presentation use five quotes from the book to demonstrate some important points or impressions that impacted you during the reading. These should be included in our written report.


Kozol, J. (1975). *The night is dark and I am far from home.* (Revised). New York: Simon & Schulster, Inc.


**Course Content**

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Schedule of Readings for Poverty Course

Week One: An Introduction to Poverty

Week Two: Some Conceptual Considerations –Part One


Week Three: Some Conceptual Considerations –Part Two


Week Four: Variables involved with Poverty


**Week Five: The Impact of Poverty**


**Week Six: Development Issues in Poverty**


**Week Seven: Educational Impact from Poverty**


**Week Eight: Structural Mechanisms in Poverty- Part One**


**Week Nine: Structural Mechanisms in Poverty- Part Two**


**Week Ten: Other Issues in Poverty**


**Week Eleven: Homelessness**


**Week Twelve: Beware Deficit Training**


**Week Thirteen: Educational Interventions-Part One**


**Week Fourteen: Educational Interventions-Part Two**


**Week Fifteen: Other Interventions**


**Note:** Throughout the course I will add background information and some additional lecture material. These notes and lectures are informed both by the readings and by the following books:


