

Development (D), Inequality (I) and Poverty (P). Towards a transdisciplinary unification of D, I and P concepts and measuring methods.

Despite the obvious conceptual closeness of the last two terms of the triad of this course, as both are obvious expressions of the unfair nature of societies (although poverty may also be related to underdevelopment, part of the first element of the triad) concepts and measures of poverty and inequality have been handled almost completely separately.

Development in a broad sense (beyond growth) usually refers not only to the justice-injustice of the distribution of well-being and wealth, but also to its absolute levels (in Marxist terms, how much society has distanced itself from the realm of scarcity and has approached that of abundance, which depends to a large extent on the development of the productive forces and their reflection on the productive capacity of society and its effective levels of production). Poverty would be the result of a combination of distributive injustice and backwardness in the development of the productive forces.

Well-being constitutes the common element which makes the unification attempt feasible, but alternative common elements like human flourishing, human wealth (understood by Marx as the development of human needs and capacities) and capabilities/functioning (Sen, Nussbaum) will also be explored.