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Two classes on inequality research: topics and methods

These two classes will discuss (i) the latest research on the emerging effects of artificial intelligence on employment and earnings, and (ii) the contribution of microsimulation tools to the evaluation of the effects of public policy on the distribution of incomes.

Students are expected to have read (or, at least, browsed) the readings beforehand, and to contribute the discussion in class. In particular, they are invited to reflect on the significance of the topics (and of the readings) to contemporary society in general, and on their relevance to their own research in particular.

Class I – 7 May 2026

Technology and the future of work

Acemoglu D., Autor D., Johnson S. (2026) [Building pro-worker artificial intelligence](#). Brookings (23 February 2026).

Aghion P., Bunel S., Jaravel X., Mikaelson T., Roulet A., Søgaaard J. (2025) [How different uses of AI shape labor demand: Evidence from France](#). AEA Papers and Proceedings 115: 62–67.

Autor D., Thompson N. (2025) [Expertise](#). Journal of the European Economic Association 23 (4) 1203–1271.

Brynjolfsson E., Chandar B., Chen R. (2025). [Canaries in the coal mine? Six facts about the recent employment effects of artificial intelligence](#). Stanford Digital Economy Lab (13 November 2025).

Massenkoff M., McCrory P. (2026) [Labor market impacts of AI: A new measure and early evidence](#). Economic Research, Anthropic (5 March 2026).

Class II – 14 May 2026

Assessing distributional impact

Callan T., Sutherland H. (1997). [The impact of comparable policies in European countries: Microsimulation approaches](#). European Economic Review 41 (3-5) 627–633.

Figari F., Paulus A., Sutherland H. (2015) [Microsimulation and policy analysis](#). In Handbook of income distribution (edited by A.B. Atkinson, F. Bourguignon). Elsevier.

Matsaganis M., Leventi C. (2018) [Distributive effects of the crisis in the European periphery](#). In: Decent incomes for all: improving policies in Europe (edited by B. Cantillon, T. Goedemé, J. Hills). Oxford University Press.

Sutherland H., Figari F. (2013) [EUROMOD: The European Union tax-benefit microsimulation model](#). International Journal of Microsimulation 6 (1) 4-26.

Verbist G., Matsaganis M. (2013) [The redistributive capacity of services in the European Union](#). In: Reconciling work and poverty reduction: how successful are European welfare states? (edited by B. Cantillon, F. Vandenbroucke). Oxford University Press.