This course explores biblical views on and responses to material poverty. We will examine the nature and dimensions of economic inequality in the biblical world and how that reality is addressed by various parts of Scripture, from the Law and Prophets to the Gospels and Acts. Questions addressed include: How is poverty defined in the Bible and what is its opposite? What are its causes? In what ways are the biblical ideas of liberation, sabbath, justice, and shalom related to material wealth? What role did economic injustice play in the ministry of the Prophets and the life of Jesus? Do biblical solutions to poverty primarily take the form of individual acts of charity or strategies that address underlying causes? What do flourishing neighborhoods look like? In taking up these and related questions, emphasis will be placed on how churches can use biblical frameworks to develop more just, effective, and transformative approaches to poverty in their own communities.

Session Recordings

Session 1  Session 4
Session 2  Session 5
Session 3  Session 6
The Courses in Community program, hosted by the Candler Foundry, offers students in-depth learning opportunities situated at the intersection of the church and academy. Hosted in local congregations, these three-credit courses are open to both Candler students and community participants.

For more information, visit our website: www.candlerfoundry.emory.edu

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