The family, still today, is an institution of major importance for determining individuals' lives and future life chances. The family in fact furnishes (or not) chances to its off-springs, interacts with other important institutions of the society and mediates the possible impacts that economic situations have for its members. Yet, it underwent itself important changes, not least related to the overall aging of the society.

The family plays a crucial role also for preventing its members from poverty. Poverty and economic deprivation remain major challenges also for advanced societies. Ample research has been dedicated to understand the causes, consequences and possible ways to avoid or at least limit the experience of poverty. High efforts seem justified as poverty comes with long lasting adverse consequences for both, individuals and their life chances, and societies as a whole. Poverty research, for good reasons, usually looks at families (or households) as the family plays an important role to cope with poverty risks.

In this seminar we focus on changes in families and poverty, the relation among the two and the related policies. We bring together different disciplines to take a fresh and careful look at cross-national diversities, recent changes and its impacts in comparative perspective. Topics cover poverty research, social policies, demographic change, economics of the family and the role of the family to cope with poverty risks.

The seminar is proposed for MA students of the program in "Sociology and Social Research LM-SSR", MA students of the program in "Methodology, Organization and Evaluation of Social Services LM-MOVASS" and interested PhD students, but is open also to other interested MA students.

It is organized in a series of 6 sessions for an overall of 12 hours. A reading list will be provided to participants in advance and its preparation is taken for granted. A continuous and active participation is expected, as well as the preparation of a short paper in order to obtain the 3 credits.

Iscrizioni on-line fino al 27 febbraio 2018 su http://www.sociologia.unitn.it/100/seminari-di-credito (numero massimo di partecipanti: 15)