Poverty and the Working Poor

You must use eight of the sources covered in class (listed on my Weebly) and two credible external sources to write your essay. You also need a cover page and a Works Cited section.

Your goal…the prompt

To write a 1500 word synthesis style essay that discusses, explores and or argues the plight of the working poor. Your essay should recognize that in today's society, whether the economy is stagnant or booming, millions of Americans work hard yet remain poor. You should explore relevant to statistics, and anecdotal evidence that explores why many Americans worked at least part of the year but fell below the official poverty level. Does the United States face a major social problem and real challenges given the realties faced by the working poor? Is there something wrong with America’s values? What are the underlying issues where a population is trying to overcome poverty by working and failing? What are the problems they are facing? How would you advise leaders to create policy to assist? Are current policies helping or failing to help these workers, and what additional policies, if any, must be implemented? Do the rich have a role to play in the solution to this problem?