

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK**

SW516 Social Welfare Policy and Services

Course Outline

Instructor: Cynthia Rocha, Ph.D.

Office phone: 974-7513

Home phone: 470-9174

Class: Wednesday 3:35-6:35

Office Hrs: Wednesday 2:30-3:30,

Thursday 3:30-4:30

and by appointment

Fall 2003

**Course Requirements:**

A basic text has been selected and readings are listed in the bibliography. In addition to assigned articles, students are encouraged to read from the recommended selections and independently from the professional journals.

The course will include lectures, class discussions, and student presentations. Graded assignments will include a mid-term examination, a policy analysis paper, a policy brief, and a report on a public hearing or committee meeting. All written assignments should be double spaced and sources should be documented and referenced, using APA format. The final grade will be determined as follows:

- policy analysis paper (30%);
- mid-term exam (40%);
- policy brief (20%);
- policy hearing report (10%).

Grading Scale

A =	90-100
B+=	87-89
B=	80-86
C+=	77-79
C=	70-76
D+=	67-69
D=	60-66
F=	<60

**Criteria for the policy analysis, brief, and committee report are as follows:**

Policy Analysis:

Your readings on policy analysis provide frameworks for analyzing policy. Use one of these frameworks to analyze your chosen policy. Use government documents, historical analyses and research articles to answer the following questions:

1. What policy will you analyze? Describe when the policy was enacted and at what level of government. (10pts.)
2. What social problem is the policy designed to alleviate? Provide appropriate documentation of the problem addressed. Critically analyze the issues surrounding the problem. (20pts.)
3. Description of the Policy
  - What benefits or services are provided by the policy? (5pts.)
  - Who is eligible for the program? (5pts.)
  - How is the program financed? (5pts.)
  - How is the program administered? (5pts.)
  - Is the program:
    - residual, institutional (5 pts.)
    - Selective, universal (5 pts.)
    - Public, private (5 pts.)
4. Analyze the program/policy using the frameworks provided in your readings as guides (25pts.)  
Example: Adequacy, equity, efficiency, political feasibility, legality, economic feasibility, etc.  
Make sure this section has an argument: what is your thesis or hypothesis, than provide information to back up your assertion.
5. APA style, page numbers, headings (10pts).

Policy Brief:

Chapter seven of Willard Richan's *Lobbying for Social Change* outlines the steps to take in creating a policy brief. Briefs will be graded as follows:

1. Why is there a need for change? You can base this on a short synopsis of your analysis. (15pts.)

2. What is the proposed change? (10pts.)
3. How will the Proposed change meet the need? (5pts.)
4. Discuss the feasibility of the plan. (15pts.)
5. How will the benefits of the plan outweigh any harmful consequences? (15pts.)
6. Rebuttal (20pts.)
7. How will you deal with the rebuttal? (15pts.)
8. APA style, page numbers, headings (5pts.)

### Council/Committee/Public Hearing Report

Students must attend at least one public council/committee/hearing meeting in one of the following areas: City government, County government, Public Transportation, Knox delegation legislators, school board, PIC, welfare advisory committee, police review board, etc.

Read the paper for a few weeks and find an issue that is currently being debated publicly. Attend the meeting in which your issue is on the agenda. Grades are as followed:

1. Provide newspaper article(s) that you have used to track the issue (10 pts.)
2. Provide notes from the meeting (20 pts.)
3. Your report should discuss the meeting in terms of the following:
  - Who turned out? (10 pts.)
  - Who spoke ? (who did they represent?) (10 pts.)
  - your analysis of the issue (30 pts.)

Who is on what side of the issue (public vs administrative officials, etc?),

Is there public interest? How has the media influenced the debate?

What are the similarities and differences in the two or more sides?

How does the process, as it is set up, restrict or foster communication, participation and influence?

The newspaper article, notes from the meeting and report should be turned in to your instructor on the last day of class and a small 5-10 minute report given during class. (20 pts.)

Decide on the issue and check with me for topic approval.

Students will be expected to: (1) complete assigned readings for preparation for each class session; (2) attend and participate in class discussion/activities; and (3) complete all assignments.

### **Course Texts:**

#### Required:

Dolgoft, R. & Feldstein, D. (2000) Understanding Social Welfare Policy, 5th. Ed. New York: Longman Publishers.

#### Optional:

Jansson, Bruce. (1999). *Becoming an Effective Policy Advocate*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Press.

**Readings and Course Outline:**

PART 1 - NATURE OF SOCIAL POLICY AND SOCIAL POLICY ANALYSIS AND PRACTICE

Class 1: 8/20 Course overview. Review syllabus, class assignments, required texts, assigned

Class 2: 8/27 Defining social welfare policy, policy analysis & policy practice.  
The Legislative Process.

Readings:

Jansson, B. Social Welfare Policy: From Theory to Policy Practice. Belmont, California: Wadsworth Press. Chapter 1.

Gil, D. Unraveling Social Policy, 5th Ed. (Cambridge: Schenkman Co.) Chapter 1.  
Reserve Reading.

Dolgoﬀ & Feldstein , Chapt. 1. Socio-economic structure, human needs and mutual responsibility.

Class 3: 9/3 Analyzing Social Welfare Policy.  
Allocations, Provisions, Delivery and Finance  
Equality, equity and adequacy

Readings:

Chapter 7 Dolgoﬀ and Feldstein, Examining a social welfare program.

Karger & Stoesz (1998). Ch. 2, S.W. Policy Research: A Framework for Policy Analysis

Dinitto, D. Chapter 12. Implementing and Evaluating Social Welfare Policy: What Happens after a Law Has Passed?

Class 4: 9/10 Policy Practice and Policy Implementation  
Affecting Change.

Richan, Chapter 7, Lobbying in the Information Age. How to Write a Policy Brief.

Handout. - Introducing Legislation. Dinnitto, Page 10.

Jansson, Chapter 12, Developing Political Strategy

Jansson, Chapter 13, Putting Strategy into action.

PART II - HISTORICAL AND CURRENT CONTEXT IN WHICH SOCIAL POLICIES ARE DEVELOPED IN THE UNITED STATES

Class 5: 9/17      Historical Development of Social Welfare Policy and Services and the Relationship to the Social Work Profession.  
History of Social Welfare Policy  
Two Ideological roots: Institutional vs residual views of social welfare.  
The Three Discoveries of Poverty.

Readings:

Chapters 3-5: Dolgoff, Feldstein & Skolnik,  
Social Values and Social Welfare: England from the middle ages onward, Social Values and Social Welfare: the American Experience, America, Poverty, Two Paths.

Class 6: 9/24      Issues of Discrimination and Oppression - historical and current trends in American Society.  
Value Bases of Social Welfare  
What is Poverty?

**Handout:** Income and Wealth inequality  
Poverty and the inner city  
The feminization of poverty and Family decline  
The Working Poor

Readings:

Chapter 8, Dolgoff and Feldstein  
Rocha, C. (1997). The Working Poor. Encyclopedia of social Work. 1997 Supplement.  
Wilson, W.J. Chapter 1 and 2 The Truly Disadvantaged

Class 7: 10/1      Organization and Structure of American Social Welfare System  
Social Policies and programs for senior and disabled citizens  
Social Security (OASDI)  
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)  
Medicare

Handout: Americans With Disabilities Act

Reading:

Chapter 9-10 Dolgoff, Feldstein & Skolnik, Economic Security, Social Welfare Programs: Sustaining the Quality of Life.

Class 8: 10/8 Social Policies and programs for workers  
Unemployment insurance  
Workers Compensation  
Family Leave Policy  
Earned Income Credit

Handout: Affirmative Action

Readings:

Chapter 9, Dolgoff and Feldstein, Current Social Welfare Programs.  
Chapter 7, Rank, M. Living on the Edge., Working

Class 9: 10/15 Social policies and programs for the poor  
AFDC, Nutritional Programs: Food Stamps, WIC  
Medicaid, Housing,

Handout: Welfare Myths

Readings:

Sherraden, M. (1991) Assets and the Poor. Chapter 4, Federal Welfare Policy:  
Who Benefits?  
Rank, Living on the Edge., Chapter 8. Attitudes about Welfare.  
Dolgoff and Feldstein, Chapter 9-10

**October 16-17, 2003 – Fall Break!**

Class 10: 10/22 **Exam**

PART III CURRENT POLICY ISSUES AND STRATEGIES FOR  
INFLUENCING POLICY

Class 11: 10/29 Ethics and values in the Policy Process  
Underlying Assumptions of Social Policy

Readings:

Jansson, Chapter 2. Ethical, analytical and political rationale for engaging in policy  
advocacy.  
Gil, David. Unraveling Social Policy, Chapter 9.

Hand out: NASW Code of Ethics

Hand out: Comparison of Conservative, Liberal, and Radical Perspectives.

Class 12: 11/5 Social Trends Affecting Social Welfare

Aging Population, Ethnicity and pluralism, Gays and Lesbians

Issues for policy change and current reforms.

Welfare Reform                      Health Care

Minimum Wage                      State Income Tax

Readings:

Dolgoff, Chapter 14, Social Trends Affecting Social Welfare.

Rocha, C. & Kabalka, L. (1999). A Comparison Study of Access to Health Care under a Medicaid Managed Care Program. *Health and Social Work*, 24 (3) 169-179.

Handout: Welfare Reform: The Case Of South Carolina.

### **Policy Analysis Papers Due 11/5**

Class 13: 11/12    The Growing Importance of Immigrants and Immigration policy

Readings:

Padilla (1997). Immigrant Policy: Issues for Social Work Practice

Drachman, (1995). Immigration Statuses and their Influence on Service Provision, Access and Use.

Class 14: 11/21    Comparative Social Welfare Policy  
The Case of Sweden and Norway

Readings:

Rosenthal, M.G. (1994). Single mothers in Sweden: work and welfare in the welfare state. Social Work, 39(3), 270-279.

Van Wormer, K. (1994)., A society without poverty - The Norwegian experience. Social Work, 39(3), 324-327.

Class 15: 11/26    Council/Committee/Hearing Reports due

**November 27-28, 2003 – Thanksgiving!**

**Policy Briefs Due 12/2**

## Bibliography

- Abbott, G. (1941). From Relief to Social Security. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Abramovitz, M. (1988). Regulating the Lives of Women. Boston: South End Press.
- Addams, J. (1910). Twenty Years at Hull House. New York: Macmillian & Co.
- Anderson, G.F., & Hussey, P.S. (2001). Population aging: A comparison among industrialized countries. *Health Affairs*, May/June, 191-203.
- Atherton, C. AThe Social Assignment of Social Work,@Social Service Review, December 1969, 421-429.
- Beer, C. (1909). A Mind That Found Itself. New York: Longmans Green & Co.
- Bell, W. (1983). Contemporary Social Welfare. New York; Macmilan Co.
- Bennis, W. (1993). Beyond Bureaucracy. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Beverly, D. and McSweeney (1987), Social Welfare and Social Justice. Englewood-Cliffs: Prentice-Hall.
- Billingsley, A. (1968). Black Families in White America. Englewood-Cliffs: Prentice-Hall.
- Born, C. (1983). AProprietary Firms and Child Welfare Services: Patterns and Implications,@Child Welfare, 62, March-April, 1983, 109-118.
- Chambers, C., and Hinding, A. (1968). ACharity Workers, the Settlements and the Poor,@Social Casework, 49, February, 96-101.
- Danziger, S.K., & Danziger, S. (1995). Child poverty, public policy and welfare reform. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 17(1/2), 1-10.
- Davis, A. (1973). American Heroine: The Life and Legend of Jane Addams. New York: Oxford University Press.
- DiNitto, D. and Dye, T. (1987). Social Welfare: Politics and Public Policy. Englewood-Cliffs: Prentice-Hall.
- Elias, R. (1986). The Politics of Victimization. New York: Oxford University Press.

- Ellwood, D. (1988). Poor Support: Poverty in the American Family. New York: Basic Books.
- Flink, P. and Tasman, A. Eds. (1992). Stigma and Mental Illness. Washington, D.C. American Psychiatric Press.
- Gil, D. (1981). Unraveling Social Policy. Boston: Schenkman.
- Gilbert, N. and Specht, H. (1986). Dimensions of Social Welfare Policy, 2nd Ed., Englewood-Cliffs: Prentice-Hall.
- Goodwill, M., Schehl, M., and Fareri, C. (1990). From Welfare to Independence: The College Option. New York: City University of New York.
- Greenstein, R. (1992). Cutting Benefits vs. Changing Behavior.@Public Welfare, 50(2), 22-23.
- Gueron, J. and Pauly, E. (1991). From Welfare to Work. New York: Russell Sage.
- Hagen, J. (1992). Women, Work and Welfare.@Social Work, 37, 9-14.
- Harrington, M. et al. (1987). Who are the Poor? Washington, D.C.: Justice for All.
- Harrington, M. (1985). The Other America: Poverty in the United States. New York: Longman Press.
- Haveman, R. (1987). Poverty Policy and Poverty Research. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press.
- Kammerman, S. & Kahn, A. (1989). Privatization and the Welfare State. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Kammerman, S. (1989). Toward a Child Policy Decade.@Child Welfare, Vol. LXVIII, No. 4, 371-390.
- Karger, H.J. and Stoesz, D. (1990). American Social Welfare Policy: A Structural Approach. White Plains: Longman Press.
- Katz, M. (1986). In the Shadow of the Poorhouse. New York: Basic Books.
- Kartz, M., Ed. (1993). The Underclass Debate. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Lerman, P. (1985). Deinstitutionalization and Welfare Policies,@The Welfare State in America: Trends and Prospects, The ANNALS, eds. Y. Hasenfeld and M. Zald, Vol. 479, May, 132-155.

- Mahaffey, M. (1987). Political Action in Social Work.@Encyclopedia of Social Work, 18th Ed., 283-293.
- Martin, G. (1990). Social Policy in the Welfare State. Englewood-Cliffs: Prentice-Hall.
- Mead, L. (1986). Beyond Entitlement. New York: Free Press.
- Moroney, R. (1991). Social Policy and Social Work: Critical Essays on the Welfare State. New York: De Gruyter.
- Morris, R. (1986). Re-thinking Social Welfare. New York: Longman.
- Murray, C. (1984). Losing Ground. New York: Basic Books.
- Nudelman, J. (2000). The impact of Job Training Partnership Act programs for adult welfare recipients. In B.S. Barnow and C.T. King (Eds.). *Improving the Odds:Increasing the Effectiveness of Publicly Funded Training*. Washington D.C.: The Urban Institute Press.
- Piven, F., and Cloward, R. (1971). Regulating the Poor. New York: Vintage Press.
- Richmond, M. (1917). Social Diagnosis. New York: R. Sage Foundation.
- Rocha, C.J. (1997). The Working Poor. In Richard D. Edwards (Ed.). *Encyclopedia of Social Work, 19<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1997 Supplement*.
- Rose, S. (2000). Reflections on empowerment-based practice. *Social Work*, 45(5), 403- 412.
- Schott, L., & Super, D. (1998). Food stamp sanctions for failure to meet conduct requirements in public assistance programs. *Center on Budget and Policy Priorities*. Washington, D.C.
- Schwartz, I. (1992). Juvenile Justice and Public Policy. New York: Lexington Books.
- Tropman, J. (1989). American Values and Social Welfare: Cultural Contradictions in the Welfare State. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall.
- Weissman, H. (1987). Settlements and Community Centers,@Encyclopedia of Social Work, 18th Ed., 556-561.
- Wilensky, H. and Lebeaux, N. (1965). Industrial Society and Social Welfare. 2nd Ed. New York: Free Press.