

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

**SW 516 - SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND SERVICES
Course Outline
Fall 2005**

Instructor: Jenny Jones, Ph.D.
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Office hours: Monday: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Or by appointment

Course Outline:

- I Nature of Social Policy and Social Policy Analysis
- II Defining Social Welfare Policy
- III The Role of Policy Analysis in Understanding the Policy Process
- IV Ethics in the Policy Process
- V Historical Development of Social Welfare Policy and Services and the Relationship to the Social Work Profession
- VI The Role of Policy Practice in Social Work
- VII Current Policy Issues and Strategies for Influencing Policy
- VIII Affecting Change in Social Welfare Policy

Course Requirements:

- I. Attendance is required.** Two classes may be missed without any consequence. **For each class missed after three, five (5) points will be deducted form your final grade.** Please notify me of tardiness/absences, although notification does not indicate excused absence /tardy.
- II.** 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 also include lectures, class discussions, and small group class exercises. Students will be expected to: 1) *complete assigned readings for preparation for each class session*; 2) *participate in class discussion/activities*; and 3) *completion of all assignments*. Graded assignments will include a mid-term examination, a group policy analysis paper, a group presentation, and completion of an individual journal. The final paper should be double-spaced and sources should be documented and referenced using APA format. **No more than 50% of your sources should be obtained from Internet resources.**
- III.** The group policy analysis paper involves an in-depth analysis of a particular social problem and the policy used to alleviate the problem. The chosen policy will be mutually negotiated between you and group members, and

the professor. A summary of current state and federal policies will be passed out in class for students to choose from.

The final grade will be determined as follows:

Position Paper (2)	10%
Mid-term exam	25%
Group Policy Proposal and Final Group Policy analysis paper	40%
Group Presentation	20%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

The grading scale for this course is:

93-100	A
87-92	B+
83-86	B
77-82	C+
73-76	C
66-72	D
<65	F

Required Course Text:

DiNitto, D. (2000). *Social welfare: Politics and public policy*, 6th ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Optional:

Karger, H. & Stoesz, D. (2002). *American Social Welfare Policy: A pluralist approach*. New York: Allyn and Bacon.

Jansson, B. (2003). *Becoming an Effective Policy Advocate: From policy practice to social Justice*, (4th ed). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.

Trattner, W. (1999). *From Poor Law to Welfare State: A History of Social Welfare in America*, 6th ed. New York: Free Press.

Assignments

Position Paper (White Paper)

A position paper also referred to as White Paper, presents an arguable opinion about an issue. For the purpose of this class the issue will be related to a specific policy discussed in class. The goal of a position paper is to convince the reader that your opinion is valid and worth listening to. Your job is to take one side of the argument and persuade the reader that you have well-founded knowledge of the topic being presented. It is important to support your argument with **evidence** to ensure the validity of your claims, as well as to address the counterclaims to show that you are well informed about both sides. Topics for the papers will be generated from current policy issues discussed in class. **An outline used to write paper will be passed out in class.**

All papers must be typed, double-spaced, with no spelling or grammar errors. Papers should be 3-5 pages in length, including references. **Due dates: Sept. 26 & Nov. 21, 2005.**

Group Policy Analysis Proposal

Identify the potential area of policy change for the specific policy issue chosen. Describe the chosen policy/issue. How does this policy affect vulnerable populations? Discuss why you believe your chosen policy needs to change. Include objective factors such as impact on client populations, cost/benefit analysis, etc. Choose the policy analysis framework that will be used to analyze the policy. Describe what areas the analysis will need to focus on according to this framework.

The proposal should be typed, double-spaced, with no spelling or grammar errors. The proposal should be 5 pages in length. **Due date: October 17, 2005.**

Group Policy Analysis Paper

Using the chosen policy and the chosen framework identified in the proposal, analyze this policy. Propose changes to the policy based on what was learned from the analysis process. The following points must be included in the paper:

17. A description and discussion of the policy. How does this policy affect vulnerable populations? Attach a copy of the policy to your paper.
18. A description and discussion of your chosen policy analysis framework. Provide a rationale for why you chose this particular model.
19. Using your chosen model, provide a step-by- step analysis of your policy.
20. Based on your analysis, provide specific recommendations for policy changes. These recommendations are to be based on the objective information you obtained in the analysis process.
21. If relevant, include an international perspective to the analysis.

The paper will be graded on how well the policy is critically analyzed. Are statistics, case examples, research, and objective information used to support the analysis process? Are both opponent and proponent positions discussed in the analysis? The papers should be at least 15 pages in length, typed, and doubled spaced. **Use APA style for referencing.**

Due date: December 5, 2005.

Group Presentations

Each group will complete a **20-minute presentation** on the policy issue addressed in the final policy paper. The presentation should include an overview of the policy issue and clearly identify the social problem the policy addresses. Presentations format should be innovative. You may use power point (not a requirement), a poster presentation, mock role-plays, etc. to present your issue. **Due date: Dec. 5, 2005.**

COURSE OUTLINE

August 29	<p>Social Policy: An Introduction</p> <p>Part I. Course overview, review syllabus, assignments, texts, readings, and academic integrity. Library Training: How to do a literature search.</p> <p>Part II. Note Taking and Critical Thinking, Why is it Needed?</p> <p>In-Class Exercise on Critical Thinking</p> <p>Part II. What is social welfare policy and why is it important to social work education? Defining social welfare; Review Preamble?</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DiNitto, D. Chapter 1, pp. 1-5.
Sept. 5	<i>Labor Day, No Class</i>
Sept. 12	<p>Understanding social welfare from an ecological system perspective; distinguishing social welfare systems from social welfare policy and social welfare programs.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Popple & Leighninger, Chapter 1 & 2.• Dittno, Diana. Chapter 1: The American Public and Social Welfare, pp.19-35.• Karger & Stoesz, Chapter 1: Social Policy and the American Welfare State, pp. 2-6.• Schiele, J. H. (1997). An Afrocentric Perspective on Social Welfare Philosophy and Policy. <i>Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare</i>, 24(2), pp. 21-39.• In class exercise: social policy practice <p><u>Web Resources:</u> Political Ideologies http://www.hildesheim.co.uk/quickreference/politics/ideologies.html</p>
September 19	<p>History of social welfare policy; policy as a form of social control.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Karger & Stoesz, (1998) Chapter 3: The Origins and Future of American Social Welfare, pp. 50-77.

September 26

- DiNitto, D. Chapter 2: Government and Social Welfare, pp. 36-79
- DiNitto, D. Chap. 9, pp. 349-379
- Hx of Social Work Profession (Handout)

Web Resource:

- The Social Work History Station:
<http://www.boisestate.edu/socwork/dhuff/history/central/core.htm>

Organizational structure of the American social welfare system.

Readings:

- Karger & Stoez, Chapter 8: The Making of Government and Social Policy, pp. 206-232.
- The Role of Government: NASW Speaks.
- DiNitto, D. Chapter 1 The Policy Making Process, pp14-19
- Matt Bai, New York Times Magazine July 17, 2005/Section 6 “The Framing Wars”: Do Republicans win elections because they know how to turn issues into stories? Can Democrats learn the same trick? pp. 38-45.

Web Resources:

- Policymaking Process: University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service: Public Policymaking in America
<http://www.ca.uky.edu/agepubs/ip/ip19/ip19.pdf>
- Special Interest Influences:
<http://www.mindspring.com/~leslie.armijo/new/04%20post%20ISA%20revise.pdf>
- Legislative Process:
http://congress.indiana.edu/learn_about/legislative.htm
http://www.senate.gov/legislative/common/briefing/Enactment_law.htm
- Tennessee General Assembly <http://www.legislature.state.tn.us> Email your legislature!

Policy Position Paper due!!!!!!

October 3

Part I: Policy Research using the internet.

Readings:

- Karger & Stoez, Chapter 3: Technology and Social Policy pp 40-54.

Web Resource:

- How to Use Census Data. <http://factfinder.census.gov/home>

Part II: Skills for policy practice: Affecting change. Understanding the policy process, recognizing and using power, strategies of policy persuasion. **Guest Speaker: Carol Westlake or Stewart Clifton**

<p>October 3 continued</p>	<p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jansson, B. (1999) <i>Becoming an Effective Policy Advocate: From policy practice to social justice</i>. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole. Chapter 1: Why Engage in Policy Practice and Policy Advocacy, pp. 1-28. Chapter 9: Policy Persuasion, pp. 231 - 255. • Linhorst, D. M. Federalism and Social Justice: Implications for Social Work. <i>Journal of the National Association of Social Workers</i>, 47(3), pp. 201-208. <p>Part III: Ethics and values in the policy process, underlying assumptions of social policy, ideologies and social policy, NASW Code of Ethics.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prigmore, C. & Atherton, C. (1979). Values and choices in contemporary social welfare policy, pp. 23-40. • Handout: NASW Code of Ethics • Galambos, C. (1997). Quality of Life for the Elder: A reality or an illusion? In <i>Journal of Gerontological Social Work</i>, 27, 3, 27-44. • Ethical Issues--TN policymakers: Ethics Sub-committee/TN General Assembly • In class exercise: ethical decision-making.
<p>October 10</p>	<p>Analyzing Social Welfare Policy: A review of four frameworks will be discussed (Karger & Stoez, DiNitto, Chipungu, Johnson, Schwartz & Tate).</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karger & Stoesz, Chapter 2: Social Welfare Policy Research: A Framework for Policy Analysis, pp. 29-38. • DiNitto, D. Chapter 1 pp. 13-14. • Chipungu, S. (1991). A Value-based policy framework, pp. 290 B 305. In Everett, J.; Chipungu, S., & Leashore, B. (1991). <i>Child welfare: An Africentric perspective</i>. • Johnson, L. C., Schwartz, C.L., & Tate, D.S. (1997). Chapter 15 The contemporary social welfare system. In <i>Social welfare: A response to human need</i>, 4th ed. 315-328. • Class exercise: Selecting the appropriate framework for your policy.

<p>October 17</p>	<p>Defining poverty: Who are the poor? Theories of poverty; strategies for combating poverty (Guest Speaker: Ellen Detch).</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 3, pp.80-118. • Albeda, R. & Tilly, C. (2001). Women, income & poverty: There's a family connection. In Rotherberg, R.S. (2001). <i>Race, Class, & Gender in the United States</i>. New York: Worth Publishing. • Bane, M.J. & Elwood. (1986). Slipping into and out of poverty: The Dynamics of Spells. <i>The Journal of Human Resources</i>, 21(1). <p>Policy analysis proposals due!</p>
<p>October 24</p>	<p>Mid-Term Exam (On-Line)</p>
<p>October 31</p>	<p>Preventing Poverty: Social Insurance Programs. Definition and background of social insurance. Key social insurance programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? OASDI ? Unemployment Insurance ? Worker=s Compensation ? Earned Income Tax Credit ? Medicare, Medi-gap, long term care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Social Security <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 4, pp124-154. • Beverly, Sondra, G. (2002). What Social Workers Need to Know about the Earned Income Tax Credit. <i>Journal of the National Association of Social Workers</i>, 47(3), pp. 259-266. • Privatizing Social Security/Bush's Plan (TBA)
<p>November 7</p>	<p>Public Assistance Programs. Assumptions underlying public assistance, U.S. farm policies; Rural poverty. Key public assistance programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? AFDC/TANF, welfare reform, Families First ? Medicaid/TN Care (state's Medicaid wavier) ? SSI ? Housing ? Nutritional programs ? WIC, Food Stamps <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 5, 6, 7, pp.161-287. • TN Care Cuts (TBA) www.tncare.advocacy.org • Wedel, K.R. & Butler, F.C. (1999) Welfare reform and demand for rural public transportation. In LeNay, C., Edwards, R., Reid, N., <i>Preserving and</i>

	<p><i>Strengthening Small Towns and Rural Communities</i> Washington D.C.: NASW Press</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lens, V. (2002). TANF: What Went Wrong and What to Do Next. <i>Journal of the National Association of Social Workers</i>, 47(3), pp.279-290. • Abramovitz, M. ((2001). Everyone is Still on Welfare: The Role of Redistribution in Social Policy. <i>Social Work</i>, 46 (4), 297-308. Washington, DC: NASW. • In class exercise: Welfare Reform debate.
November 14	<p>Issues of Health Care, Mental Health & Substance Abuse; Children, the Elderly, and People with Mental Illness. History and reform efforts Managed care, Parity for mental health care, Comparative analysis and Long-term care. Guest Speakers: Karen Franklin/Christi Granstaff; Sita Diehl/Dr. Sam Mac Master; Sherry Cummings.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapters 8 & 10, pp. 293-343. • Karger & Stoez, Chapter 13: Mental Health and Substance Abuse Policy, pp. 358 - 386. • Hooyman, Kiyak, & Asuman, (1999). <i>Social Gerontology</i>, Ch. 16: Health & Long Term Care Policy & Programs, pp. 471-494. • Greene, R. & Knee, R. (1996). <i>Shaping the Policy Practice Agenda of Social Work</i>(41)5, pp. 553-560. • Cohen, N. (2000). <i>Child Welfare: A Multicultural Focus</i>, Chapter 1: Child Welfare History in the United States, pp. 15-39.
November 21	<p>Issues of Discrimination, Oppression and Inequality; Historical and current trends in American society: Racism, sexism, sexual orientation, ageism, persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 11, pp. 441-500. • Young, W. M. Chapter 3: Building an Open Society. In “Beyond Racism”, pp. 151- 202. • Diversity and Social Justice: The Impact of Race, Ethnicity, Class, Gender, and Sexual Orientation, pp.86- • Native Americans Survey (Take home- discussion to follow next week) <p>Policy Position Paper due!!!</p>
November 28	<p>Implementing and Evaluating Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 12, pp. 407-431.
December 5	Class Presentations; Final Paper Due!

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