

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

SW516 - SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND SERVICES

Course Outline

Spring 2005

Instructor: Jenny Jones, Ph.D.

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Office hours: Monday: 4:00 pm- 5:30 pm and 8:20p.m. - 8:45p.m

Wednesday: 11:00am- 1:00pm

Or by appointment

Course Outline:

- I Nature of Social Policy and Social policy Analysis
- II Definition of Social Welfare Policy
- III Historical Development of Social Welfare Policy and Services and the Relationship to the Social Work Profession
- IV Current Policy Issues and Strategies for Influencing Policy
- V Ethics in the Policy Process and The Role of Policy Practice in Social Work
- VI The Role of Policy Analysis in Understanding the Policy Process
- VII 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 regardless if that particular reading is discussed by the professor in class; (2) participate in class discussion/activities; and (3) complete all assignments. Graded assignments will include a several mini-quizzes, a group poster presentation, a group policy analysis paper, and attendance to and written report of a public hearing or committee meeting. 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 course consists of a major service learning experience. All students will be expected to participate in activities related to Social Work Day on the Hill (SWDOH). Details of this process will be discussed during the second-class section.

The final grade will be determined as follows:

QUIZZES (3)	30%
Group Poster Presentation	20%
Final Policy analysis paper	30%
Committee Report	15%
Service Learning (SWDOH)	5%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

The grading scale for this course is:

96-100	A
95-91	A-
90-86	B+
85-81	B
80-76-	C+
75-71	C
70-66	D
<65	F

Criteria for the assignments are as follows:

Group Policy Poster Presentation

IV. The group policy poster presentation involves an in-depth review of a particular social problem and the policy used to alleviate the problem. A list of policy issues that will be presented in the 104th TN General Assembly will be passed out to the class for each group to select one. Objectives of the policy poster are: 1) be able to apply and synthesize policy concepts and principles, and 2) help you understand the composition process, moving from identifying an initial topic to the finished paper.

The following points must be included in the paper:

1. Identify the potential area of policy change for the specific policy issue chosen.
2. Describe the chosen policy/issue.
3. How does this policy affect vulnerable populations?
4. Discuss why you believe your chosen policy needs to change.
5. Include objective factors such as impact on client populations, cost/benefit analysis, etc.

The poster needs to be well organized with no spelling or grammar errors. The research done on the poster will be used to develop the policy analysis paper **Due date:**

March 28, 2005.

Group Policy Analysis Paper

V. Using the policy issue identified in the poster presentation, your group will need to select one the policy analysis frameworks discussed in class and 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:

1. A description and discussion of the policy. How does this policy affect vulnerable populations? **Attach a copy of the actual policy/legislation to your paper.**
2. A description and discussion of your chosen policy analysis framework. Provide a rationale for why you chose this particular model.

3. Using your chosen model, provide a step-by- step analysis of your policy.
4. 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.
5. 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 20 pages in length**, typed, and doubled spaced. **Use APA style for referencing and formatting. Due date: April 25, 2005.**

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

Optional:

DiNitto, D. (2000). *Social welfare: Politics and public policy*, 5th ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Davis, K.E. & Bent-Goodley, T. (2004). *The Color of Social Policy*. Washington, DC: NASW Press.

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

Jansson, B. (1999). *Becoming an Effective Policy Advocate: From policy practice to social justice*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.

<p>January 24</p>	<p>Social Policy: An Introduction Course overview, review syllabus, assignments, texts, readings, and academic integrity.</p> <p>What is social welfare and why is it important to social work education?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Preamble • Definition of social welfare and social welfare policy. • Video: TBA <p>The American Public and Social Welfare: Understanding social welfare policy 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, Chapters 1 & 2. • Jansson, Chapter 1. <p>In class exercise: social policy practice</p>
<p>January 24</p>	<p>Overview of Service Learning Project: SWDOH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Speaker-Karen Franklin, Executive Director, NASW-TN. <p>History of social welfare policy-policy as a form of social control; organization and structure of the American social welfare system and the TN General Assembly.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karger & Stoesz. (1998). American Social Welfare Policy, 3rd edition, Chapter 3. The Origins and Future of American Social Welfare, pp. 50-77. • Karger & Stosez. (2002). The Making of Governmental Policy, pp 206-232. • Tennessee General Assembly (Computer Lab)
<p>January 31</p>	<p>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"> • Handout: NASW Code of Ethics • Galambos, C. (1997). Quality of Life for the Elder: A reality or an illusion? In Journal of Gerontological Social Work, 27(3), 27-44. • Jansson, Chapter 2 (pp. 34-66). <p>In class exercise: ethical decision-making.</p> <p>Technology and social policy.</p> <p>Readings: Karger & Stoez, Chapter 3: Technology and Social Policy pp 40-54</p>
<p>February 7</p>	<p>(Quiz #1)</p> <p>“Why Participate in Policy Advocacy”? Current Policy Issues and Strategies for Influencing Policy; Skills Needed for Policy Advocacy.</p>

	<p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jansson, Chapters, 3 & 4 • Handout of 2005 legislative agenda
February 14	<p>Skills for policy practice: Committing to Problems and Solutions. Understanding the policy process, recognizing and using power, strategies of policy persuasion. Guest Speaker (TBA).</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jansson, Chapters, 5 & 6 <p>In class time to work on poster presentation</p>
February 21	<p>Analyzing Social Welfare Policy: A review of frameworks will be discussed (Karger & Stoez, DiNitto, Chipungu.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jansson Chapter 6,7, 8 • Karger & Stoesz, Chapter 2: Social Welfare Policy Research: A Framework for Policy Analysis, pp. 29-38. • 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>. <p>Class exercise: How to select the appropriate framework for your policy paper?</p>
February 28	Field trip-policy/committee hearing
March 7	<p>Written Report of hearing due! Assessing Policies</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jansson Chapter 14 <p>Advocating for Change</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jansson, Chapter 9 & 10
March 14	<p>Quiz # 2 Video: Influencing State Policy</p>
March 21	Spring Break!!!!
March 28	<p>Poster Presentation Due: Each group will have 20 minutes to present.</p> <p>Types of Social Programs: Social Insurance Programs. Definition and background of social insurance. Key social insurance programs: OASDI Unemployment Insurance Workers Compensation Earned Income Tax Credit</p>

	<p>Medicare, Medi-gap, long term care</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, D. Chapter 4, pp 102-129. • 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.
April 4	<p>Types of Social Programs continued:</p> <p>Public Assistance Programs. Assumptions underlying public assistance, U.S. farm policies; Rural poverty. Key public assistance programs:</p> <p>AFDC/TANF, welfare reform, Families First</p> <p>Medicaid</p> <p>SSI</p> <p>Housing</p> <p>Nutritional programs</p> <p>WIC, Food Stamps</p> <p>Readings:</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.
April 11	<p>(Quiz #3)</p> <p>Issues of Health Care, Mental Health & Substance Abuse (Guest Speaker: Dr. MacMaster) . Children, the Elderly, and People with Mental Illness (Guest Speaker: Sita Diehl). History and reform efforts</p> <p>Managed care, Parity for mental health care, Comparative analysis and</p> <p>Long-term care.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karger & Stoez, Chapter 13: Mental Health and Substance Abuse Policy, pp. 358 - 386. • Greene, R. & Knee, R. (1996). <i>Shaping the Policy Practice Agenda of Social Work</i>(41)5, pp. 553-560. • McRoy, Ruth. (2004). The Color of Child Welfare. In Davis and Bent-Goodley (Eds.) <i>The Color of Social Policy</i>, pp37-63.
April 18	<p>No In-class activity: Work on Policy Analysis Paper Day!</p>
April 25	<p>Last Class!!</p> <p>Implementing and Evaluating policy.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • www.isp.org <p>Policy Analysis Paper Due!!</p>

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