

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

SW516 - SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND SERVICES

Course Outline

Spring 2007

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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 from 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 three (3) quizzes, a group poster presentation, and a group policy analysis paper. The final paper must be typed, 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 required to participate in activities related to Social Work Day on the Hill (SWDOH) i.e., **attendance to the event, scheduling of meeting with Senator or Representative, and attendance in a committee meeting; also, students will be required to complete a three page paper describing this experience.** 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	25%
Final Policy analysis paper	30%
Service Learning (SWDOH)	15%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

The grading scale for this course is:

95-100	A
90-94	B+
85-89	B
80-84	C+
70-79	C

Required Course Text:

DiNitto, D. (2005). *Social welfare: Politics and public policy*, 6th ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Optional:

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

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.

Assignments

1. Group Policy Poster Presentation

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 105th 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:**

February 26, 2007. One poster will be chosen to present at SWDOH.

2. SWDOH Reflection Paper

A three-page typed, double spaced paper describing your experience and participation in SWDOH. The paper should include your learning experiences and thoughts about the process. **Due date: TBD**

2. Group Policy Analysis Paper

Using the policy issue identified in the poster presentation, your group will need to select one of the policy analysis frameworks discussed in class to analyze the policy, and 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 23, 2007.**

<p>January 22</p>	<p>Social Policy: An Introduction</p> <p>Part I: 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"> • Definition(s) of social welfare and social welfare policy • Review Preamble of Code Ethics and its relationship to social welfare policy <p>Readings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, Chapter 1, 1-5 <p>Part II: The American Public and Social Welfare: Understanding social welfare policy from an ecological system, an afrocentric, and rational perspectives; 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. • 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. • DiNitto, Chapter 1, 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</i> <p>Web Resources: Political Ideologies http://www.hildesheim.co.uk/quickreference/politics/ideologies.html</p>
<p>January 29</p>	<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. • DiNitto, D. Chapter 2: Government and Social Welfare, pp. 36-79 • DiNitto, D. Chap. 9, pp. 349-379 • Hx of Social Work Profession (Handout) <p>Web Resource: The Social Work History Station: http://www.boisestate.edu/socwork/dhuff/history/central/core.htm</p> <p>In class exercise: social policy practice</p>
<p>February 5</p>	<p>Organizational structure of the American social welfare system.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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

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://congress.indiana.edu/learn%20about/legislative.htm) [http://www.senate.gov/legislative/common/briefing/Enactment law.htm](http://www.senate.gov/legislative/common/briefing/Enactment%20law.htm)

Tennessee General Assembly <http://www.legislature.state.tn.us> **Email your legislature!**

<p>February 12 - 19</p>	<p>Quiz # 1</p> <p>Part I: Policy Research using the internet.</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karger & Stoez, Chapter 3: Technology and Social Policy pp 40-54. <p>Web Resource:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to Use Census Data. http://factfinder.census.gov/home <hr/> <p>Part II: 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 Journal of Gerontological Social Work, 27, 3, 27-44. • Ethical Issues–TN policymakers: Ethics Sub-committee/TN General Assembly • In class exercise: ethical decision-making.
<p>February 26</p>	<p>Part I: 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> <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. Journal of the National Association of Social Workers, 47(3), pp. 201-208. <p>Part II: Presentation of Policy Poster due. Each group will have 20 minutes to present.</p>
<p>March 5</p>	<p>Analyzing Social Welfare Policy: A review of frameworks will be discussed (Karger & Stoez, DiNitto, Chimungu).</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DiNitto, Chapter 1, pp. 13-14 • Karger & Stoez, Chapter 2: Social Welfare Policy Research: A Framework for Policy Analysis, pp.29-38 • Chipungu, S. (1991). A Value-based policy framework, pp.290-305. In Everett, J.; Chipungu, S., & Leashore, B. Child Welfare: An Africentric perspective.

<p>March 12</p>	<p>Quiz #2</p> <p>In class Activity: Selecting the appropriate framework for your policy paper</p>
<p>March 19</p>	<p>Spring Break!!!!!</p>
<p>March 26</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>April 2</p>	<p>Types of Social Programs: <i>Social Insurance Programs</i>. Definition and background of social insurance. Key social insurance programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? OASDI ? Unemployment Insurance ? Workers Compensation ? Earned Income Tax Credit ? Medicare, Medi-gap, long term care <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) • Hooyman, Kiyak, & Asuman, (1999). Social Gerontology, Ch. 16: Health & Long Term Care Policy & Programs, pp. 471-494.
<p>April 9</p>	<p>Types of Social Programs continued: <i>Public Assistance Programs</i>. 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 ? 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 <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 Strengthening Small Towns and Rural Communities</i> Washington D.C.: NASW Press • 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.
<p>April 16</p>	<p>(Quiz #3) Issues of Health Care [TN Care, managed care] (Guest Speaker: Sita Diehl), Mental Health & Substance Abuse (Guest Speaker: Dr. Sam MacMaster), Parity for mental health care (Guest Speaker: TBA). Children, the Elderly, and People with Mental Illness; History and reform efforts (Guest Speaker: TBA).</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.
<p>April 23</p>	<p>Last Class!! 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. • DiNitto, D. Chapter 12, pp. 407-431 <p>Policy Analysis Paper Due!!</p>

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