New Course Proposal

Date Submitted: 11/19/15 3:19 pm

Viewing: **SOWO 7090 : Advanced Social Welfare Policy**

Last edit: 11/19/15 3:19 pm

**Changes proposed by: ZUGAZCB**

In Workflow

1. SOCY Chair
2. LA Graduate Curriculum Committee Chair
3. LA Editor
4. LA Associate Dean
5. Coordinator Curriculum Management
6. Graduate Council Curriculum Committee Chair
7. Coordinator Curriculum Management

Approval Path

1. 11/19/15 3:41 pm
   LAF0014: Approved for SOCY Chair

Submitter: User ID: ZUGAZCB Phone: 4-2879

Proposing College/School: College of Liberal Arts

Department: Sociology, Anthro. & Soc. Wk.

Effective Term: Fall 2016

Subject Code: Social Work (SOWO)

Course Number: 7090

This course serves as a foundation to the MSW curriculum and addresses the mandate for social work professionals to advocate on behalf of clients. Students will utilize critical thinking and empirical evidence to develop tools to engage in policy practice in order to advance social and economic well-being and to deliver effective social work services. Advanced skills related to analyzing, formulating and advocating for policies that advance social well-being and
Social justice are the focus of this course.

**Justification for new course:**
This is a course in the new Master of Social Work program.

**Course Title:**
Advanced Social Welfare Policy

**Abbreviated Title:**
Advanced Social Welfare Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule Type</th>
<th>Contact/Group Hours</th>
<th>Weekly or Per Term?</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Anticipated Enrollment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
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Can the course be repeated? No

Total Credit Hours: 3

**Grading Type:**
Standard Grades

**Prerequisites:**

**Prerequisite Courses:**

**Corequisites:**

**Restrictions:**
Exclude Freshman
Exclude Junior
Exclude Sophomore
Exclude Senior
Exclude For Non Degree

Other Restrictions:
Students must be admitted to the Master of Social Work program to enroll in this course.

**Admin Restrictions:**

**Course Description:**
The course will review the historical development of social welfare and social policies in the United States and explore their context and underlying values. This course builds knowledge and skills to analyze and make changes in social welfare policy.

**May Count Either:**

**Affected Program(s):**

**Overlapping or Duplication of Other Units' Offerings:**
No
Resources

Access to additional social work journals such as Advances in Social Work, Affilia - The Journal of Women and Social Work, or Arete - Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work is recommended.

The student will be able to demonstrate the following objectives upon completion of the course:

1. Identify and trace the historical roots of social welfare policy in the United States as they relate to current policy.
2. Identify the values that drive policy decisions.
3. Describe the history, current structures and issues of social welfare policies and the major ideological themes that underlie them.
4. Understand the implications of policies and unintended consequences of social policy.
5. Demonstrate the use of critical thinking skills in analyzing a social policy.
6. Apply social work values, standards and ethics in analyzing and influencing policy formulation, implementation and advocacy.
7. Articulate the policy-making process.
8. Critically analyze the effectiveness of social welfare policies and the impact of those policies for disenfranchised populations, such as women and children, the aged, the homeless, disabled or mentally ill or those who are gay or lesbian.
9. Identify populations-at-risk and describe the dynamics whereby such populations come to be oppressed and discriminated against.
10. Describe the effects of society’s responses to racism and sexism as reflected in social policies and programs.
11. Discuss the elements of a policy analysis framework and use a framework to critique and improve social policy.

Is this course considered University Core?

No

Course Objectives/Outcomes

Weeks 1 & 2
Social Policy and the American Welfare State

Reading:


Week 3
Social Welfare Policy Research: A
Framework for Policy Analysis

Reading:


Week 4  Religion and Social Welfare Policy

Reading:


Weeks 4 & 5 Discrimination in American Society

Reading:

1. Karger & Stoesz, Ch. 4, "Discrimination in American Society."

Supplemental:

1. Media. Video: Milk

Week 6 Religion and Social Welfare Policy

Reading:

1. Karger & Stoesz, Ch. 5. "Poverty in America."

Supplemental:

2. Guest Speakers: Alabama Arise and/or Dr. Wayne Flynt

3. Media: PBS NOW video on Poverty in AL (www.arisecitizens.org)

Week 7 The Voluntary and For-Profit Social Sectors

Reading:

1. Karger & Stoesz Ch. 6, "The Voluntary Sector Today."

Supplemental:

1. Guest Speaker: United Way

Week 7 Midterm Exam

Week 8 The Making of Governmental Policy
Course Content Outline

Week 8
Homework: “Everyone is still on welfare” Abramovitz article due

Week 9
Social Insurance Programs
Karger & Stoesz, Ch.10, “Social Insurance Programs.”

Week 10
Public Assistance Programs
Reading:
1. Karger & Stoesz, Ch. 11, “Public Assistance Programs.”

Week 11
The American Health Care System
Reading:

Supplemental:
1. Media. Video: Sicko

Week 12
Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Policy
Reading:
1. Karger & Stoesz, Ch. 13, “Mental Health and Substance Abuse Policy.”

Week 13
Policy Analysis Papers Due

Week 13
Child Welfare Policy
Reading:

Supplemental:

Reading:


Supplemental:
1. Guest Speaker, Lobbyist Alabama Arise

1. Guest Speaker: DHR, or VOICES for Alabama’s Children

Week 14
Agency Policy Analysis Paper Due

Week 14
Last Day to Present Policy Articles

Week 14
(ONGOING NEWS)

Week 14
Housing Policy

Reading:

1. Karger & Stoesz, Ch. 16, “Housing Policies.”

Supplemental:

1. Guest speaker: Opelika Housing Authority

2. Media. Video: “Jessie’s Place”, Birmingham, AL

Week 15
The Politics of Food Policy and Rural Life

Reading:

1. Karger & Stoesz, Ch.17, “The Politics of Food Policy and Rural Life.”

Supplemental:

1. Guest speaker: East Alabama Food Bank

Week 16
Final Exam

Assignment 1: Ongoing News (5 points). Course objectives 5, 6, 8, 9, 10

Read the newspaper, listen to the radio, and watch T.V. Bring interesting items related to social policy to class. We will devote time each session to discuss and understand current issues. Once you tune in, you will be surprised how much of what appears on the news is related to social policy! Once during the semester you will be asked to bring a newspaper article to class and provide the class with a brief analysis to class from either a local or national newspaper and present your issue to the class.
Assignments / Projects

Assignment 2: Homework: “Everyone is still on welfare.” (15 points). Course objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10

1. Locate the following article in the library or via EBSCOHOST (Academic Search Elite- author keyword: Abramovitz, Mimi).
2. Download questions from Canvas and answer completely. We will discuss this article in class – in addition to the homework assignment that will be graded.


Assignment 3: Group Policy Analysis Paper (30 points). Course objectives 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11

In groups of 2 or 3 students will:

1. Write a paper on existing federal (or state) legislation that both interests you and has implications for social work practice (This may be an existing law or a proposed law that is not yet in effect).
2. This paper should use the analytic framework from Karger and Stoesz which is based on Chapter 2 of your text.
3. The paper should include a discussion on values, ethics, and the role of social workers either in the creation, implementation, or change process.
4. This paper should be 7-10 pages in length (including references but not title page) and follow APA guidelines. Papers in excess of 10 pages will be neither read nor graded.
5. More information regarding this assignment will be provided in class and posted on Canvas (A paper guide will be provided and discussed in detail during class).
6. Paper drafts may be submitted up to 5 days in advance of the due date in order to receive feedback before submitting a final version of the paper. Drafts submitted less than 5 days before the due date may not be reviewed.

Assignment 4: Agency Policy Analysis Paper (20 points). Course objectives 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

1. Write a paper on a policy issue related to your internship site (This may be an existing agency policy or a proposed policy that is not yet in effect).
2. This paper should use the analytic framework from Karger and Stoesz which is based on Chapter 2 of your text.
3. The paper should include a discussion on values, ethics, and the role of social workers either in the creation, implementation, or change process.

4. This paper should be 7-10 pages in length (including references but not title page) and follow APA guidelines. **Papers in excess of 10 pages will be neither read nor graded.**

5. More information regarding this assignment will be provided in class and posted on Canvas (A paper guide will be provided and discussed in detail during class).

6. **Paper drafts may be submitted up to 5 days in advance** of the due date in order to receive feedback before submitting a final version of the paper. Drafts submitted less than 5 days before the due date may not be reviewed.

**Assignments 5 & 6 - Exams:** Midterm Exam (Course objectives 2, 7, 9, 10, 11) and Final Exam (Course objectives 1, 3, 4, 6, 8) **(15 points each)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1: Ongoing News</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 2: Homework (Everyone is still on welfare)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 3: Policy Analysis Paper</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 4: Agency Policy Analysis Paper</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 5: Midterm Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 6: Final Exam</td>
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**Rubric and Grading Scale**

100

**Grading Scale:**

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- D = 60-69
**POLICY STATEMENTS**

**Attendance**: Although attendance is not required, students are expected to attend all classes, and will be held responsible for any content covered in the event of an absence.

**Excused Absences**: Students are granted excused absences from class for the following reasons: illness of the student or serious illness of a member of the student's immediate family, the death of a member of the student's immediate family, trips for student organizations sponsored by an academic unit, trips for university classes, trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoena for a court appearance, and religious holidays. Students who wish to have an excused absence from class for any other reason must contact the instructor in advance of the absence to request permission. The instructor will weigh the merits of the request, and render a decision. When feasible, the student must notify the instructor prior to the occurrence of any excused absences, but in no case shall such notification occur more than one week after the absence. Appropriate documentation for all excused absences is required. Please consult the Student Policy eHandbook for more information on excused absences.

**Make-Up Policy**: Arrangement to make up a missed major examination (e.g.:hour exams, mid-term exams) due to properly authorized excused absences must be initiated by the student within one week of the end of the period of the excused absence(s). Except in unusual circumstances, such as the continued absence of the student or the advent of university holidays, a make-up exam will take place within two weeks of the date that the student initiates arrangements for it. Except in extraordinary circumstances, no make-up exams will be arranged during the last three days before the final exam period begins.

**Academic Honesty Policy**: All portions of the Auburn University student academic honesty code (Title XII) found in the Student Policy eHandbook will apply to university courses. All academic honesty violations or alleged violations of the SGA Code of Laws will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which will then refer the case to the Academic Honesty Committee.

**Disability Accommodations**: Students who need accommodations are asked to electronically submit their approved accommodations through AU Access and to arrange a meeting during office hours the first week of classes, or as soon as possible if accommodations are needed immediately. If you have a conflict with my office hours, an alternate time can be arranged. To set up this meeting, please contact me by e-mail. If you have not established accommodations through the Office of Accessibility, but need accommodations, make an appointment with the Office of Accessibility, 1228 Haley Center, 844-2096 (V/TT).