 Fall 2018

**Social Work 150: Social Welfare in America (3 units)**

**Section 01 (am class): Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00-10:15. EUR 109**

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Over the next 15 weeks, we will examine the history and philosophic underpinnings of “the common good.” We will learn about the general purpose, structure, costs, and benefits of current social welfare policy and programs, as well as acquire skills to analyze specific social policies. At the end of the semester, we will consider the role of social work in policy and program development; finally, wrapping up by examining alternative programs and frameworks aimed at achieving better society.

**COURSE AIMS**

1. Provide an historical and values-based perspective for understanding the development of social welfare policies and social service programs at the local, state, national and international level;
2. Outline a framework for analyzing social policy and welfare programs;
3. Foster policy practice skills in social, political and economic arenas;
4. Promote student engagement in change-making.

**REQUIRED TEXT**

* *Understanding Social Welfare: A Search for Social Justice* (9th Edition)

Ralph Dolgoff; Donald Feldstein. ISBN 13: 9780205179701

* Other readings will be available on Canvas.
* We will also be working with the World Values Survey, Wave 6.

Inglehart, R., C. Haerpfer, A. Moreno, C. Welzel, K. Kizilova, J. Diez-Medrano, M. Lagos, P. Norris, E. Ponarin & B. Puranen et al. (eds.). 2014. World Values Survey: Round Six - Country-Pooled Datafile Version: <http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/WVSDocumentationWV6.jsp>. Madrid: JD Systems Institute.

**ASSIGNMENTS**

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| **Assignment** | **Due** | **Percent of final grade** | **Percent of total assignment** |
| Quizzes (4 out of 5 graded) |  | 30% | 25% each |
|  Quiz 1 | 09/06/18 |  |  |
|  Quiz 2 | 09/18/18 |  |  |
|  Quiz 3 | 10/11/18 |  |  |
|  Quiz 4 | 11/08/18 |  |  |
|  Quiz 5 | 11/27/18 |  |  |
| Policy Analysis Paper |  | 45% |  |
|  Proposal | 10/04/18 |  | 10% |
|  Outline  | 10/25/18 |  | 20% |
|  1st Submission | 11/15/18 |  | 30% |
|  Final Submission | 12/06/18 |  | 40% |
| Final Exam |  | 25% |  |

1. **Quizzes**

There will be 5 quizzes administered through Canvas. Each quiz will cover readings assigned from the date of the last quiz and the readings assigned on the day that the quiz is due. Each quiz is shall be completed outside of class before the beginning of class on the day that they are due. They will be made up of multiple choice, fill-in the blank, and true/false questions worth 25 points each. Only the 4 highest scores will be included in the final grade.

1. **Policy Paper**

The purpose of the 8-page, double-spaced policy paper is to analyze a specific policy issue at a particular point in U.S. history, related to one of seven policy areas (1. social security & family income supports, 2. homelessness & affordable housing, 3. health care, 4. mental health and developmental disabilities, 5. child welfare, 6. criminal justice, 7. aging).

The paper will be built through several assignments spread out over the semester (See the assignment table above). Details for each segment will be provided in class and via Canvas.

The general structure for the paper will be as follows:

1. Overview of the Policy Analysis (2 pages, approximately). Components: policy analyzed, nature of the problem, interest groups involved, policy context.
2. Historical Analysis (1 page). Components: policy/program development related to the problem, people/groups in support/opposition
3. Social Analysis (2 pages). Components: problem description, values related to problem, goals of the policy
4. Economic Analysis (1 page). Components: policy effect on the economy, behavior of individuals, firms, and markets, who wins/who loses.
5. Political Analysis (1 page). Components: stake holder legitimization, who is left out, nature of the change, consider how race, gender, sexual identity, and other areas of discrimination are impacted
6. Current Proposals for Policy Reform (1 page). Components: personal recommendations for immediate and future change
7. **Final Exam**

A final exam will be administered, as per CSUS requirements, on the assigned final day and time (See Calendar above). The format for the exam with be similar to the quizzes with the addition of several short answer questions and reflection prompts designed to promote application of key course concepts. More details on the format of these questions will be provided in class.

**COURSE CALENDAR**

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| **Themes** | **Tuesday** 9:00-10:15; 12:00-1:15 | **Thursday**9:00-10:15; 12:00-1:15 |
| **Values, Theoretical Underpinnings & History** | **August 28:** Reading due: SyllabusTopics: IntroductionIn-class Activity: World Values Survey | **August 30**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 1&2Topics: Values and Policy**EC: World Values Survey** |
| **September 4**:Reading due: Malthus Topics: the Principle of Population | **September 6**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 3Topics: Historical OriginsIn-class Activity: World Values Survey, review & analysis***Quiz #1*** |
| **September 11**:Reading due: Marx (conflict)The Gift (structural functional)Topics: Reciprocity & Exploitation | **September 13**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 4Topics: American Experience I |
| **September 18**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 5Topics: American Experience II***Quiz #2*** | **September 20**:Reading due: Topics: Module Summary**Introduce Paper Assignment** |
| **Social Policy & Program Analysis** | **September 25**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 6Topics: Social Welfare Concepts | **September 27**:Reading due:Topics: Policy Analysis Intro  |
| **October 2**:Reading due:Topics: Policy Analysis I (from Leighinger (The policy-based profession) | **October 4**:Reading due:Topics: Policy Analysis IIIn-class Activity:**Paper Proposal Due** |
| **October 9**:Reading due: Topics: **Writing Seminar** | **October 11**: Reading due: D&F Chapter 7Topics: Program Analysis I***Quiz #3*** |

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| **The Modern American Welfare State** | **October 16**:Reading due: Topics: Program Analysis II | **October 18**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 8Topics:  |
|  | **October 23**:Reading due:Topics: Emergence of the US Welfare State: Depression & the New Deal. (Fox & Piven)In-class Activity: (Presidential speeches; State of the Union) | **October 25**: Reading due: NONETopics: Paper WorkshopIn-class Activity: **Paper Outline Due** |
|  | **October 30**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 9Topics: Welfare Programs I | **November 1**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 10, p.221-22; 240-262Topics: Welfare Programs II |
|  | **November 6**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 10, p.222-240Topics: Health Care & the Affordable Care Act | **November 8**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 11Topics: American Exceptionalism: Non-profit & Private Social Welfare***Quiz #4*** |
| **The Social Work Profession** | **November 13**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 12Topics: Emergence of a Profession | **November 15**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 13Topics: Functions, Context, Issues**Draft Paper Due** |
|  | **November 20**:Out of class assignment. | **November 22**: HOLIDAYNO CLASS |
| **Comparative Welfare States** | **November 27**:Reading due: D&F Chapter 15Topics: ***Quiz #5*** | **November 29**:Reading due:Topics: Comparative Case Study: Germany |
| **Alternative Social/Political Systems** | **December 4**:Reading due: Section, New SynthesisTopics: Another world is possible | **December 6**:Final Exam Review**Final Paper Due** |
|  | **December 10-14 FINALS WEEK**: | **SWRK 150 (01 am class)**: Tuesday, December 11, 2018. 10:15-12:15**SWRK 150 (04 pm class)**: Tuesday, December 11, 2018. 12:45-2:45 |

**Social Work Competencies and Course Objectives**

The Council on Social Work Education’s (CSWE) Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) requires that all social work students develop ten competencies and recommends teaching and assessing 41 related practice behaviors listed in Educational Policy (EP) 2.1.1 to 2.1.10.

The following competencies are realized through this course:

EPAS 2.1.1: Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly

EPAS 2.1.3: Apply critical thinking in practice

EPAS 2.1.5: Advocate for human rights and social justice

EPAS 2.1.8: Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being

At the end of the term, students will be able to:

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|  | Course Objectives | EPAS | Method of Assessment |
| a | Describe 3-4 major social welfare policies and assess the limitations and difficulties facing social service programs (UNDERSTAND, APPLY) | 2.1.8  | Quizzes, Policy Paper, Policy  |
| b | Describe the history of the social work profession and the role social workers played in the development of the U.S. social welfare system (REMEMBER) | 2.1.1, 2.1.8 | Quizzes, Final Exam |
| c | Describe the complex historical, political, social, economic and cultural factors that shape the process and outcomes of policy decision-making; (REMEMBER) | 2.1.8 | Midterm, Policy Paper, Final Exam |
| d | Identify at least 2-3 major policies and their specific programs and institutions (UNDERSTAND) | 2.1.8 | Quizzes, Policy Paper, Policy |
| e | Describe the 3-5 major elements of a current social policy and evaluate how social categories such as race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and others have influenced the debate about the policy (EVALUATE) | 2.1.1., 2.1.5 | Quizzes, Policy Paper, Policy |
| f | Summarize the history of a social policy in the United States (UNDERSTAND) and apply (APPLY) a historical, economic/social, and political analysis framework in understanding the development of a social welfare policy and social service program across time. (EVALUATE) | 2.1.3, 2.1.5, 2.1.8 | Quizzes, Policy Paper, Policy |