UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs
Department of Social Welfare

SW 221A: Foundations of Social Welfare Policy
Fall, 2015

Instructor: Ailee Moon, MSW, PhD.
Lecture: T/Th 8:00am - 9:15am, Bunche Hall, 2209A
Office Hours: Th. 12:15pm - 1:45pm or by appointment
Public Affairs Building 5220
Contact Information: aileem@g.ucla.edu

Discussion Sections: Thursdays 2:00-2:50pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discussion Section Leaders</th>
<th>Students Assigned</th>
<th>Discussion Sec. Room Number</th>
<th>Office Hours – PhD offices, first floor of PAB: 1369</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Aryun Hahm</td>
<td>Aghazaryan, H. ~ Cross, A.</td>
<td>PAB 2238</td>
<td>Th. 1-2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Marquitta Dorsey</td>
<td>Daniel, J. ~ Howell, D.</td>
<td>PAB 3343</td>
<td>Th. 1-2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Rachel Wells</td>
<td>Howmiller, C. ~ Post, C.</td>
<td>PAB 4357</td>
<td>Th. 1-2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Sara Pilgreen</td>
<td>Ramirez, R ~ Zannis, L.</td>
<td>PAB 2355</td>
<td>Th. 1-2pm</td>
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Email address of Discussion Section Leaders (TAs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discussion Section Leaders</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Aryun Hahm</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aryun@ucla.edu">aryun@ucla.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Marquitta Dorsey</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mdorsey@g.ucla.edu">mdorsey@g.ucla.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Rachel Wells</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rbwells@ucla.edu">rbwells@ucla.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Sara Pilgreen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:spilgreen@g.ucla.edu">spilgreen@g.ucla.edu</a></td>
</tr>
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Course Description
This introductory course will provide an overview of key areas of social welfare policy. The content of the course will cover the roots of American social welfare policy and how they have given rise to today's social policy structure. In following the path of social welfare policy development, the birth of the profession of social work and how it has paralleled major social policy issues will be followed from the early colonial settlements to the present day. In particular, specific events, important individuals and policy enactments that have influenced public policy affecting vulnerable populations such as racial and ethnic minorities, women, children, the poor and other diverse populations will be discussed. This class will also examine the role of social research in informing social welfare policy.
Social Work Practice Competencies: Successful completion of this course implies that the student has achieved competency in the following practice behaviors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency</th>
<th>Practice Behaviors</th>
<th>Method of Assessment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1.5</td>
<td>Advance human rights and social and economic justice.</td>
<td>Midterm assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination.</td>
<td>Final paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.9</td>
<td>Respond to contents that shape practice.</td>
<td>Final paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Provide leadership in promoting sustainable changes and development in social welfare policies, advocacy, service delivery and practice to improve the quality of services.</td>
<td>Student presentations and role plays</td>
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Additional Course Objectives:

On completion of the course, students should:
1. Know the roots of social welfare policy and how it affects present day policy,
2. Understand the issues that gave rise to the profession of social work and its key figures,
3. Understand the economic, social, and political factors that explain the trajectory of policies over time that affect racial and ethnic minorities, the poor, women and children, and other vulnerable populations,
4. Understand the extent to which policies are guided by social science research, and
5. A beginning understanding of the fields of social work practice and the policy areas they address.

Course Structure

This is a required foundation course for all first year MSW students. It will utilize a variety of formats that will include lectures, discussion and debates, and films.

Texts

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

Each student will be required to successfully complete several measures of learning. These measures will be due or administered on the following dates and will contribute to the final course grade as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Due Date/Time</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm paper</td>
<td>Nov. 1 (Sunday, 11:59pm)</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
<td>Dec. 9 (Wed, 11:59pm)</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
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Students are required to attend and participate in each session. Students are also expected to complete all readings before coming to class. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course.

Please note that I do not give Incomplete grades (except in emergency situations).
ASSIGNMENTS

You are expected to select and critically analyze a social welfare legislation that addresses a specific social problem. Examples might include AFDC, TANF, Food Stamps (SNAP), The McKinney Act, Medicaid, WIC, Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, American with Disabilities Act, The Ryan White Care Act, Affordable Care Act, & Community Mental Health Act. The analysis consists of two parts:

Part I: Mid-term Paper (Due Nov. 1, Sunday, 11:59pm): Look at the origins of the debate about the legislation and discuss:
1. How key proponents and opponents have framed the social problem in terms of the target population, the problem, the diagnosis of the problem, the desired outcomes and the interventions to achieve it.
2. Explore how social categories such as race, gender, and ethnicity have influenced the debate about the legislation.
3. Using a social justice perspective, examine the extent to which the advocates for the legislation have attempted to address issues of oppression and discrimination.

For your analysis use historical accounts, studies of the origin of the legislation, and include relevant legislative hearings on the proposed legislation. For federal legislations please see: http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php

The paper should be in APA style and need not be more than 15 double-spaced pages, excluding cover page and references.

Part II. Final Paper (Due Dec. 9, Wednesday, 11:59pm). Looking at the current state of the legislation:
1. Identify the major changes that have occurred since the origins of the legislation and briefly discuss the forces leading to the changes.
2. From a social rights perspective, critique the current state of the legislation.
3. What changes would you advocate to improve the impact of the legislation?

The paper should be in APA style and need not be more than 15 double-spaced pages, excluding cover page and references.

NOTE 1: Students are encouraged to use one of the frameworks for policy analysis and evaluation provided in class for either or both assignments.

NOTE 2: Students are encouraged to develop a tentative 1 or 2 page paper outline or an analysis framework first and receive comments from the instructor or their discussion leader as part of learning process.

If you wish to request an accommodation due to a suspected or documented disability, please inform me and contact the Office for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible at A255 Murphy Hall, (310) 825-1501, (310) 206-6083 (telephone device for the deaf). Website: www.osd.ucla.edu. I encourage students to meet with me to implement appropriate accommodations as early in the quarter as possible. All disability-related information is protected and remains confidential.
WEEKLY TOPICS AND READINGS

**Week 0 (Sept. 24)**
Lecture: Introduction of TAs, Expectations & Q/As  
Introduction to Social Welfare Policy: A Big Picture  
Reading: Reisch, Chapters 1 & 3

**Week 1A (Sept. 29)**
Lecture: Introduction to Social Welfare Policy: A Big Picture (Cont’d)  
Defining Social Problems and Social Policy  
Reading: Reisch, Chapters 6

**Week 1B (Oct. 1)**
Lecture: Tips on how to conduct research on policy topics, including legislations, historical background, etc.  
*Guest Lecturer: Joseph Yue, Librarian for Social Welfare*

**Week 2A (Oct. 6)**
Lecture: Policy Development, Analysis and Evaluation Frameworks

**Week 2B (Oct. 8)**
Lecture: A Historical Overview of American Social Policy & Social Welfare:  
Reading: Reisch, Chapters 2

**Week 3A (Oct. 13)**
*Guest Lecturer: Janlee Wong, MSW, Executive Director of National Association of Social Workers – California Chapter’s (NASW-CA)*  
Reading: Reisch, Chapters 7 & 9

**Week 3B (Oct. 15)**
Lecture: A Historical Overview of American Social Policy & Social Welfare (Cont’d)

**Week 4 (Oct. 20 & 22)**
Lecture: The intersection of Social Policy with Race and Gender  
Reading: Reisch, Chapters 4 & 5

**Week 5 (Oct. 27 & 29)**
Lecture: Social Security: Past, Present and Future  
Reading: Reisch, Chapter 11

*Midterm due: Nov. 1 (Sunday, 11:59pm)*

**Week 6 (Nov. 3 & 5)**
Lecture: Poverty & Unemployment  
Reading: Reisch, Chapters 12 & 15
Week 7 (Nov. 10 & 12)
Lecture: Welfare and Welfare Reform
Reading: Reisch, Chapters 13 & 15

Week 8 (Nov. 17 & 19)
Lecture: Health Policy
Reading: Reisch, Chapter 14
*No discussion section this week*

Week 9 (Nov. 24) *No class or discussion section on Nov. 26*
Lecture: Mental Health Policy
Reading: Same as Week 8

Week 10a (Dec. 1)
Lecture: Mental Health Policy Cont’d

Week 10b (Dec. 3) *This is our final class meeting and final discussion meeting*
Eight student presentations of their paper topics and key issues (2 students from each discussion section)

Week 11 (finals)
*Final Paper Due: Dec. 9 (Wed, 11:59pm)*