

Lamar University
Department of Sociology, Social Work and Criminal Justice
Social Work Program

Social Work 3340
Social Welfare Policy and Services

Course Number:	SOWK 3340-01	Instructor:	Bonnie Kirk Loiodice, LMSW
Course Title:	Social Welfare Policy and Services	Office:	Maes 91
Semester	Fall 2017	Phone:	(409)880-8586
Meeting Place:	Maes 108	E-Mail:	bloiodice@lamar.edu
Meeting Time:	MWF 11:30 to 12:25	Office Hours:	Mondays 1- 3pm and by appointment

Services for students with disabilities

"Lamar University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) is located in the Communications building room 105. Office staff collaborate with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.

If you have, or think you may have, a disability (e.g., mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical), please contact the DRC at [409-880-8347](tel:409-880-8347) or drc@lamar.edu to arrange a confidential appointment with the Director of the DRC to explore possible options regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.

If you are registered with DRC and have a current letter requesting reasonable accommodations, we encourage you to contact your instructor early in the semester to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course."

Emergency Procedures

Many types of emergencies can occur on campus; instructions for severe weather or violence/active shooter, fire, or chemical release can be found at:

<http://www.lamar.edu/about-lu/administration/risk-management/index.html>.

Following are procedures for the first two:

Severe Weather

- Follow the directions of the instructor or emergency personnel.
- Seek shelter in an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor, putting as many walls as possible between you and the outside.
- If you are in a multi-story building, and you cannot get to the lowest floor, pick a hallway in the center of the building.
- Stay in the center of the room, away from exterior walls, windows, and doors.

Violence/Active Shooter (CADD)

- **CALL** - 8-3-1-1 from a campus phone (880-8311 from a cell phone). Note: Calling 9-1-1 from either a campus phone or cell phone will contact Beaumont City Police Dispatch rather than University Police.
- **AVOID**- If possible, self-evacuate to a safe area outside the building. Follow directions of police officers.
- **DENY**- Barricade the door with desks, chairs, bookcases or any other items. Move to a place inside the room where you are not visible. Turn off the lights and remain quiet. Remain there until told by police it is safe.
- **DEFEND**- Use chairs, desks, cell phones or whatever is immediately available to distract and/or defend yourself and others from attack.

Academic Continuity Statement

In the event of an announced campus closure in excess of four days due to a hurricane or other disaster, students are expected to login to Lamar University's website's homepage (www.Lamar.edu) for instructions about continuing courses remotely.

Academic honesty:

* Please consult the student handbook for Lamar University policies on academic dishonesty: *According to the Lamar University handbook, "Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Punishable offenses include, but are not limited to, cheating on an examination or academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials: (81) One aspect of the handbook's definition of cheating is "Purchasing ,or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm" (82) Plagiarism is defined as, "The appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another's work or ideas into one's own offered for credit" (82) Students seeking to avoid plagiarism should consult with the course instructor recent handbooks like , THE LITTLE HANDBOOK and the MLA HANDBOOK FOR WRITERS IF RESEARCH PAPERS, consultants in the writing center, or websites such as <http://www.utexas.edu/depts/doc/sjs/academicintegrity2.html>*

Required Texts:

Neil Gilbert and Paul Terrell. (2005). Dimensions of Social Welfare Policy. 8th (2013) edition. (Pearson Education, Inc., 2013)

Michael Harrington. The Other America. (Pelican Books, 1981)

Accommodations:

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss their special needs. They may also contact the Disability Resource Center at 409-8347 in room 105 of the Communications Bldg for assistance.

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide a beginning understanding of the relationship between social policy, social welfare, and American society. Particular attention will be paid to the "upside down" nature of our present social welfare system and its impact on disadvantaged populations. The course will stress the ability to critically review social policies and the programs that flow from them as well as providing a solid understanding of major social welfare systems. Students will be asked to become aware of their own value systems and the role those systems play in their attitudes toward social welfare programs. The course will examine several critical issues confronting the social welfare enterprise.

Class: 3 hours. Credit: 3 semester hours.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

Introduction to Social Work (SOWK 2361)

SOWK 3340 Social Welfare Policies Course Competencies

The learning outcomes for this course are the achievement of the competencies required for social work students in a program accredited by the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE). Competencies 1, 4, and 5, which include six behavioral outcomes, are very similar to those specified by CSWE. They are:

Competency 1 – Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior

- 1.1 Students communicate an understanding of the laws and regulations that apply to practice decision making and the context of practice.
- 1.2 Students demonstrate professional behavior and professional communication, including oral, written and electronic communication

Competency 4- Engage in P\practice-informed research and research-informed practice.

- 4.3 Students use and translate research evidence to inform and improve policy.

Competency 5- Engage in policy practice

5.1 Students identify social policy at the local, state and federal level that impacts well-being, service delivery and access to social services.

5.2 Students assess how social welfare and economic policies impact the delivery or and access to social services.

5.3. Students apply critical thinking to articulate methods for analyzing, formulating, and advocating for policies that advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice.

Course Outline:

I Introduction to Course

Social Work Program's mission, goals, and objectives

Course Objectives and Expected Educational Outcomes

Interrelatedness of course with other social work courses

Interrelatedness of course with other courses of degree plan

Critical Thinking Skills and Social Welfare Policy

Theoretical Overview

Course overview and assignment discussion

Ecological Models as an important tool in the formulation of Social Welfare Policy

II. Social Welfare Policy and the Welfare State

READ – Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 1, The Field of Social Welfare Policy

Chapter 2, The Modern Welfare State

READ – Michael Harrington, The Other America

This is for the required book report.

Content Areas:

Social Welfare Programs

Values: Equity, Equality, and Adequacy

Populations at Risk

Approaches to Analysis

Relationship to Direct Practice

The Evolving Welfare State

Assignment: Book Report – Separate Instructions will be provided.

III. A Framework for Social Welfare Policy Analysis

READ - Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 3, A Framework for Social Welfare Policy Analysis

Content Areas:

- Gilbert and Terrell's analytic framework:
 - Basis of Allocation
 - Types of Social Provisions
 - Strategies of Service Delivery
 - Methods of Financing Provisions
- Application of the Framework
- Social Values and Choices
- Theories, Assumptions, and Social Choices

IV. Basis of Social Allocation

READ - Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 4, The Basis of Social Allocations

Content Areas:

- Universal and Selective Allocation
- Social Effectiveness and Cost Effectiveness
- Allocation Principals on an Institutional to Residual continuum
 - Attributed Need
 - Compensation
 - Diagnostic Differentiation
 - Mean Tested Need

V. Exam #1 and Assignment discussion

Assignment: POLICY TERM PAPER

Students should begin preparing for the oral and written term paper.
Separate instructions will be provided.

VI. The Nature of Social Provision and the Structure of the Delivery System

READ - Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 5: The Nature of Social Provision

READ - Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 6, The Design of the Delivery System

Chapter 5 Content Areas:

- Cash vs. In Kind
- Values:
 - Social Control,
 - Consumer Sovereignty,
 - Macro Economic Efficiency
 - Transferability
- Vouchers
- Opportunities
- Services
- Goods
- Credits
- Cash

Chapter 6 Content Areas:

- Which level of government will have authority?
- Who will perform the service deliver tasks?
- What will be the composition of the units or the delivery system?
- Service Structures:
 - Boards and Commissions
 - Umbrella Organizations
 - Services Integration Approaches: Florida
- Problems of Service Delivery
 - Fragmentation
 - Discontinuity
 - Unaccountability
 - Inaccessibility
- Service Delivery Strategies
- Profit/ Non Profit Service Delivery Structures: Strengths and Weakness

VII. Mode of Finance: Sources of Funds

READ - Gilbert and Terrell: Chapter 7, Mode of Finance: Sources of Funds

Content Areas:

- Types of Taxation:
 - Progressive
 - Regressive
- Contributory and Fee Charging Mechanisms
- Profit vs. Non Profit Service Delivery Structures: Strengths and Weakness
- Tax Expenditures: Amounts, Categories

Discussion: Book Report (The Other America)

VIII. Mode of Finance: Systems of Transfer

READ - Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 8, Mode of Finance: Systems of Transfer

Content Areas:

- How Money Flows/Systems of Transfer
 - Categorical Programs
 - Block Grants
 - General Revenue Sharing
- How Transfers are Conditioned/ Grant Requirements
 - Matching Funds
 - Timing
 - Record

IX. Change Choices in the Process of Policy Formulation

READ - Gilbert and Terrell Chapter 9, Policy Dimensions: International Trends in the Twenty-First Century.

Content Areas:

Pressures for Change

Directions of Change

X. Class Policy Term Paper Individual Presentations

XI. FINAL EXAMINATION -- DURING FINALS WEEK. THE FINAL WILL BE COMPREHENSIVE AND ANALYTICAL.

GRADES

Assignments and Grading Policy

40 % of final grade: Two examinations. (20% of final grade for each exam)

10 % of final grade: Attendance and Class Participation

10 % of final grade: Book report on The Other America.

40 % of final grade: Assignment, Policy Term Paper

Pass/Fail: Oral class presentation. Failure to deliver oral presentation will result in a **grade of F for the course**.

General class participation, attendance, and attitude: up to one full letter grade may be deducted from students with deficiencies in these areas.

Books in class: students should not read or underline books in class during lecture. Students should read chapters before class lecture and should take notes during lecture. Text underlining should be done OUTSIDE OF CLASS.

CELL PHONES: cell phones must be turned off. Students text messaging or using cell phones may be dismissed from the class with a grade of F.

NOTE: ALL SOCIAL WORK CLASSES MUST BE COMPLETED WITH A GRADE OF "C" OR BETTER

Students missing tests must have permission in ADVANCE from the instructor. Approved missed exams may be scheduled at the end of the semester or another time at the instructor's discretion.

Late assignments cannot be made up after 7 days from the due date unless a prior documented emergency exists and notification of the emergency is received within a week of the due date.

The final grade will be determined by the grades from the papers, examinations, and reports. While the oral report will be graded pass/fail, those students who do not present an oral report will receive a grade of **F for the course**. There will be no provisions for extra credit projects. Final grades will be assigned based on the combination grades: 90 - 100 = A; 80 - 89 = B; 70 - 79 = C; 60 - 69 = D; 59 and below = F. The course grade may be reduced for students with deficiencies in class attendance, class participation, courtesy and cooperation.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is required. Roll will be taken. Attendance will be a significant factor in determining the final grade, particularly for students whose averages are near the next higher grade. Role will be taken at the beginning of class; students who are tardy will be counted as absent. Students with more than 3 absences during the semester may have their grades lowered.

Recording (audio and/or video) is not permitted without special permission from the instructor. Lack of courtesy will not be tolerated. Students should not arrive late to class, especially on a continuing basis.

Students may not leave class early without permission from the instructor, except in the case of personal emergency. Talking or any other disruptive behavior during lecture is not permitted. Reading during class is not permitted.

DROPPING POLICY

February 20, 2017 is the last date to drop or withdraw with no penalty. After February 20, 2017 requests for a drop will be recorded as F if the student is not passing at that time or as Q if the student is passing at that time. Requests to drop within 15 class days of the beginning of final examinations require a waiver of university policy. These requests will generally not be considered by the Department chairs.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students guilty of cheating on exams or papers will receive a grade of F for the course. Papers must be the original work of the student. Students must not be guilty of plagiarism in their papers. Plagiarism will result in a grade of F for the course.