Course Dates, Time, and Location

Fall Semester, 2017: August 28, 2017 to December 15, 2017
TR at 8:00-9:15 A213 Section 010

Instructor Contact Information

Thomas W. Starkey, Ph.D., LCSW
Associate Professor
Academic Building, Office 104F
Office Phone: 325-486-6130
E-Mail: tstarkey@angelo.edu

Office Hours: MWF 9:00 am – 10:00 am and TR 9:30:00 am – 12:00 am

Course Description

Provides the knowledge, skills, and values to apply social welfare policy and practice. Focuses on policy analysis, implementation of policy to achieve social and economic justice, and the impact of social policy on the social work profession. Prerequisite: SWK 2307, SWK 2317, and Admission to the B.S.W. degree program

Course Introduction

This course builds upon Social Welfare Policy and Practice I, and takes the student from understanding the history and philosophy of social welfare policy and practice to engaging and learning policy practice. Students will utilize the strategies discussed in the textbook to advance the values and principles of the social work profession through effective policy practice; by learning to evaluate policy, advocate for policy development or change, analyze policy, build coalitions, and understand and engage in the political influences on policy. The Council on Social Work Education states that social workers need to be aware of the influence of policy on service delivery and actively engage in policy practice. To this end, this course equips students with the knowledge and skills needed to successfully engage in policy practice.

(The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus throughout the semester if necessary.)
Student Learning Outcomes/Course Competencies: Social Work Knowledge, Values, and Skills

Competency 3: Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice

Social workers understand that every person regardless of position in society has fundamental human rights such as freedom, safety, privacy, an adequate standard of living, health care, and education. Social workers understand the global interconnections of oppression and human rights violations, and are knowledgeable about theories of human need and social justice and strategies to promote social and economic justice and human rights. Social workers understand strategies, designed to eliminate oppressive structural barriers to ensure social goods, rights, and responsibilities are distributed equitably and that civil, political, environmental, economic, social, and cultural human rights are protected.

Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice

Social workers understand that human rights and social justice, as well as social welfare and services, are mediated by policy and its implementation at the federal, state, and local levels. Social workers understand the history and current structures of social policies and services, the role of policy in service delivery, and the role of practice in policy development. Social workers understand their role in policy development and implementation within their practice settings at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels and they actively engage in policy practice to effect change within those settings. Social workers recognize and understand the historical, social, cultural, economic, organizational, environmental, and global influences that affect social policy. They are also knowledgeable about policy formulation, analysis, implementation, and evaluation.

Required Texts:


NOTE: All assignments submitted in this course are to be written in strict accordance with the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.).

Grading Information

Grading Scale:

90 – 100 = A  
80 – 89 = B  
70 – 79 = C  
60 – 69 = D  
59 or Below = F

(The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus throughout the semester if necessary.)
Point Values and Description for Assignments and Examinations:

**Professional Performance** 10%

This is relevant to attendance and engaging in class activities, including frequency and quality.

**Policy Power Point Presentation** 25%

Students will choose a Social Policy, and create a Power Point Presentation (This presentation *cannot* be the same topic as the Policy Analysis. Students will be expected to use information from the text books, as well as to locate and use other scholarly resources (e.g., peer reviewed journal article, books, creditable internet sources, and so forth). An outline will be provided to the professor (including references).

**Social Justice Paper** 25%

Students will select one policy from the textbook to analyze. Efforts will be made not to duplicate the policies chosen by other students. For these exercises, students will be required to locate and use other scholarly resources (e.g., peer reviewed journal article, books, creditable internet sources, and so forth) in addition to social work speaks. Each student is required to see the graduate assistant for help with APA and make appropriate changes. Students will structure their paper according to the following outline:

I. Select a policy that impacts social justice and introduce that policy
II. Characteristics of the People Are Affected by the Problem or Issue
   A. How Many People Are Affected by this Issue
   B. What Are These People Like in Terms of Demographics
   C. What are the current Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice Issues related to the policy
   D. How does this policy currently impact Human Rights
III. What is the History of the Issue or Topic of the Policy
IV. Current Government Response
   A. Local Government
   B. Texas Government
   C. Federal Government
V. What Do Key Authorities Say About the Issue
VI. What Are Your Recommendations or Proposals, Beyond the Existing Policy, to Address the Issue
   A. What changes would you recommend from the social, economic, and environmental justice perspectives
   B. How will you improve Human Rights issues
VII. Conclusion

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This paper will conform to the standards of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Edition* (2010). The length of the papers may vary, but should be no less than 10 pages, including the cover sheet and reference pages. Students must use 5 peer reviewed journal articles (at least 1 article must be from the past 5 years. Students must also have the graduate assistant review the paper prior to submission for help with APA.

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's information as though it were your own. If you use the words or ideas of another person; or if you use material from any source—whether a book, journal, magazine, newspaper, business publication, broadcast, speech, or any other source—you must acknowledge that source. Plagiarism on the term paper will result in the student not receiving credit for her/his term paper.

B9 apply their understanding of social, economic, and environmental justice to advocate for human rights at the individual and system levels; and

B10 engage in practices that advance social, economic, and environmental justice.

B14 Identify social policy at the local, state, and federal level that impacts well-being, service delivery, and access to social services;

B15 assess how social welfare and economic policies impact the delivery of and access to social services;

B16 apply critical thinking to analyze, formulate, and advocate for policies that advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice.

**Exams**

40%

There will be four (4) online, timed examinations in this course. Each exam will account for 10% of your grade.

**Testing via Respondus™ Monitor**

Access to quizzes will be through Respondus™ Lockdown Browser and will be video recorded via Respondus™ Monitor [See Other Required Materials for a list of needed equipment]. Use of another electronic device is prohibited.

There are two practice quizzes: a) one is a Webcam test and b) a short 10 question practice quiz over ASU trivia that is not graded. These tools will be available to the student to assure accessibility. Students are highly encouraged to go through these practice quizzes in advance of taking a graded quiz. This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve the testing environment. These quizzes, instructional videos, and more information regarding Respondus Monitor can be found under the Respondus Monitor Help tab in your Blackboard course.

**OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS**

· Computer with MAC or Windows Operating System
· High Speed Internet Access

(The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus throughout the semester if necessary.)
- Ethernet Cable
- Webcam (Please note: a plug-in webcam allows the student to perform thorough environmental scans).

Refer to Angelo State University’s Distance Education website for further technology requirements:
http://www.angelo.edu/distance_education

Course Policies

- Please do ask questions that are relevant to the course and feel free to utilize my office hours. I am here to help you and I want you to succeed.

- There is no penalty for missing 3 classes (this is not an invite to miss class
  - Any additional absence will result in a loss of 10 points off of your total grade.
  - The 7th absence results in a failing grade for the course. Please refer to ASU policy regarding class attendance.
  - Being more than 5 minutes late for class will count as an absence.

- All students are expected to follow the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics.

- Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at: http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/Honor_Code.pdf

- Make-up examinations will be considered on a case by case basis and will only be allowed for university approved absences.

- Late assignments are not accepted for any reason unless the reason is approved by the course instructor.

- Electronic devices, including cell phones, Blackberries, laptops, and so forth, are not to be turned on or used in class. If the use of these devices is detected by the course instructor, the particular student using the device will be asked to leave the class for that day.

Persons with Disabilities

Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to their being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Additional information can be found at: http://www.angelo.edu/services/student_life/disability.html

(The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus throughout the semester if necessary.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Dates</th>
<th>Lecture Topics/Readings/Assignments</th>
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| Week 1 8/28-9/1 | **Course Orientation**  
Reading: Chapter 1  
Lecture Topic: The Policy –Based Profession |
| Week 2 9/4-9/8  | Reading: Chapter 2  
Lecture Topic: Defining Social Welfare Policy |
| Labor Day is 9/4 |                                                                      |
| Week 3 9/11-9/15 | Reading: Chapter 3  
Lecture Topic: Social Welfare Policy Analysis |

*Course Schedule Continued on the Next Page*

| Week 4 9/18-9/22 | Reading: Chapter 4  
Lecture Topic: Policy Analysis from a Historical Perspective  
**Exam 1: Chapters 1-4** |
| Week 5 9/25-9/29 | Reading: Chapter 5  
Lecture Topic: Social/Economic Analysis |
| Week 6 10/2-10/6 | Reading: Chapter 6  
Lecture Topic: Fighting Poverty: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families |
| Week 7 10/9-10/13 | Reading: Chapter 7  
Lecture Topic: Aging: Social Security as an Entitlement |

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Reading: Chapter 8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/16-10/20</td>
<td>Lecture Topic: Mental Health and Substance Abuse</td>
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<td><strong>Exam 2: Chapters 5-8</strong></td>
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<th>Week 9</th>
<th>Reading: Chapter 9</th>
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<tr>
<td>10/23-10/27</td>
<td>Lecture Topic: Health</td>
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<th>Week 10</th>
<th>Reading: Chapter 10</th>
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<tr>
<td>10/30-11/3</td>
<td>Lecture Topic: Child Welfare: Family Preservation Policy</td>
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<th>Week 11</th>
<th>Reading: Chapter 11</th>
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<tr>
<td>11/6-11/10</td>
<td>Lecture Topic: Politics and Social Welfare Policy</td>
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<td><strong>Assignment: Social Justice Paper Due, 11/10</strong></td>
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<th>Week 12</th>
<th>Reading: Chapter 12</th>
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<td><strong>Exam 3: Chapters 9-12</strong></td>
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<th>Week 13</th>
<th>Reading: Chapter 13</th>
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<tr>
<td>11/20-11/24</td>
<td>Lecture Topic: Conclusion</td>
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<td>11/22-11/24 is Thanksgiving</td>
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<th>Week 14</th>
<th>Power Point Presentations</th>
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<th>Week 15</th>
<th>Power Point Presentations</th>
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<tr>
<th>Week 16</th>
<th>Exam 4: Final</th>
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<td>12/11-12/15</td>
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