

SOWK 210A Social Policy*3 credits, 3 hours*

This theory course provides in-depth knowledge and understanding of social policy and its relationship to and impact on human services work. Social policy concepts are discussed and then applied to a variety of Canadian and Indigenous policy issues and societal trends. The benefits and disadvantages of established social policies are examined from the perspectives of marginalized groups. Students are encouraged to raise issues and cite examples from their own experiences and to examine them in light of historical and current political realities

Instructor

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Office Hours

Monday 1:00 – 2:00
Tuesday 1:00 – 2:00
Wednesday 5:00 – 6:00
Thursday 4:00 – 5:00
Friday 12:00 – 1:00

Hours of Instruction

Wednesday 1:00 PM - 3:50 PM
Room: S205

Required Resources

Graham, J., Shier, M., & Delaney, R. (2017). *Canadian social policy a new introduction* (5th ed.). Don Mills, ON: Pearson Canada Inc.

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall be able to:

- Be able to examine how history, political ideology, economics, demographics, and cultural factors have shaped social policy and social welfare policy in Canada.
- Be able to evaluate current trends and issues in social policy and their effects on human services practice with particular focus on vulnerable populations e.g. Indigenous Peoples; women; people living in poverty.
- Have an awareness of the approaches and values that influenced the development of social policy in Canada and be able to outline the political processes necessary to influence change in social policy.
- Be able to identify and present specific social policies and programs as they impact different groups of people including them as social workers to identify the need for change.
- Have started to assess individual theoretical and ideological standings to social policy and social work.

- 'Understand' the importance of participation in social policy and develop a working knowledge of how they as social workers can participate meaningfully in policy change.

Evaluation

Federal Election Policy Analysis	25%
Midterm Exam	25%
Policy Brief	25%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.

Federal Election Policy Analysis

Students will select an issue relating to social services/social welfare and explore/contrast the policy position of Canada's political parties. In a brief presentation, each student will share their findings with the class.

Student will receive written instructions in class. Due October 16th, 2019. Weight: 25%

Midterm Exam

This will be a 3 hour, in class midterm exam covering Chapters 1 – 6 in the textbook and any other additional material covered in class. Students will participate in midterm exam review on October 16th.

In class midterm exam on October 23rd, 2019. Weight: 25%

Policy Brief

Students will write a policy brief related to a social services/social welfare issue and, in a brief presentation, share their findings with the class.

Student will receive written instructions in class. Due December 4th, 2019. Weight: 25%

Final Exam

The final exam will be scheduled during the final exam period (December 9th – 17th, 2019). This will be a 3 hour exam covering Chapters 7 – 9 in the textbook and any other additional material covered in class. Students will participate in final exam review on December 4th.

Date TBA (Final exam period: December 9th – 17th, 2019). Weight: 25%

Grading System

Descriptor	Alpha Grade	4.0 Scale	Percent	Rubric for Letter Grades
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory Progression	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor Minimum Pass	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

Proposed Schedule of Topics

Week	Activity
September 4	Chapter 1
September 11	Chapter 2
September 18	Chapter 3
September 25	Chapter 4
October 2	Chapter 5
October 9	Chapter 6
October 16	Federal Election – Policy Analysis Due Midterm Exam Review
October 23	In Class Midterm Exam
October 30	College PD Day – No Class
November 6	Introduction to Policy Briefs
November 13	Chapter 7
November 20	Chapter 8
November 27	Chapter 9
December 4	Policy Brief Due Final Exam Review
December 9 th – 17 th	Final Exam Date TBA

Please Note:

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

Performance Requirements

Student Responsibilities

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College credit calendar.

More specific details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a students' learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and / or notes that may be due.

Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating)
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on ilearn.keyano.ca. Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work will not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

Specialized Supports

The Student Academic Support Services (SASS) department: Accessibility Services, Skill Centre and Wellness Services, work together to support student success at Keyano College.

Accessibility Services (CC167) supports student success through group and individualized instruction of learning, study and test taking strategies, and adaptive technologies. Students with documented disabilities, or who suspect a disability, can meet with the Learning Strategists to discuss accommodation of the learning barriers that they may be experiencing. Students who have accessed accommodations in the past are encouraged to visit our office at their earliest opportunity to discuss the availability of accommodations in their current courses. Individual appointments can be made by calling 780-791-8934

Skill Centre (CC119) provides a learning space where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff. Students visiting the centre have access to one-to-one or group tutoring, facilitated study groups, and assistance in academic writing. The Skill Centre's Peer Tutor program provides paid employment opportunities for students who have demonstrated academic success and want to share what they have learned. Tutoring is available free to any students registered at Keyano College on a drop in basis, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Additional evening hours are subject to tutor availability and are posted in the Skill Centre.

Wellness Services (CC260) offers a caring, inclusive, and respectful environment where students can access free group and individual support to meet academic and life challenges. Mental Health Coordinators offer a safe and confidential environment to seek help with personal concerns. The Mindfulness Room in CC260 is available as a quiet space for students to relax during regular office hours. Wellness Service welcomes students to participate in any of the group sessions offered throughout the academic year addressing such topics as Mindfulness and Test Anxiety. Individual appointments can be made by calling 780-791-8934.

Please watch your Keyano email for workshop announcements from our Student Academic Support Services team.