



CCSW6361 Social Welfare Policy and Planning
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Community Ministries
Spring 2018

Dr. Loretta G. Rivers, Ph.D., LCSW
Professor of Social Work
Office: LMCCC 104-B
Office: (504) 282-4455, ext. 3211
Email: lrivers@nobts.edu

Class Grader: Elizabeth Terrill
Email: dr.riversgrader@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Ryan O'Kelly
Office: LMCCC 100-B
Phone: (504) 816-8106
Email: socialwork@nobts.edu

Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values.

- 1. Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
- 2. Spiritual Vitality:** We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
- 3. Mission Focus:** We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
- 4. Characteristic Excellence:** What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
- 5. Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom deportment.

The core value focus for this academic year is *Servant Leadership*.

Curriculum Competencies

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

- 1. Theological and historical perspective:** This course will examine the theological rationale for the church's involvement in applied ministry and the historical involvement of the church's role in applied ministry.

2. *Disciple making*: This course will prepare the student to mobilize churches and community agencies for service utilizing social work skills.

Course Description

A detailed study is made of the major social problems in the community: poverty, income maintenance, health, mental health, child welfare, housing, and criminal justice. These problems will be analyzed in light of social welfare policy and planning. The church's role in social welfare will be examined.

Student Learning Outcomes

The student involved in this course should be able to accomplish the following:

1. To develop an understanding of the basic social problems in the United States and how social welfare policy responds to these problems.
2. To analyze and understand the implications of social welfare policy.
3. To learn a framework for policy analysis which can be used to analyze social welfare policy.
4. To formulate a theological rationale for the church's involvement in social welfare policy development.
5. To value the church's involvement in social welfare planning.
6. To identify ways of influencing decision making in public policy.
7. To utilize skills in identifying and assessing social problems.

Textbooks

The following books are required reading for class discussions and are to be read in their entirety.

Required Textbooks

Gilbert, Neil and Paul Terrell. *Dimensions of Social Welfare Policy, 8th ed.* Boston: Pearson, 2012.

Trattner, Walter. *From Poor Law to Welfare State, 6th ed.* New York: The Free Press, 1999.

Recommended Textbook

Jansson, Bruce S. *The Reluctant Welfare State: Engaging History to Advance Social Work Practice in Contemporary Society, 8th ed.* Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning, 2014.

Course Teaching Methodology

Units of Study

Unit 1 Introduction to Social Welfare Policy

Unit 2 Biblical Basis for Involvement in Social Welfare

Unit 3 History of Social Welfare Policy- Colonial Era/American Revolution

Unit 4 History of Social Welfare Policy- 1800-1900

- Unit 5 History of Social Welfare Policy - 1900-1950
- Unit 6 History of Social Welfare Policy – 1950 to 2000
- Unit 7 Current State of Social Welfare Policy
- Unit 8 Policy Analysis: Basis of Social Allocation
- Unit 9 Policy Analysis: Nature of Social Provisions
- Unit 10 Policy Analysis: Design of the Delivery Systems
- Unit 11 Policy Analysis: Mode of Finance
- Unit 12 Analysis of Social Welfare Policies
- Unit 13 The Church’s Role in Policy Advocacy
- Unit 14 Conclusion/Evaluation

Teaching Method

Lecture, discussion, guest speakers, videos, and case studies will be utilized in this in-class course.

Course Requirements

I. Class Participation and Reading Assignments

- A. Student participation in discussion and class exercises is essential in the design of this course. Students should read the assigned material for each class and be prepared to discuss or participate in class exercises related to the readings. Students also will lead the discussion related to content as assigned by the instructor.
- B. The grade for this component of the class will be based on class attendance, preparation, participation, and class facilitation.

II. Policy Analysis Paper

- A. Each student is to choose a current social welfare policy as the topic for the paper. Students should submit their topics for approval.
- B. The paper should include the following:
 1. A description of the social welfare policy and the social problem it is designed to address
 2. the historical perspective of the policy/problem
 3. analysis of the policy
 4. values which influence policy decisions in the problem area
 5. effectiveness of the current policy
 6. alternatives to the current policy

The body of the paper should be 12 pages in length. A minimum of 12 sources is required. The paper should be typed according to Turabian, latest edition.

III. Policy Presentation

- A. Each student will give a 40-45 minute presentation/discussion on the social policy that was the subject of his/her paper. The student will give his/her critique of the policy and will lead the class in a discussion analyzing the policy and formulating possible alternatives to the policy.
- B. Each student will assign the class one article to read at least one week prior to the presentation.

IV. Study of Social Problem and the Response of the Church

The student will choose one social problem to follow in the news throughout the course. The student will submit weekly summaries of findings (minimum of 1 typed page per week). In addition, the student will research ways the church is responding to the social problem. Based on the student's research, the student will submit a 7-8 page paper suggesting a plan for the church to address the social problem. Students will present their research in class.

V. Final Exam

Students will complete a final exam on the assigned date.

Course Evaluation

Assignment	Percentage of Grade	Due Date
Class Participation and Facilitating Reading Assignment	15%	
Policy Analysis Paper	25%	
Policy Presentation	20%	
Study of Social Problem and Response of the Church	20%	
Final Exam	20%	

Course Policies

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC at (504)816-8180, or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Policy on Late Assignments

All work is due on the assigned day and at the assigned time. The grade for late assignments will automatically be reduced by 10 points. **Assignments that are over one week late will not be accepted.**

Academic Policies

Academic policies related to absences, examinations, and other topics can be found in the *New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Academic Catalog 2017-2018*.

Academic Honesty Policy

All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS students, whether on-campus, internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.

Netiquette

Appropriate Online Behavior. Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on Discussion Boards or whenever interaction occurs through web, digital, or other electronic medium. The student is expected to interact with others students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Emergency Plan

In the event of a hurricane or other emergency, go to the seminary web site for information: www.nobts.edu. Also, students should use Blackboard to follow any announcements that may be posted. Students should ensure their current email address is updated on Blackboard.

Reading Assignments

Students are responsible for completing all reading assignments. Reading accountability will be assessed on the midterm and/or final exam.

Professor’s Policy on Late Assignments

All work is due at the beginning of class on the assigned day. The grade for late assignments will automatically be reduced by 10 points. Assignments that are over one week late will not be accepted.

Style Guides for Assignments

Social work students should use the APA style guide for all assignments. Non-social work students may use Turabian or APA.

Academic Integrity

Each student is responsible for the academic integrity of his/her work. The following are examples of violations of academic integrity: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, turning in work done by someone else, and submitting a paper which has been submitted in another class. These and other violations of academic integrity may result in failure of the course.

Classroom Parameters

Please arrive on time.

Turn off cell phones. Utilize laptops and other technology for class purposes only.

Respect the professor and other members of the class.

Maintain confidentiality when someone share personal information.

Participate in class and group discussions.

Extra Credit

No extra credit opportunities will be available for individual students. Any extra credit opportunities, if offered, will be available to all students.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
Unit 1 January 24	Introduction to Social Welfare Policy	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 1
Unit 2 January 31	Biblical Basis for Involvement in Social Welfare.	Bring your Bible
Unit 3 February 7	History of Social Welfare Policy: Colonial Era/American Revolution	Trattner, Chapters 1-3
Unit 4 February 14	History of Social Welfare Policy: 1800-1900	Trattner, Chapters 4-8
Unit 5 February 21	History of Social Welfare Policy: 1900-1950	Trattner, Chapters 9-13
Unit 6 February 28	History of Social Welfare Policy: 1950-2000	Trattner, Chapters 14-17
Unit 7 March 7	The Current State of Social Welfare Policy	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapters 2 and 9
Unit 8 March 14	Policy Analysis: Basis of Social Allocations	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapters 3-4
March 19-23	Spring Break – No Class	

Unit 9 March 28	Policy Analysis: Nature of Social Provisions	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 5
Unit 10 April 4	Policy Analysis: Design of the Delivery System	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 6
Unit 11 April 11	Policy Analysis: Mode of Finance	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapters 7-8
Unit 12 April 18	Analysis of Social Welfare Policies Student Presentations	Articles Assigned by Students
April 25	Student Presentations	Articles Assigned by Students
Unit 13 May 2	The Church's Role in Policy Advocacy	Discussion of Student Research
Unit 14 May 9	Conclusion/Evaluation	
May 16, 9-11 a.m.	Final Exam	

Note: The professor reserves the right to make adjustments in the schedule as needed.

Selected Bibliography

Anderson, Linda P., Paul A. Sundet, and Irma Harrington. *The Social Welfare System in the United States: A Social Worker's Guide to Public Benefits Programs*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 2000.

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- Sider, Ronald J. *Just Politics: A Guide for Christian Engagement*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2012.
- Sider, Ronald J. *Nonviolent Action: What Christian Ethics Demands but Most Christians Have Never Really Tried*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2015.
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