



CCSW6361 Social Welfare Policy and Planning
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church and Community Ministries
Spring 2020, Tuesday, 2:00 – 4:50 p.m., NOLA2U FLEX

Dr. Loretta G. Rivers, PhD, LCSW
Associate Dean of Graduate Studies
Professor of Social Work
Office: Dodd 101
Phone: (504) 282-4455, ext. 3211
Email: lrivers@nobts.edu

Administrative Assistant: Mary Drake Chavez
Email: socialwork@nobts.edu

Class Grader: Zoë Morris
Email: riversgradernobts@gmail.com

Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is Spiritual Vitality: We are a worshipping 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.

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are:

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

Required Textbooks

Gilbert, Neil, and Paul Terrell. *Dimensions of Social Welfare Policy, 8th ed.* Boston: Pearson, 2013.

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. [Note: The NOBTS library will have a copy of the textbook on reserve. Any edition of the textbook will be helpful to students in their research.]

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies:

Lecture, discussion, guest speakers, videos, and case studies will be utilized in this 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.
- C. **NOLA2U FLEX** students will watch the weekly videos and complete the weekly quizzes related to class discussions.
- D. **NOLA2U FLEX:** If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Flex student, please note the following attendance policies:

1. You are required to be in class either through viewing the lectures live or viewing the recorded lectures on Blackboard. When you view the recorded lecture, you will be considered present for that class. Regardless of if you watch the class live or recorded, you are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in the graduate catalog.
2. You will be asked to certify that you have been present for the live session or have viewed the recorded session. This certification will be done through a weekly quiz completed after having watched the class live or viewing the recorded session.
3. All video lectures are available for 7 days after the video is posted. If you are unable to view the video within that time frame, you will be considered absent for that class session.
4. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a lecture.

II. Policy Analysis Paper

- A. Each student is to choose a current social welfare policy as the topic for the paper. The professor will provide a list of possible topics on the first day of class. 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
- C. 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 APA.

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.
- C. **NOLA2U FLEX** students should record their presentation and post on YouTube. The YouTube link should be emailed to the professor **1 day prior** to the assigned class date for 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 blackboard. The final exam will be available at 8 a.m. on Friday, May 8, 2020 and will be due at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Assignment	Percentage of Grade	Due Date/Time
Class Participation, Reading Assignments, and Facilitating Discussion Weekly quizzes/attendance as described in the course requirements for NOLA2U FLEX students	15%	As assigned
Policy Analysis Paper	25%	April 21, 2 p.m.
Policy Presentation	20%	As assigned
Study of Social Problem and Response of the Church	20%	April 14, 2 p.m.
Final Exam	20%	May 12, 2 p.m.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (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 2019-2020*.

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.

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 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.

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 shares 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.

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.

Writing Style Guide

Writing assignments should follow the **NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style** (*revised August 2019*). To access this manual on the seminary website, please use the following link: <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>.

Social work students should use the APA style guide for all assignments with the NOBTS cover page.

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.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
January 21	Introduction to Social Welfare Policy Biblical Basis for Involvement in Social Welfare.	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 1 Bring your Bible
January 28 <i>*NOBTS Day of Service class will start at 3:30</i>	History of Social Welfare Policy: Colonial Era/American Revolution	Trattner, Chapters 1-3
February 4	History of Social Welfare Policy: 1800-1900	Trattner, Chapters 4-8
February 11	History of Social Welfare Policy: 1900-1950	Trattner, Chapters 9-13
February 18	History of Social Welfare Policy: 1950-2000	Trattner, Chapters 14-17
February 25	Mardi Gras – No Class	
March 3	The Current State of Social Welfare Policy	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapters 2 and 9
March 10	Policy Analysis: Basis of Social Allocations	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapters 3-4
March 16-20	Spring Break – No Class	
March 24	Policy Analysis: Nature of Social Provisions	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 5
March 31	Policy Analysis: Design of the Delivery System	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapter 6
April 7	Policy Analysis: Mode of Finance	Gilbert and Terrell, Chapters 7-8
April 14	The Church's Role in Policy Advocacy	Discussion of Student Research
April 21	Analysis of Social Welfare Policies Student Presentations	Articles Assigned by Students
April 28	Student Presentations	Articles Assigned by Students
May 5	Conclusion/Evaluation Student presentations, if necessary	
May 12 2 p.m.	Final Exam due	

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.
- Bane, Mary Jo, Brent Coffin, and Ronald F. Thiemann. *Who Will Provide?: The Changing Role of Religion in American Social Welfare*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2000.
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- Bogenschneider, Karen. *Family Policy Matters: How Policymaking Affects Families and What Professionals Can Do, 3rd ed.* New York: Routledge, 2014.
- Carroll R, M. Daniel. *Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, and the Bible, 2nd ed.* Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2013.
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- Putnam, Robert D. *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2015.
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- . *Nonviolent Action: What Christian Ethics Demands but Most Christians Have Never Really Tried*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2015.
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- Stoesz, David. *A Poverty of Imagination: Bootstrap Capitalism*. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press, 2000.
- Swers, Michele L. *The Difference Women Make: The Policy Impact of Women in Congress*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2002.
- Van Wormer, Katherine S., and Rosemary J. Link. *Social Welfare Policy for a Sustainable Future: The U.S. in Global Context*. Los Angeles: SAGE, 2016.