**MASTER SYLLABUS**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIAL WORK**

**NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY, YUMA BRANCH CAMPUS**

**BASW 320W, EVOLUTION OF SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY IN THE U.S.**

1. **Catalog Description:** Historical development of social policy and legislation within the context of social and economic justice. Examines the impact of policy on social services. This course fulfills NAU’s junior-level writing requirement.
2. **Credits:** 3 semester credits
3. **Prerequisites:** Eng 105; BASW 220 or SW 220
4. **Course Description:** This course will familiarize students with the historical and legislative development of social welfare policy and the profession of social work. It will examine society’s values and responses to social concerns throughout history and relate them to the specific cultural, political, economic, institutional, legal, sequencing of events, and social factors of different time periods. These factors will be critically examined in relation to their influence and development of the profession of social work and the promotion of social and economic justice. This course serves as the Junior Level Writing Requirement for the Bachelor of Arts in Social Work major. The emphasis is on learning about social welfare policy and legislation through submission of a 20 page paper.
5. **Student Learning Outcomes:** By the end of the semester the student will be able to:
6. Identify and describe the major historical, cultural, political, economic, institutional, legal, sequencing of events, and social factors that influenced social welfare policy and legislative developments in the United States.
7. Articulate the conflicting values and political ideologies that influence social welfare policy and the legislative process.
8. Investigate the contemporary political perspectives and their impact on the direction of social policy.
9. Within the context of social work values (service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, human relationships, integrity, competence, human rights, and scientific inquiry), examine current and emerging social welfare policies that are related to poverty, income security, aging, health, mental health and illness, family and children’s services, and housing and the changing social service delivery system. National and international perspectives will be explored.
10. Identify and analyze the impact of social policy and legislation on culturally and socially diverse populations, especially Hispanics, military, and vulnerable populations along the U.S. Mexico border and the role of social work in affecting change and promoting human rights and social and economic justice through policy practice along the U.S. Mexico border.
11. Analyze the contemporary historical, cultural, political, economic, institutional, legal, sequencing of events, and social factors that shape the future direction of social policy and legislation to enable promotion of policy and legislation that advances human rights and social and economic justice along the U.S. Mexico border through policy practice.
12. Demonstrate critical thinking and writing skills in the historical critique and analysis of the Social Security Act of 1935.
13. **Course Materials:** Jansson, B.S. (2012). The reluctant welfare state: Engaging history to advance social work practice in contemporary society, (7th ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Cengage Learning. American Psychological Association (2009). Publication manual of the American psychological association (6th ed.). Washington DC: American Psychological Association. Reading packets or access to the Internet may also be required.
14. **Teaching Methods:** Each class will include presentation of content, discussion, and student centered learning activities. Additionally, there will be weekly quizzes in Bb Learn, videos, World Wide Web assignments and group projects. Students receive extensive feedback for their three written submissions. Student participation is integral to learning the course material.
15. **Evaluation Tools:** Student learning outcomes will be evaluated by the following methods:
16. **Individual Quizzes:** All students are responsible for the content of the required readings listed in the course syllabus. Throughout the semester there will be fourteen (14) quizzes covering these course readings. Quizzes are due every week at **11:59 PM Arizona time** and are taken in Bb Learn. See the course calendar for the due dates. Each individual student will be required to complete the quiz by the due date indicated on the course calendar. There are no opportunities to make up the quizzes. This assignment is worth 75 points (5 points each).
17. **Social Policy Paper:** Students are required to submit one **20-page paper.** Students will write a 20 page paper, **double-spaced, one inch margins, 12 pt. font that is Times New Roman, and APA format** on The Social Security Act of 1935. This paper will be submitted in a series of three steps. Step 1, the first submission, will be the first seven pages of the paper and the reference list. Step 2, the next submission, will include editorial corrections made from the first submission and the second seven pages (and the reference list) for a total of fourteen pages. Step 3, the last submission, will be the entire 20-page paper with the reference list.
18. **Course Content:**
19. What is Social Policy? A Rationale for the Policy Based Profession
20. The Symbiotic & Uneasy Relationship: Clients, Social Workers, & the Welfare State
21. Making the American Welfare State More Humane – Past, Present, & Future
22. Fashioning a New Society in the Wilderness
23. Social Welfare Policy in the 19th Century: 1789-1902
24. Social Reform in the Progressive Era
25. Social Policy to Address the Worst Economic Catastrophe in U.S. History
26. The Era of Federal Social Services: The New Frontier and the Great Society
27. The Paradoxical Era
28. The Conservative Counterrevolution in the Era of Reagan and Bush, Sr.
29. Reluctance Illustrated: Policy Uncertainty during the Clinton Administration
30. George W. Bush’s Question for Realignment
31. Would President Barack Obama Reverse the Cycle of History?
32. Why Has the American Welfare State Been Reluctant – And What Can We Do About It?
33. Using Knowledge of the Evolution of the American Welfare State to Improve Your Professional Practice