

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: The Historical and Socio-political Context	Level: 4	Credit Value: 20
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Module code: SOC416	Cost Centre: GASW	JACS2 code: L400
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Semester(s) in which to be offered: 1&2	With effect from: September 2013
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Office use only: To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: September 2011
	Date revised: September 2013 (to include FdA H&SC)
	Version no: 3

Existing	Title of module being replaced (if any):
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Originating Department: Applied Social Sciences	Module Leader: Dr. Dawn Jones
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Module duration (total hours) 200 Scheduled learning & teaching hours 40 Independent study hours 160 W.B.L hours	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate): Core
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Percentage taught by Departments other than originating Department (please name other Departments): 0%
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Programme(s) in which to be offered: BA (Hons) Social Work: Qualified Status FdA Health and Social Care	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels):	Co-requisites per programme (within a level):
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Module Aims:

1. Students are to identify the policy environments associated with, for example, poverty, poor health, disablement, lack of education and associated disadvantages, in the context of discrimination and anti-discriminatory practice in Wales.
2. Students will gain knowledge on theoretical explanations that have been provided by social policy analysts to describe and account for the ways in which social policies are designed and implemented;
3. To introduce students to the historical context in which social work was developed in the context of statutory, voluntary and private sector agencies, both within and outside of Wales.
4. To raise awareness of the significance of interrelationships with other social services, especially education, housing, health and to the relevance of sociological perspectives on understanding structural and ideological influences on human behaviour at individual, group and community levels;
5. Students will develop knowledge on the relationship between agency policies, the identification of the needs of service users, legal requirements and professional boundaries in shaping the nature of services.

Expected Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students should be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding:

1. Identify the policy environments that are associated (for example, with poverty, unemployment, poor health, disablement, lack of education) in the context of anti-discriminatory practice in Wales.
2. Have an understanding of the theoretical contexts within which social policies emerge, are implemented, and have the effects that they do.
3. Demonstrate an awareness of the historical context in which social work was developed, in the context of statutory, voluntary and private sector agencies, both within and outside of Wales.
4. Identify and understand the significance of the interrelationships with other social services, especially education, housing, health, and the relevance of thinking sociologically when understanding human behaviour in the individual group and community context.
5. Demonstrate an awareness of the relationship between agency policies, service user needs, legal requirements, and professional boundaries in shaping the nature of service provided in inter-disciplinary contexts.

Transferable/Key Skills and other attributes:

Anti-discriminatory practice base;

Managing problem solving activities;
 Gathering information;
 Analysis and synthesis of information;
 Communication skills in groups and one-to-one.

Assessment:

Assessment One

- A report to demonstrate how the selected social policy practices emerge historically and how they have been received by the appropriate service user group.

Students on the BA (Hons) Social Work: Qualified Status programme are permitted two attempts only at the assessment.

Assessment	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count or equivalent if appropriate
1	1,2,3,4,5	Written report	100%	n/a	3,000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

This module will use a variety of methods for teaching and learning, including interactive lectures, student-centred workshops, online discussion, and video presentations. Where appropriate service users and practitioners will be invited to deliver workshop sessions.

Syllabus outline:

Semester one: Introduction to social policy for social workers; Ideology and politics; the emergence of the post-war welfare state: consensus or conflict?; welfare policy, social division and discrimination; gender, 'race' and the welfare state; social policy and equality: equality of opportunity and positive discrimination; social policy and inequality: Thatcherism, the New Right and social policy; class debate: should the welfare state be abolished?; Assignment workshop; the post-Thatcherite state and the return to 'social' policy?; New Labour, New Welfare?; Brown and the Social Investment State; Cameron's Big Society and the nature of social welfare.

Semester two: Social policy, care and the individual: revisiting inequality and the role of anti-discriminatory practice; Children and Family services: Rights and Wrongs; Children leaving Care; Adult services and social policy: care and the mixed economy of welfare; Community care: public responsibility or private good?; Poverty: what is it and how can it be measured?; Social exclusion in England and Wales: policy, politics and the role of the social worker; the Social Fund; Housing and Homelessness: a critical assessment; globalisation and social policy: shifting the focus; summary of module – future directions.

Bibliography

Essential reading:

Alcock, P. (2008), *Social Policy in Britain*, 3rd ed. London: Palgrave.

William, C. (ed) (2007), *Social Policy for Social Welfare Practice in a Devolved Wales*. Birmingham: BASW, Venture Press .

Other indicative reading:

Alcock, O., May, N., and Rowlingson, K. (2008), *The Students' Companion to Social Policy*, 3rd ed. London: Wiley-Blackwell.

Dean, H. (2006), *Social Policy*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Jordan, B. (2006), *Social Policy for the Twenty-First Century*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Plater, S., and Pollock, A. (2001), 'Long-Term Care: from Public Responsibility to Private Good', *Critical Social Policy*. Vol 21, 2.

Williams, F. (1989), *Social Policy: A Critical Introduction*. London: Routledge.