



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL POLICY

SPOL 220

COMPARATIVE WELFARE REGIMES

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 29 February to 29 June 2016

Teaching dates: 29 February to 5 June 2016

Easter break: 24–30 March 2016

Mid-trimester break: 25 April to 1 May 2016

Last assessment item due: 13 June 2016.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

LECTURES: Fridays, 12.00pm – 13.50pm, in Alan MacDiarmid Building 106

TUTORIALS: TBC

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Carol Harrington, Murphy 1022. Carol.Harrington@vuw.ac.nz

Communication of additional information

Additional information will be communicated in lectures and on Blackboard. You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

Prescription

When seeking 'solutions to social problems', students of Social Policy need imagination and flexibility. Comparing different forms of welfare and understanding how things are different in other countries frees students from the constraints of a particular time and place and stimulates imaginative thinking. This course focuses on comparing welfare in advanced capitalist democracies.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. Relate New Zealand's contemporary social policy regime with those in other 'developed nations';
2. Explore the convergence and divergence of international welfare regimes in order to better understand how changes in policy are brought about;
3. Examine possibilities for policy transfer from outside New Zealand to solve social problems;
4. Compare both the institutional and ideological differences between 'developed nations' in the realm of social policy;
5. Describe the institutions, networks and processes which produce global social policy.

Teaching format

Lectures and tutorials. See BlackBoard for a schedule.

Mandatory course requirements

There are no mandatory course requirements.

Workload

200 hours for the trimester.

Weekly:

Lecture and tutorial attendance: 3 hours per week.

Reading and tutorial preparation: 6 hours per week.

Assignments.

Essay research and writing (2 essays and essay presentation): 60 hours

Study for the test: 10 hours

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Tutorial reading tasks and assignment (500 words).	10%	1,2,3,4,5	Varies
2	Essay 1 (2000 words)	30%	2, 3, 4, 5	April 7
3	In class test (50 minutes)	20%	1,3,4	June 3
4	Tutorial assignment on topic for essay 2 (500 words)	10%	2, 3, 4, 5	TBA
5	Essay 2 (2000 words)	30%	2, 3, 4, 5	June 13

Essay and topics and instructions (including a marking criteria) will be available on Blackboard and will be discussed during class.

Submission and return of work

Essays and tutorial assignments should be uploaded to Turnitin; the upload time will count as the time of submission, however **a hard copy should also be submitted.**

Hard copies of assignments must be placed in the assignment box on level 9, Murphy Building, to the side of the lifts. The Assignment Box is cleared at 4pm daily, all work is date-stamped, its receipt recorded, and then handed on to the appropriate markers. Every effort will be made to return marked assignments within three weeks of the due date. Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk, between **11.00 am and 3.00 pm only** from Monday to Friday.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Assignments are due on the dates stated. If for some serious reason you don't think you can get an essay in on time, see the course coordinator **prior** to the due date and discuss the problem. Extensions of time are not permitted except for illness, or bereavements.

Penalties

Late submissions for student assignments in all Sociology and Social Policy undergraduate courses are subject to a penalty. The exact deduction will be calculated on the basis of one half mark per day late for each 10 marks, i.e. 1 mark will be deducted each day for an assignment worth 20% of the total course mark.

Note: assessment work will not be accepted for marking more than 7 days after the due date or 7 days after an approved extension date.

You are advised to always keep a copy of any work you submit for assessment.

Set texts

There is no set text for this course. Readings will be placed on Blackboard.

Recommended reading

Please see Blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

Student feedback

Due to the excellent feedback received the last time this course was taught it will continue to be taught in the same way.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

School Contact Information

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