

**PPOL 611.04 – Social Policy
Course Outline**

Course:	PPOL 611.04 Social Policy in Canada	Term:	Winter 2017
		Section:	01
Time:	Thursdays 4:00 – 6:45	Place:	SPP Executive Boardroom (Downtown Campus: 5th Floor, 906-8th Avenue SW)
Instructor:	Dr. Loreen Gilmour		
Office:		Telephone:	403-943-6852
Office Hours:	Upon request	E-mail:	loreen.gil@gmail.com

Required Textbooks:

Graham, J, Swift K & Delaney R (2012). Canadian social policy: An Introduction 4th edition. Toronto, Prentice Hall.

Thaler R & Sunstein C (2009). Nudge - Improving Decisions About Health, Wealth, and Happiness. Penguin Books.

Optional Textbooks:

Thaler R & Sunstein C (2009). Nudge - Improving Decisions About Health, Wealth, and Happiness. Penguin Books.

Desire2Learn:

Desire2Learn (D2L), a web-based course management tool, will be used in the course. Students registered in this course can log in at: <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/>. Note that D2L features a class e-mail list that will be used and I will use this list to communicate with you. It is your responsibility to ensure that D2L uses the e-mail address of your choice. The default is your University of Calgary e-mail address.

Course Outline:

This class will examine the dimensions of social policy in Canada. The readings will provide us with an idea of the history, historical continuities, decision-making processes and the impact of social policy on both individuals and systems. We will think about the competing theories and the range of approaches that inform social policy development. We will review various models of social policy analysis and you will have the opportunity to use these models to guide the assignments. The course will cover a wide range of topics that will allow us to explore the general questions related to social policy, as well as reach depth in specific social issues. The course is based on academic models and the assignments will provide the opportunity to build practical skills and approaches.

The objectives of this course are to understand:

- a) The nature of Canadian social policy and its political and economic dimensions
- b) The effect of social policy on individuals
- c) The actors involved in social policy formulation
- d) Understanding and using various policy frameworks
- e) Designing and evaluating social policy
- f) Social policy issues of particular interest to the participants in greater detail

Syllabus: Guest speakers will be added as available.

Date	Topic	Reading	
January 12	Introduction to class and each other Setting up for the semester What is social policy? Theoretical and epistemological grounding. Levels of government.	Chapter 1, 2 - Graham Intro, Ch 1 – Nudges (optional)	
January 19	What defines Canadian social policy? Relationship between economic policy and social policy. Foundations of social policy.	Chapter 3, 4, 8 - Graham Review Assignment One Expectations	
January 26	Municipal Government Current social policy issues: pay day lenders.	Selected readings will be posted on BB - Municipal govt and priorities - Pay Day Lending - Community engagement	

February 2	Social Policy topic in focus: Poverty Reduction	Fed, provincial, municipal Calgary Poverty – Enough for All (link posted on BB) ROI and Social ROI – how can these concepts be useful?	
February 9	Federal Government Current social policy Immigration, Environment, FTW	Ch 3 - Graham Assignment Two and Three details reviewed	Assignment One Due.
February 16	Reading break	No class	
February 23	Social Policy topic in focus: Health Institutions. Municipal Council; Provincial Poverty Reduction	Assignment Two topics due Creating change in how people move out of poverty through seeking regulatory change in asset barriers, claw-backs and exemption	
March 2	Student Presentations (2 hours) The intersection of environment & social policy	Ch 5 - Graham	Assignment Two Presentations
March 9	Student Presentations (2 hours) Social Policy topic: TDB		Assignment Two Presentations
March 16	Social Policy topic in focus: First Nations in Canada: History and Current Issues	Readings – TBD	
March 23	Social policy issue (homelessness)	Other readings to be determined	
March 30	Intersection of Education and Social Policy	BB - Alberta's Education Act, Ministerial Order, Inspiring Education, Curriculum Redesign: From Knowledge to Action Ch 9 Graham	
April 6	How to evaluate social policy?	Last class – what's next	Assignment Three Due

Assignments:

What?	When?	How much?
Provincial Social Policy Framework Analysis	Feb 9	25% (Individual)
Mock municipal presentation on class topics	March 2 and 9	25% (Individual)
Social policy research project	April 6	50% (Individual or small group of 2 or 3 people)

Assignment #1 – Analysis of a social policy issue from an academic view (10 pages maximum double spaced plus references) - Feb 9

- Describe a social policy issue, why it is important, who are the stakeholders, potential actions from each level of government, appropriate regulations identified (10%)
- Use the Rational Model (P. 174 Graham) and another model of your choosing to frame a policy solution (70%).
- Compare and critique each approach and offer any methodological recommendations (20%)

Assignment #2 – Mock presentation to City Council - March 2 or 9

- City Council provides citizens with the opportunity to speak to Council on issues under deliberation for 5 minutes and then to answer Council members questions. Five minutes goes by VERY quickly so plan your time accordingly in order to be most persuasive. (50%).
- 10 minutes will be allocated for questions from the instructors and class (25%)
- One page leave behind addressed to City Council Members. (25%)
- Topic due – Feb 23. See Attached marking guide.

Assignment #3 – Social policy project from a real world view– April 7

This project is the culmination of your learning in this course. Choose a social policy topic that is of interest to you and that you would like to explore in further detail (12 pages maximum double spaced plus references). See attached marking guide.

Grading: Letter grades as described in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar (see p.19) will be given for all elements of grade determination noted above. The course grade will be determined based on a weighted average of those grades according to the percentages shown above. In the event that elements are marked on a numerical (percentage) basis, they will be converted to letter grades. As a guide to determining standing, these letter grade equivalences will generally apply:

A+	97-100	B	75-79	C-	60-62
A	90-96	B-	70-74	D+	55-59
A-	85-89	C+	67-69	D	50-54
B+	80-84	C	63-66	F	0-49

Important Notes:

- The School of Public Policy expects the highest standards of professional conduct by students, faculty and staff. Abusive or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. This includes any expression of prejudice in any of its forms.
- It is the student's responsibility to be fully aware of the academic regulations outlined in the University Of Calgary Faculty Of Graduate Studies Calendar. Provisions regarding Student Misconduct (plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct) will be strictly enforced. Please review the University of Calgary's Regulations on Plagiarism, Cheating and Other Academic Misconduct, online:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html>
- Students seeking reappraisal of a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, etc.) should discuss their work with the Instructor *within fifteen days* of the work being returned to the class.
- Examinations will not be given prior to the scheduled date.
- It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course. The Student Accessibility Services website is here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>
- All material used in this course is for the sole use of the individual and should not be recopied in either print or digital format. For copyright guidelines, including those relating to photocopying and electronic copies, please refer to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) fair dealing guidelines.
<http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright/fair-dealing>
- The University of Calgary complies with the requirements of the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act*. The University's policy on the sharing of student information with third parties can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/pg-pi-of-students-to-3rd-parties.pdf>. The University's policy on the sharing of student information with the subject can be found here:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/files/legalservices/pg-pi-of-student-to-subject.pdf>
- In the event of an emergency, students may be required to evacuate the building. If evacuation is ordered, follow these procedures:
 - Stay calm, do not rush, and do not panic.
 - Safely stop your work.
 - Gather your personal belongings if it is safe to do so. (keys, purses, jackets, cell phones, etc. It may be hours before you are allowed back in the building.)
 - If safe, close your office door and window, but do not lock them.
 - If directed by wardens, follow their instructions.
 - Use the closest emergency exit. Do not use the elevator.
 - Proceed to the designated Emergency Assembly point in front of the Holiday Inn on 8th avenue to the west of the Downtown Campus.

- Do not re-enter the building or work area until you have been advised by emergency responders that it is safe to do so.

Graduate Students' Association Vice-President, Academic

Abu Abdelhafiz

Phone: 403-220-5997

E-mail: gsavpa@gsa.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students Association

214 MLT, 2500 University Dr. NW

Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4

CANADA

Tel: 403 220-5997

Fax: 403 282-8992

Emergency Assembly Point

Holiday Inn Lobby (weather permitting)

1020 8th Avenue SW

Calgary, Alberta T2P 1J2

Or remain at nearest exit point

Safewalk / Campus Security: 220-5333


