

# SOC-2051: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WELFARE

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## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: SOC-2051 : Introduction to Social Welfare**

**Board of Trustees:**

January 2020

**Academic Term:**

Fall 2020

**Subject Code**

SOC - Sociology

**Course Number:**

2051

**Title:**

Introduction to Social Welfare

**Catalog Description:**

Surveys history, functioning, and social issues of social welfare system relating them to broader American socio-economic and political systems. Special focus on problems of economically and socially disadvantaged groups. Examine how social welfare as an American institution provides the foundation for the social work profession.

**Credit Hour(s):**

3

**Lecture Hour(s):**

3

**Lab Hour(s):**

0

**Other Hour(s):**

0

## Requisites

**Prerequisite and Corequisite**

SOC-1010 Introductory Sociology, or SOC-101H Honors Introductory Sociology or PSY-1010 General Psychology, or PSY-101H Honors General Psychology.

## Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Analyze elements of social justice with respect to a conceptual framework.

**Objective(s):**

1. Compare and contrast the current status of social welfare in developed nations with respect to cohesion, fragmentation, and a strong safety net.
  2. Analyze the relationship between Poor Laws and social justice.
  3. Discuss the issue of duality in the American value system and how it impacts the delivery of social services.
  4. Write critical analysis of at least one issue relevant to social work in today's society.
  5. Examine human diversity issues in the development and delivery of social services with emphasis on empowering at-risk and vulnerable populations.
  6. Discuss the relevance of American cultural traits as they influence and are influenced by social welfare in the United States.
  7. Describe the manner in which social welfare in the United States has reinforced racial, cultural, and gender stereotypes and discrimination.
  8. Apply at least one theoretical framework of social welfare program administration to determine the manner in which social justice can be used to counteract the influence of the Poor Laws on our social welfare programs.
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**Course Outcome(s):**

Analyze social welfare with regard to its interdisciplinary academics and its elastic career potential.

**Objective(s):**

1. Describe the reasons for interdisciplinary approaches to social welfare.
2. Describe the careers available in social services, their salary levels, and the challenges in each.
3. Provide an overview of the occupational spectrum of social services.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Examine issues that are unique to governmental programs and services versus those resulting from services and programs designed and implemented in the private sector, and/or with a combination of private/government resources.

**Objective(s):**

1. Examine the structure of programs and four program types: residual, institutional, developmental, and socio-economic asset development.
2. Identify the role of current federal and state social policy in the delivery of social services.
3. Describe the current structure and delivery systems of social services, their strengths, and its weaknesses.
4. Describe the issues related to governmental versus non-governmental services/work.
5. Develop an awareness of the alternatives and consequences of both established and emergent programs in social welfare.
6. Identify the financial, organizational and administrative structures that influence the delivery of social services.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Analyze the ideologies, values, and ethics that form the foundation of social services.

**Objective(s):**

1. Examine social welfare as a social institution requiring a social science knowledge base and related skills of analysis.
2. Discuss and examine the four (4) social welfare functions.
3. Identify and discuss forms and mechanisms of poverty, oppression, and discrimination and how these impact social services.
4. Examine the growth and functions of the American social welfare system.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Examine the history and development of social welfare and of social services in the United States.

**Objective(s):**

1. Analyze verifiable social problems and societal stressors as opposed to popular culture "crisis" such as those promoted on behalf of media sensationalism.
2. Analyze the social, political, and economic sources and specific damages of social problems as they result in the development, design and delivery of social services.
3. Describe the sources, process, and consequences to the problems that appear to require social services, both inside and outside "institutional settings".
4. Identify the diverse needs of those entering the social services systems.
5. Identify populations "at risk" needing social services.
6. Discuss the impact of the mass media and popular culture on social services.
7. Discuss the fields of practice and populations served in social services.
8. Examine the structural processes that arguably, cause social problems as these can be distinguished from and be made relevant to the problems of individuals.

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**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Tests and quizzes
2. Evaluation of student interaction
3. Critical thinking exercises, written and oral
4. Participant observation reports
5. Practical exercises
6. Volunteer evaluations
7. Small and large group activities

8. Journals
9. Research activities
10. Cooperative learning activities

**Course Content Outline:**

1. Conceptual framework of social problems
  - a. Definition of social problems
  - b. Four elements of social problems
    - i. Individual or social damage
    - ii. Offense to a powerful group's standards
    - iii. Persistence
    - iv. Overabundance of proposed solutions
2. Social welfare as an institution and an academic discipline
  - a. Definition
  - b. Relationship to social sciences, history, and law
  - c. Methods of study, theories, and approaches
  - d. The social-psychological foundation of modern social work
3. Social justice conceptual framework
  - a. Poor laws
    - i. Worthy and unworthy poor
    - ii. Indoor and outdoor relief
    - iii. Residency laws
    - iv. Wage supplementation and less eligibility
    - v. Case by case determinations
  - b. Elements of social justice
    - i. Altruism
    - ii. Mutual aid
    - iii. Equal opportunity
    - iv. Equal justice under the law
    - v. Economic justice
    - vi. Strong safety net
  - c. Fragmentation vs. cohesion of American social welfare
  - d. Racial and ethnic diversity
  - e. Influence on American social welfare and the nation's values
  - f. Self-actualization vs. irritation philosophy
  - g. Values
    - i. Definitions
    - ii. Values of profession vs. predominant values of American culture
    - iii. Wealth inequality
    - iv. Conflict and flux
4. History of social welfare
  - a. The nature of social services
    - i. Program structure
      1. Goals
      2. Eligibility
      3. Benefits/activities
      4. Funding and financing
      5. Levels and types of administration
    - ii. Program type
      1. Residual
      2. Institutional
      3. Developmental
      4. Socio-economic asset development
    - iii. Four social welfare functions
      1. The relief of misery and problem solving
      2. The maintenance of social order and sometimes even social control;
      3. The regulation of labor
      4. Political mobilization
    - iv. Social welfare system: 1900-present

1. The Progressive Era 1890-1920
2. The Great Depression - 1929
3. The New Deal - 1933
4. Social Security Act of 1935
5. The War on Poverty: 1964-1968
  - a. Medicaid - 1965
  - b. Medicare -1965
- v. Current status and relationship between program structure and program types
- b. Support for social services
  - i. Governmental programs
  - ii. Private sector programs
  - iii. Blended public/private supported programs
- c. Evolution of social welfare
  - i. Influence of the oppressed groups' cultures and value system
  - ii. Protest politics
    1. Native Americans
    2. African Americans
    3. Hispanic Americans
    4. Women

## Resources

Alexander, Michelle. (2012) *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, New York. The New Press.

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Alexander, Michelle. (2013) *The New Jim Crow (Video)*, The George E. Kent Lecture at the University of Chicago. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gln1JwDUI64>

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Barker, Robert. (2013) *Dictionary of Social Work*,

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Dolgoff, Ralph and Donald Feldstein. (2013) *Understanding Social Welfare: A Search for Social Justice*, New York, NY: Pearson.

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Cohen, Adam. (2016) *Imbeciles: The Supreme Court, American Eugenics, and the Sterilization of Carrie Buck*, New York. Penguin Press.

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Davis, Larry and Terry Mizraahi. (2010) *The Encyclopedia of Social Work*, Oxford Univeristy Press.

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Desmond, Matthew. (2016) *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*, New York, NY: Broadway Books.

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Dunbar-Ortiz, Roxanne. (2014) *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States*, Boston. Beacon Press.

---

Edelman, Peter. (2013) *So Rich, So Poor: Why it's So Hard to End Poverty in America*, New York: New Press.

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Edelman, Peter. (2018) *Not a Crime to be Poor: The Criminalization of Poverty in America*, New York:: New Press.

---

Edin, Kathryn. (2016) *\$2.00 A Day: Living on Almonst Nothing in America*, New York, NY: First Marine Books.

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Fernandez-Armesto, Felipe. (2014) *Our America: A Hispanic History of the United States*, New York. W.W. Norton.

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Giridharadas, Anand. (2018) *Winners Take All: The Elite Charade of Changing the World*, New York. Alfred A. Knop.

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Goldrick-Rab, Sara. (2016) *Paying the Price: College Costs, Financial Aid, and the Betrayal of the American Dream*, Chicago: IL, The University of Chicago Press.

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Kaiser Family Foundation. (2015) *Medicare and Medicaid at 50 (Video)*, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9NUCvrrRz4>

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Laursen, Eric. (2013) *The People's Pension: the Struggle to Defend Social Security since Reagan*, AK Press.

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Life Hindsight 101. *Medicare vs. Medicaid: Why you NEED to Know the Difference (Video)*. 2018. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g\\_qrk4XLZM0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g_qrk4XLZM0)

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Reich, Robert. (2018) *The Common Good*, New York, NY: Penguin Random House.

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Rothstein, Richard. (2017) *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How our Government Segregated America*, New York. Liveright Publishing, A Division of W. W. & Company.

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Stevenson, Bryan. (2014) *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, New York. Spiegel and Grau.

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Reich, Robert. (2013) *Inequality for All, Director Jacob Kornbluth. Producers, Jen Chaken and Sebastian Dungan (Video)*, The Weinstock Company. <http://inequalityforall.com/>

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### Resources Other

1. Field trips
2. Guest speakers
3. Center for Economic and Policy Research. [www.cepr.net](http://www.cepr.net) (<http://www.cepr.net>).
4. The Economic Policy Institute. [www.epi.org](http://www.epi.org)
5. National Academy of Social Insurance. [www.nasi.org](http://www.nasi.org) (<http://www.nasi.org>)
6. Social Security Works. [www.socialsecurityworks.org](http://www.socialsecurityworks.org)

### Instructional Services

#### OAN Number:

Transfer Assurance Guide OSS030

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