



COLLEGE of SOCIAL AND APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY RELATIONS
AND APPLIED NUTRITION

FRAN*6270 Family-Related Social Policy

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2022

1. GRADUATE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course investigates definitions of social policy, comparative family-related social policy, selected issues in Canadian family policy and frameworks for analysis of social policy. Issues in policy-related research are also explored.

Credit Weight: 0.5 credits
Course Hours: 3-0 (36 lecture; 0 lab/seminar)
Pre-Requisite(s):
Co-Requisites(s):
Restriction(s):

2. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Within this course we explore concepts of 'family policy' – what are policies that are relevant to families? Who defines what is 'family policy'? And is 'family policy' truly a subset of social and public policies or are all social policies relevant for families? Our approach to answering these questions will be in a non-traditional, highly interactive learning environment where all views and expressions are respected. Although there will be suggested readings, real-time exploration of policy issues will enhance the learning environment for all participants.

3. TIMETABLE

Lecture: Wednesdays 1:00 – 3:50 p.m.
Location: MACS 331 (online until at least January 24th as per University guidelines)

4. INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

Course Instructor: Dr. Kimberley Wilson (Please call me Kim). Pronouns: She/her/hers
Email: kim.wilson@uoguelph.ca
Telephone: 519-824-4120 ext. 53003
Office: MINS 219
Office Hours: By appointment

5. LEARNING RESOURCES

Required Resource(s):

All resources will be posted online via Courouselink.

6. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the completion of the course a successful student will:

1. Be empowered to design their own learning goals and activities;
2. Develop knowledge about social policies related to families in Canada;
3. Synthesize relevant policy information and critiques related to a topic of interest;
4. Engage in the ever-changing social policy landscape; and
5. Contribute to a classroom learning environment that promotes respectful dialogue and mutual support.

7. TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES/CLASS SCHEDULE

The first class of this course is a design exercise. The idea of the seminar is to meet the needs and interests of students to the greatest extent possible. It is therefore difficult to provide, in advance, a detailed outline and timetable for the course. This will be produced after the first class.

In your planning, please note that at least 20% of your final grade must be returned to you by the 40th class day (March 11th). As you develop your own learning plans ensure you have submitted at least one activity by March 1st to ensure I have ample time to grade and return by March 11th.

I see my role as your guide to learning about social policies, as a co-learner, and as a resource to you. Social policy is a vast, ever-changing area. I will do my best to create and maintain a positive, open learning environment that facilitates open discussion and different points of view. All of us have a role to play in being respectful of each other. One of my goals for all students in this course is that they will finish the semester with marketable skills that are relevant to fields outside of academia.

Content / Weekly Discussions:

This will be determined in our design day, however topics to get you thinking/started may include:

- The Rise & Decline of the Welfare State in Canada
- Defining Social Policy
- Allocation of Benefits
- Income Security (e.g. Income security – policies, programs, population-specific approaches (e.g. child benefits, pensions, income supports for people with disabilities); federal and provincial jurisdiction; poverty reduction strategies
- Reconciling work and family responsibilities: - Gender, work and care across the life course. Public policies (e.g. parental/caregiving leave, caregiver credits/allowances); employer supports / private responsibility
- Child care; new policy developments, directions and processes

- Preparing for and enabling an aging society -- pensions, caregiving, health and home care services
- Disability and different abilities -- policies, services, funding approaches, employment equity
- Immigration policies and supports
- Current efforts to reform Canada's social programs
- The relationship between economic and social goals
- Truth & Reconciliation and indigenous policies
- Human Rights (ageism, LGBTQ2S+ rights, etc.)
- Covid-19 policies
- Hot topics in mental health policy, health policy, etc. (e.g. Medical Aid in Dying, safe consumption sites, etc.)

8. ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Together we will design the content and methods of evaluation for this course. While there are personalized and flexible methods of evaluation there are several that are required for all students.

- Classroom Engagement – it is expected you attend regularly and engage in discussion and learning.
- Policy Brief on a topic related to your thesis/area of research using the 1:3:25 Method
 - It is suggested we schedule time for in-class presentations mid-way through the semester for feedback. This presentation can be a separate graded method of assessment.

Additional options for your consideration:

1. Weekly seminar facilitation
 - Each student will be responsible for preparing and leading one week of seminar. This would include curating a reading list for all participants and facilitating discussion and learning.
2. Complete an Online Training Course through the National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy – A Framework for Analyzing Public Policies (http://www.ncchpp.ca/438/Online_Course.ccnpps)
 - This course is free of charge and takes approximately 6-8 hours to complete.
 - You will receive a certificate approximately 8 weeks after completion.
 - In addition to completing the training you should write a summary of your learning.
3. Develop your Policy Op-Ed Writing Skills.
 - Watch a webinar hosted by the Institute for Research on Public Policy (<https://irpp.org/video/webinar-write-op-ed/>) and develop an op-ed that could be submitted to Policy Options.
4. Distil key policy information into user-friendly resources.

- Navigating the policy landscape is difficult! Within this activity you will select a particular policy and distil the key facts into a user-friendly resource. This might be a flow chart, an infographic, or a graph. Whatever you think will work best for a public audience. Samples will be available.

You may select any/all of these activities and/or we can create a new listing of ideas/activities.

9. COURSE STATEMENTS

Course Website:

There is a course website at <http://courselink.uoguelph.ca>. All components of this course will be housed on the CourseLink site including this course outline, assignments, and links to further resources. Your assignments will be submitted through the Dropbox function. Marks and feedback will also be released on the site. Please familiarize yourself with this website as soon as possible and visit it regularly throughout the semester.

Late Assignments:

Late assignments will be accepted up to 5 days following the due date and will receive a penalty of 10% per day EXCEPT under documented grounds for compassionate consideration. Assignments submitted more than one week late without documented grounds will receive a grade of zero. If you are going to hand an assignment in late, you must contact your course instructor to inform them when you will be submitting your assignment.

Receipt of Grades:

After you receive a grade on CourseLink, please review your feedback. Any inquiry or dispute over the grade must be made within two weeks from the date they are posted. If you fail to protest any grade during this time limit, changes to the grade will not be considered.

Turnitin Software:

In this course, your instructor will be using Turnitin, integrated with the CourseLink Dropbox tool, to detect possible plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to maintain academic integrity at the University of Guelph.

All submitted assignments will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site.

A major benefit of using Turnitin is that students will be able to educate and empower themselves in preventing academic misconduct. In this course, you may screen your own assignments through Turnitin as many times as you wish before the due date. You will be able to see and print reports that show you exactly where you have properly and improperly referenced the outside sources and materials in your assignment.

Your Mental Health Matters to Me!

If you need support, please visit <https://wellness.uoguelph.ca> for information about resources and supports available in our community.

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the University of Guelph resides on the ancestral lands of the Attawandaron people and the treaty lands and territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. We recognize the significance of the Dish with One Spoon Covenant to this land and offer our respect to our Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Métis neighbours as we strive to strengthen our relationships with them. Today, this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples and acknowledging them reminds us of our important connection to this land where we learn and work.

10. UNIVERSITY STATEMENTS

E-mail communication:

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students

When you cannot meet a course requirement:

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Graduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for [Academic Consideration](#).

Drop date:

Courses that are one semester long must be dropped by the end of the last day of classes; two-semester courses must be dropped by the last day of classes in the second semester. The regulations and procedures for [Dropping Courses](#) are available in the Graduate Calendar.

Copies of out-of-class assignments:

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility:

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required, however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

More information: www.uoguelph.ca/sas

Academic misconduct:

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) is outlined in the Graduate Calendar.

Recording of materials:

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources:

The [Academic Calendars](#) are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

Disclaimer:

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via Courselink and/or class email.

This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

Illness:

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

COVID-19 Safety Protocols:

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/>
- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces>

Please note, that these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives.