# Graduate Studies

**OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION**

**FACULTY/DEPARTMENT:** SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
**SOWK 710  
FORMER COURSE NUMBER: N/A  
UFV CREDITS: 3**

## Advanced Social Policy

### COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course examines governmental and organizational policy development processes, the impact of policy on practitioners and clients, and the intersection between policy and social work practice, including how policy shapes and is itself influenced by practice. Social policy development and implementation will be considered in the context of public and institutional discourses that maintain racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression. Students will develop policy analysis skills as a base for advocating changes to existing programs and policies.

### PREREQUISITES:

Admission to the MSW program

### COREQUISITES:

None

### TOTAL HOURS PER TERM:

**45**

### MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT:

**24**

**EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF COURSE OFFERINGS:** On a yearly basis

### STRUCTURE OF HOURS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Lectures</th>
<th>Seminar</th>
<th>Laboratory</th>
<th>Field Experience</th>
<th>Student Directed Learning</th>
<th>Other (Specify):</th>
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### AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Designer(s):</th>
<th>GPC Chair:</th>
<th>GSC Chair:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert Harding MSW, RSW, PhD</td>
<td>John Hogg</td>
<td>Rosetta Khalideen</td>
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<tr>
<th>Dean:</th>
<th>GSC Chair:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Yvon Dandurand</td>
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<th>GSC Approval in Principle Date:</th>
<th>GSC Final Approval Date:</th>
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<td>August 27, 2009</td>
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**COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** September 1, 2010  
**COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (4 years after approval):** August 1, 2013
COURSE OBJECTIVE - The overall purpose / rationale for this course is:
The formation of policy at both government and organizational levels, and the impact of policy on clients and practitioners. Students will learn how policy is part of institutional discourse, explore the intersection between policy and practice and acquire skills in policy analysis at an advanced level.

LEARNING OUTCOMES – Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

• Demonstrate an understanding of core social policy areas, including issues related to program funding and delivery;
• Demonstrate an understanding of the main elements of social policy making processes and how they are influenced by politics, public and institutional discourses, communities, social workers and other factors;
• Recognize and describe the impacts of social policy on diverse populations, including low income Canadians, women, Aboriginal people, Francophones, immigrants and refugees, and Gays and Lesbians;
• Explain how social policy can promote the cause of social justice;
• Apply advanced skills of policy analysis to a variety of situations.

*METHODS:
This course will be taught on-line using a combination of student-led sessions, lectures, class discussions, small group exercises, and multi-media resources such as videos and DVDs.

*COURSE CONTENT:

• Definitions of Social Policy
• Economic Policy & Social Policy
• Influencing social policy through the practice of Social Work
• Social policy, residualism & privatization
• Analysis of the allocation and targeting of benefits through public policy
• Analysis of benefit financing
• Evaluation of social policy
• Impact of social policy on diverse populations
• Media discourse and the shaping of public policy
• Social policy and poverty
• Aboriginal people and social policy
• Social policy and Francophone populations
• Advocacy and the politics of influence
• Globalization and social policy

*STUDENT EVALUATION:
Assignment #1 - Summary of Social Policy Issue and Background Paper (Value: 30%)
Assignment #2 - Mid-Term Exam (Value: 30%)
Assignment #3 - Major Paper: social Policy Review (Value: 40%)
TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:


SOWK 710 Coursepack. (2010).

SUPPORT MATERIALS:


**PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):**

Credit can be awarded for this course through PLAR (Please check:)  ☒ YES  ☐ NO

* If YES specify how:

Through a portfolio presentation, examination and/or oral interview as per UFV PLAR policies and the School's requirements.

* These sections are subject to change at the discretion of the department and the content will vary.