

York University
School of Public Policy and Administration
AP/PPAS 3761 3.00
CANADA'S SOCIAL POLICY
Fall 2019

Professor: Thomas R. Klassen

Course Website: <https://moodle.yorku.ca/moodle/course/view.php?id=163319>

Additional web sites: www.tklassen.blog.yorku.ca and www.thomasklassen.net

Classroom: Stong College 224

Tuesday: 11:30-2:20

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Course description: This course introduces students to social policy with specific reference to Canada but also in a comparative context. The course outlines the historical trajectory of social policy in Western nations and highlights significant social, ideological, political and economic factors that have shaped social policy in Canada. Selected policy areas such as student financial aid, old age pensions, unemployment insurance, and welfare assistance will be analyzed. The final section of the course assesses the pattern of social policy reforms and the impacts that these have had both in Canada, selected other nations, and globally.

The course involves extensive use of case studies, scenarios, role playing and related activities. These assist students in learning and applying knowledge acquired from readings and lectures to other aspects of their studies and to their lives.

Learning Outcomes: The course is designed to stimulate critical thinking on public policy and to provide an introduction to the fundamental debates on, and knowledge about, public policy. The course will be particularly useful for future professionals in the public and private sectors, as well as in further studies.

At the completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Critically evaluate key aspects of public policy.
2. Analyze key debates in Canadian and comparative public policy.
3. Express themselves clearly and concisely in discussions of public administration and public policy

Crosslisted to: AP/POLS 3170 3.00

Course credit exclusion: Prior to Fall 2019 - AP/HREQ 3761 3.00

Required readings (available for purchase at the York Bookstore):

Social Policy (3rd edition) by Hartley Dean. Cambridge: Polity Press. 2019

How to Succeed at University (and Get a Great Job!): Mastering the Critical Skills You Need for School, Work and Life by Thomas R. Klassen and John A. Dwyer. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press. 2015. You may also download the book for FREE at:

http://www.ubcpress.ca/asset/20105/1/9780774838993_Web.pdf

Copies of these two books are also on reserve at the Scott Library.

Recommended reference books: There are many books on social policy at the York Libraries and in public/community libraries, as well as online. The large number of books and publications reflects the importance that social policy play in the lives of citizens. Students are not required to purchase any of the books below, but might find these to be helpful sources of supplementary information. All books are the Scott Library with the call numbers indicated. Some are also available as ebooks.

The Routledge Handbook of Global Public Policy and Administration. Thomas R. Klassen, Denita Cepiku and T. J. Lah, eds. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. 2017. **JF 1351 R59**

Social Policy in Canada. Ernie Lightman and Naomi Lightman. Don Mills, Ontario, Canada: Oxford University Press. 2017. **HN 103.5 L54 2017**

Canadian Social Policy: Issues and Perspectives. Anne Westhues and Brian Wharf. Waterloo, ON: Wilfrid Laurier University Press. 2012. **HN 107 C354 2012**

Social Policy and Practice in Canada: A History. Alvin Finkel. Waterloo, ON: Wilfrid Laurier University Press. 2006. **HV 108 F56 2006**

Policy Change, Courts, and the Canadian Constitution. Emmett Macfarlane. University of Toronto Press. 2018. **KE 3098 P65 2018**

Changing Politics of Canadian Social Policy. James J. Rice and Michael J. Prince. Toronto; Buffalo: University of Toronto Press. 2013. **HN 107 R53 2013**

Caring for Children: Social Movements and Public Policy in Canada. Rachel Langford, Susan Prentice and Patrizia Albanese. Vancouver: UBC Press. 2017. **HQ 778.7 C2 C37 2017**

There are two public policy journals that might be of interest: **Canadian Public Policy**, and **Policy Options**.

Evaluation

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Worth (%)</i>	<i>due date</i>
LinkedIn Profile	10	October 8
Policy Briefing Note	15	October 22
Research Essay Proposal	5	October 29
Test	25	November 5
Research Essay	35	December 3
Participation	10	ongoing

Please note

1. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** Late assignments will be assigned a grade of zero. It is strongly recommended that you submit assignments before the due date and time.
2. Assignments must be submitted via Moodle or in person during class hours. Assignments submitted via other means will not be accepted.
3. Save your draft assignments and rough notes in case intellectual property problems arise.

Grading

Percentage grades will be provided for each assignment. The final letter grade will be determined as illustrated:

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Per Cent Range</i>	<i>Description</i>
A+	90-100	Exceptional
A	80-89	Excellent
B+	75-79	Very Good
B	70-74	Good
C+	65-69	Competent
C	60-64	Fairly Competent
D+	55-59	Passing
D	50-54	Marginally Passing
E	(marginally below 50%)	Marginally Failing
F	(below 50%)	Failing

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. Information on the Pass/Fail Grading Option is at:

<https://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/pass-fail-option>

Please note that students who wish to designate a course as Pass/Fail must do so within the first two weeks of the term in which the course begins.

Last Date to Withdraw from the Course: The last day to withdraw from this course without incurring an academic penalty is **November 8, 2019.**

Assignment Submission: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Students are encouraged to submit drafts of assignments for review and feedback prior to the due dates.

Late assignments: Assignments received later than the due date and time will not be graded. Exceptions to this policy might be granted only in extraordinary situations, which require supporting written documentation deemed adequate by the instructor, and advance notification by the student. Requests, even with supporting written documentation, made after the due date will not be accepted.

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION

Academic Honesty and Integrity

York students are required to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and they are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>). The Policy affirms the responsibility of faculty members to foster acceptable standards of academic conduct and of the student to abide by such standards.

There is also an academic integrity website with comprehensive information about academic honesty and how to find resources at York to help improve students' research and writing skills, and cope with University life. Students are expected to review the materials on the Academic Integrity website at: <http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity>.

Cheating and plagiarism are extremely serious academic offenses that will result in severe sanctions. See: <https://spark.library.yorku.ca/academic-integrity-breach-of-policy-on-academic-honesty/>

Access/Disability/Counselling

York University is committed to principles of respect, inclusion and equality of all persons with disabilities across campus. The University provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials. These services are made available to students in all Faculties and programs at York University.

Students in need of these services are asked to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Please note that registering with

disabilities services and discussing your needs with your professor is necessary to avoid any impediment to receiving the necessary academic accommodations to meet your needs. Additional information is available at the following websites, including services for students who require counselling:

Student Counselling & Development – <https://counselling.students.yorku.ca/>

Student Accessibility Services – <https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/>

Counselling & Disability Services at Glendon - <http://www.glendon.yorku.ca/counselling>

York Accessibility Hub - <http://www.yorku.ca/accessibilityhub/index.htm>

Ethics Review Process

York students are subject to the York University *Policy for the Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants*. In particular, students proposing to undertake research involving human participants (e.g., interviewing the director of a company or government agency, having students complete a questionnaire, etc.) are required to submit an *Application for Ethical Approval of Research Involving Human Participants* at least one month before you plan to begin the research. If you are in doubt as to whether this requirement applies to you, contact your professor immediately.

Religious Observance Accommodation

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict for you, contact the professor within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should an assignment to be completed in a lab, practicum placement, workshop, etc., scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the professor immediately.

Student Conduct in Academic Situations

Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom and other academic settings, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. The policy and procedures governing disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available at - <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=82>

University Resources

The Writing Centre: One-to-one help with a writing instructor on any writing assignment. You will need to enroll to set up your appointment, although the Centre also offers some drop-in sessions. The enrollment link and further information is found at <http://www.yorku.ca/laps/writ/centre/>. Bring a copy of your assignment to your appointment.

York University Libraries: Links to the main catalogue, e-resources, online help chat line with librarian, and many other research aids: <http://www.library.yorku.ca/web/>

SPARK [Student Papers and Academic Research Kit]: On-line tutorial that provides handy tips and tools for understanding and successfully completing university-level assignments. Go to <http://www.yorku.ca/spark/>

York University Student Code of Conduct: <https://oscr.students.yorku.ca/csrr>

WEEKLY LECTURE SCHEDULE, REQUIRED READINGS, ASSIGNMENTS, AND SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

Week 1 (September 10)

Welcome, introductions and course overview
Introduction to social policy

If you need an introduction to, or refresher of, Canadian politics and government, there is an easy to read and short (51 pages) book available free of charge from The Library of The Parliament of Canada:

https://lop.parl.ca/About/Parliament/SenatorEugeneForsey/book/assets/pdf/How_Canadians_Govern_Themselves9.pdf

NOTE: There is no class meeting on September 17.

PART II: HISTORY, STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES

Week 2 (September 24)

The Canadian context and social policy

REQUIRED

Dean – Chapter 1
Klassen and Dwyer – Chapter 1

Podcast of *What Is Government Good At? A Canadian Answer*:
<http://policyoptions.irpp.org/2016/05/17/policy-options-podcast-11-what-is-government-good-at/>

SUPPLEMENTARY

Savoie, Donald. 2015. *What Is Government Good At? A Canadian Answer*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press. Read the introduction of the book, and one additional chapter, at:
<http://site.ebrary.com.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/lib/oculvork/detail.action?docID=11090617>

Week 3 (October 1):

Theoretical perspectives on social policy
Social policy and the rise of the welfare state

REQUIRED:

Dean – Chapter 2
Klassen and Dwyer – Chapter 2

Podcast of *Public policy and young Canadians* -
<http://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/september-2016/public-policy-and-young-canadians-a-policy-options-podcast/>

SUPPLEMENTARY

Prince, Michael J. 2008. *The Evolution of Social Policy in Canada and the Expression of Canada in Social Policy*. <https://www.uvic.ca/hsd/assets/docs/faculty/prince-michael/nanaimoelders.pdf>

Rice, James J. and Prince, Michael J. 2013. *Changing Politics of Canadian Social Policy*, Second Edition. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. Available at the Scott Library at **HN 107 R53 2013** and as an ebook <https://books-scholarsportal-info.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/en/read?id=/ebooks/ebooks3/utpress/2013-08-29/1/9781442696655>

Week 4 (October 8)

Policy tools and instruments

REQUIRED

Dean – Chapters 3

Klassen and Dwyer – Chapter 3

SUPPLEMENTARY

Chapter 2 –“New Public Governance: The Changing Landscape of Canadian Public Administration” in Conteh, Charles and Ian Roberge *Canadian public administration in the 21st century*

<http://site.ebrary.com.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/lib/oculyork/reader.action?docID=10735262&ppg=1>

LinkedIn Profile (10%)

Week 5 (October 15) – This meeting is optional as it is scheduled during the Fall Reading week. Attendance is not mandatory, however the readings are required.

Understanding the policy processes

REQUIRED

Dean – chapter 4

Klassen and Dwyer – chapter 4

SUPPLEMENTARY

Moscoe, Adam. 2014. Executive Decision-Making: Challenges, Strategies, and Resources. *Canadian Parliamentary Review*. 37.3

http://www.revparl.ca/37/3/37n3e_14_Moscoe.pdf

Watch this clip (of two civil servants talking) from Yes, Minister:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gmOvEwtDycs>

Politics and Administration Dichotomy by James Gaston

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WIm1VuOqDts>

PART II: CASE STUDIES AND APPLICATIONS

Week 6 (October 22)

Case study: Labour market policy

REQUIRED

Dean – Chapter 5
Klassen and Dwyer – Chapter 5

SUPPLEMENTARY

Schmidt, Ron. 2007. Comparing Federal Government Immigrant Settlement Policies in Canada and the United States. *The American Review of Canadian Studies*; 37, 1: 103-123
http://journals2.scholarsportal.info.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/search?q=Comparing+Federal+Government+Immigrant+Settlement+Policies+in+Canada+and+the+United+States&search_in=anywhere&date_from=&date_to=&sort=relevance&op=AND&q=American+Review+of+Canadian+Stu

Van den Berg, Axel; Plante, Charles; Raiq, Hicham; Proulx, Christine and Faustman, Sam. 2017. *Combating Poverty: Quebec's Pursuit of a Distinctive Welfare State*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. Available at the Scott Library at **HV 108 V36 2017**

Policy Briefing Note

Week 7 (October 29)

Case study: Student financial assistance (part 1)

REQUIRED

Digital case study (to be provided)
Dean – Chapters 6
Klassen and Dwyer – Chapter 6

Research Essay Proposal

November 8 is the last date to withdraw from this course without receiving a grade.

Week 8 (November 5)

Case study: Student financial assistance (part 2)

REQUIRED

Digital case study (to be provided)

Dean – Chapter 7

Klassen and Dwyer – Chapter 7

In class test

SECTION III: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES, GLOBALIZATION AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Week 9 (November 12)

Social policy in a comparative perspective (part 1): Youth unemployment

REQUIRED

Dean – Chapter 8

Klassen and Dwyer – Chapter 8

What to do about youth unemployment? TVO The Agenda - May 03, 2018-

<https://www.tvo.org/video/what-to-do-about-youth-unemployment>

Redesigning Social Systems - World Economic Forum, September 24, 2018 -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w44vXvfXfPk>

Week 10 (November 19)

Social policy in a comparative perspective (part 2): Ageing

REQUIRED

Dean – Chapter 9

Klassen and Dwyer – Chapter 9

Additional readings to be assigned

Week 11 (November 26)

The role of globalization in social policy

REQUIRED

Dean – Chapter 10

Klassen and Dwyer – Chapter 10

Podcast of “Public policy and administration in an era of globalization” Chapter one in Klassen, T. R., D. Cepiku and T. F. Lah, eds, *The Routledge Handbook of Global Public Policy and Administration*. Video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpAot9vbz9M>

Week 12 (December 3)

Future directions for social policy

REQUIRED:

Klassen and Dwyer – Chapter 11

Research Essay

Course Web Resources

There is considerable information available on the Web on public policy and public administration. Some of the web sites below may be of assistance in your research and of interest in exploring issues related to public policy.

Canada School of Public Service: information about the latest news and trends in executive learning, including information about executive education and development programs and services and to documents

The Innovation Journal: independent, peer-reviewed, Internet-based journal devoted to sharing ideas and discussing public sector policy and administration innovation

Institute of Public Administration of Canada: national non-profit organization, concerned with the theory and practice of public management, with 17 regional groups across Canada

Office of the Auditor General of Canada: publications, including searchable full text of the Reports of the Auditor General

Parliamentary Internet Parlementaire: access to the House of Commons, Senate and the Library of Parliament, including debates, committee proceedings, and status of legislation

Privacy Commissioner of Canada: includes annual reports

Privy Council Office: includes annual reports to the Prime Minister

Public Service Commission of Canada: responsible for promoting and safeguarding a merit-based, representative and non-partisan public service that serves all Canadians.

United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance: forum for knowledge, experiences and best practices worldwide of sound public policies, effective public administration and efficient civil services

There are also many web sites related to public policy that might be useful for our course.

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

Canada West Foundation

Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD)

Canadian Labour Congress

CD Howe Institute

Conference Board of Canada

Fraser Institute

International Labour Organization

Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP)

Maytree

Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD)

Vanier Institute

Useful writing resources

“How to write an effective essay”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWqMQ26Gqi4>

“How to write an essay”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liyFKUFCQno>

“How to Write an Effective Essay”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IN6IOSMviS4>