

**School of Public Policy and Administration  
Faculty of Liberal and Professional Studies**

**CANADA'S SOCIAL POLICY  
AP/PPAS 3761 A 3.00  
COURSE TO BE DELIVERED REMOTELY**

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**Office: Mclaughlin College**  
**Office Hour:**

**SUMMER 2020**

**TUESDAY AND THURSDAY: 7:00 TO 10:00 PM**

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**Course Overview**

A warm welcome to the course, which offers an overview of the major Canadian social policies and their societal outcomes. The course will focus on family and children, education, health as well as work and labour market policies. Social policy is an array of public policy that the crucial to the functioning and stability of the state and society. The viability of a stable social order is very much dependent on the social policy output of the state/government. Economic production, social reproduction and stable legitimate order are all dependent on the social policy output of the state. Social policy is the pathway for delivering public goods to citizens. The state/government is the major actor in the formation of social policy and the delivery of public goods to citizens and qualified residents. The course will therefore be looking at the nature and function of the Canadian state in its role of formulating of social policy and distribution of public goods.

Given the federal nature of the Canadian polity the course will also look at the fiscal federalism and the interrelationship between the federal state and provincial governments in the formation of social policy and the distribution of public goods. The post-war Keynesian social welfare state (KSWS) will be of central focus in course discussion. The KSWS had historically been the most productive form of the state in terms of developing social policy and distributing public goods.

The course will be delivered online/remotely. Group participation will be a core aspect of the course. Group of five students will be randomly created. Once you are assigned to a group you will work as group and submit discussions and answers to questions that will be posted on Moodle in the form of FROUM discussion based on the posted lectures and readings. The FORUM discussion and answers should be circulated among the members who will edit and improved the discussion and answer before posing on the FORUM. A group grade will be assigned to each FORM discussion and answer. The group grade will be determined based on the following: clear understanding of the questions; substance and analytical clarity of your discussion and answer; coherency and nuance in your discussion and answer; efficiency in

presenting your discussion and answer. The forum discussion and answer to the forum questions are meant to be brief, but substantive and robust, rather than voluminous in written length.

The research paper can be written as a group research paper based on the group you are assigned to or it can be written and submitted as an individual research paper. Group research paper can be productive, but it requires organization, planning and effective division of labour. If you decide to do a group research paper you must declare your intention by May 19, 2020.

We will learn from each other through discussions in class. A lot of our work will be done in class, and feedbacks will be given to you in class so everyone can learn from each other. If you cannot attend classes or you double-book yourself for another course at the same time, you should take the course when it is more convenient for you.

If students do the work required for the course, students will likely earn the grades they want. Students are expected to take full responsibilities for studying and keeping up with the pace of the course. No special consideration will be given to students who do not get the grades they want due to reasons that are not required to be considered by university rules.

The course introduces students to the basics of social policies. Public policy analytical concepts are introduced. Upon the completion of the course the students are expected to be familiar with various social policies and can understand societal outcomes of such policies.

### Course Materials

Course kit is available for purchase on the York University bookstore website. The course kit will be mailed out to you once you purchase the kit.

OECD website is a good source for public policy discussions in the OECD countries including Canada

Policy Alternative discusses public policy dynamics in Canada it is an excellent source of information: <http://www.policyalternatives.ca/projects/growing-gap> before the first class.

### Teaching Approach

Lectures will be posted on the course website on Tuesdays and Thursdays before 7 pm each week. Students are expected to participate actively in policy discussions that will be posted on FORUM on moodle. Students are expected to keep up with the readings and to engage actively in the FORUM discussions and answers

### Evaluation

Category	% of Course Grade	Details	
Final Exam	35%		
Forum Discussions and Answers	25%	5 Forum discussions and answers	
Research Paper	40%	7 pages double-space	

Academic honesty violations will be treated seriously. Consult the link below for guidance on academic integrity.

[http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic\\_integrity/](http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity/).

## **Essay**

The learning objectives of the research essay are to encourage students to think about an aspect of social policy critically, conduct some research using York e-Resources and learn to write precisely and concisely. The research topic will be posted on the course moodle site.

As part of the researching your paper you will be required to brief search of the Federal Parliamentary House of Common Special Committee to see how government officials and policy stakeholders think about the policy you have selected for the research paper.

You will be uploading your research paper on Turnitin on the course moodle site. The research paper should have proper title and bibliographical pages with the precise title of the research paper as set out in the list of research topics. With the title and bibliographical pages, the research paper will have a total of 9 pages.

Requirements for the research essay will be posted on the moodle course website. Essays that simply string together direct quotes from sources and present general description will not be considered a good essay as the students do not demonstrate whether they understand the cited sources and whether they can make critical analytical arguments in their own writings.

## Schedule

Class	Date	Topic
1	May. 12	Introduction and Overview of Course How to Think about Social Policy <b>Reading:</b> Paul Pierson, “Fragmented Welfare State: Federal Institutions and the Development of Social Policy”, Governance, vol. 8. No. 4. 1995
2	May. 14	Inequality and Social Policy historical Context <b>Reading:</b> D.V. Smiley, “The Rowell-Sirois Report, Provincial Autonomy, and Post-War Canadian Federalism”, Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science. Vol. 28.No. 1. 1962
3	May. 19	Inequality and Social Policy... continues <b>Reading:</b> Gosta Esping-Andersen and John Myles, Welfare State and Redistribution. <a href="http://dcpis.upf.edu/~gosta-esping-andersen/materials/welfare_state.pdf">http://dcpis.upf.edu/~gosta-esping-andersen/materials/welfare_state.pdf</a> Maoni, Antonia, “New Century, New Risks: The Marsh Report and the Post-War. Welfare State in Canada,” Policy Options, August, 2004 (20-23). Search in Google Scholar for this article
4	May. 21	Inequality Social Policy and the Canadian Family and gender <b>Reading:</b> Caroline Andrew, “Women and the Welfare State”: Canadian Journal of Political Science / Revue Canadienne de science politique, Vol. 17, No. 4 (Dec. 1984) Ann Porter, “Gender and the Construction of the Postwar Welfare state”, in Ann Porter, Gendered States Woman, Unemployment Insurance and the Political Economy of the Welfare state in Canada, 1945-1997. Chapter 2. Ebook Scott Library
5	May. 26	The Shift to neoliberalism and Fiscal Restraint In Canada: the New Social Policy Agenda <b>Reading:</b> Maureen Baker, “Restructuring of the Canadian Welfare State: Ideology and Policy” Social Policy Research Center. Discussion Paper 1977. June 1997 <a href="http://www.sd6.bc.ca/gss/library/public_html/SocialStudies/CdnHistory/Politics/can%20welf%20sys.pdf">http://www.sd6.bc.ca/gss/library/public_html/SocialStudies/CdnHistory/Politics/can%20welf%20sys.pdf</a> Team Presentation 2 on Family and Children
6	May. 28	Midterm Exam
7	June. 02	Political economy of Childcare Child poverty in Canada <b>Reading:</b> Jane Jenson, Mahon Rianne and Susan Phillips, “No Minor Matter” The Political Economy of Childcare in Canada”, In Wallace Clement and Leah Vosko (eds.) 2003, Changing Canada: Political Economy as Transformation. McGill/Queens

		University Press, ebook Scott Library
8	June. 04	Education Reading: C. Morgan, “Federal Higher Education Policies and vanishing Public University” in A. Maslove, How Ottawa Spends, 2008-2009. McGill and Queens University Press, 2008 Federal Budget 2010, sections addressing Post-secondary education
9	June. 09	Health: Reading: Alan L. Maslove, “Health and Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements: Lost opportunity” Gerald W. Boychuck, “How Ottawa Gamble: Rolling the Dice in Health Care Reform” In Doern G. Bruce, How Ottawa Spends, 2005-2006: Managing the Minority, ebook, Scott Library
10	June. 11	Neoliberalism and Pension Reform: The Dive to Privatize Social Security Reading: Daniel Beland, “The Politics of Social Learning: Finance, Institutions, and Pension Reform in the United States and Canada”, Governance, 19(4), 2006 Kritina Babich and Daniel Beland, “Policy Change and the Politics of Ideas: The Emergence of Canada/Quebec Pension Plan”, 2009 CSA. Course website
11	June. 16	Work: Labour Market Restructuring Reading: Pat Armstrong, Mary Cornish and Elizabeth Miller, Chapter 7. “Pay Equity, Complexities and Contradiction in Legal Rights and Social Processes” Judy Fudge and Leah F. Vosko, Chapter 8. “Gender Paradoxes and The Rise of Contingent Work: Towards a Transformative Political Economy of the Labour Market” In Clement Wallace and Leah F. Vosko (eds.) Changing Canada: Political Economy as Transformation, ebook Scott Library
12	June. 18	Final Exam