

York University
School of Public Policy and Administration
Canada's Social Policy
AP/PPAS/3761- AP/POLS 3170 3.0 M
Summer 2021 (S2)

Course Director: Dr. Sirvan Karimi
Class Hours: Monday(s) and Wednesday(s): 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM
Class location: This is a remotely taught Course.
Office Hours; Virtual via zoom (Friday: 10-11:00 AM)
Office Location: 133 McLaughlin College
Email: dalaho@yorku.ca

Course Format:

Please note that this is a course **that depends on remote teaching and learning**. There will be no in-person interactions or activities on campus.

"This course requires the use of online proctoring for examinations. The instructor may use an online proctoring service to deliver the exam(s), which would be administered through the Learning Management System (e.g., Moodle, Canvas, etc.). Students are required to have access to minimum technology requirements to complete examinations. If an online proctoring service is used, students will need to become familiar with it at least five days before exam(s). For technology requirements, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and details about the online proctoring service visit – [link to be added]. Students are required to share any IT accommodation needs with the instructor as soon as they are able.

Several platforms will be used in this course (e.g., Moodle, Canvas, Zoom, etc.) through which students will interact with the course materials, the course director / TA, as well as with one another. Please review the syllabus to determine how the class meets (in whole or in part), and how office hours and presentations will be conducted.

Students shall note the following:

- Zoom is hosted on servers in the U.S. This includes recordings done through Zoom.
- If you have privacy concerns about your data, provide only your first name or a nickname when you join a session.
- The system is configured in a way that all participants are automatically notified when a session is being recorded. In other words, a session cannot be recorded without you knowing about it.

Technology requirements and FAQs for Moodle can be found here -

<http://www.yorku.ca/moodle/students/faq/index.html>"

Organization of the course

The online lecture will be held on Monday and Wednesday. The lecture for each class will be broken down into 30 minutes segments. Each segment will be followed by an interactive material discussion. Students will have opportunity to ask questions related

points in lecture that require further elaboration. Prior to live lecture, lecture handout will be posted on course Moodle. The posted lecture handout contains a concise outline of reading materials which will be discussed during the live lecture. Exam questions will be based on those posted lecture handouts which are explained in detail during the lectures. Student will have opportunity to raise during questions and concerns regarding lecture materials during virtual office hours

Lecture with tutorials

Meeting	Day	Time	
Lecture	Monday	11:30 – 2:30	. This is a live lecture via Zoom [.] The lecture will be recorded, and the recording can be accessed via eClass
Lecture	Wednesday	11:30-2:30 PM	. This is a live lecture via Zoom [] The lecture will be recorded, and the recording can be accessed via eClass
Office Hours	Friday	10-11:00 AM	Via Zoom

Course webpage: [will be posted later]

Expanded course description:

This course is designed to introduce students to Canadian social policy. The course outlines the historical trajectory of social policy in Canada and highlights significant social, ideological, political, and economic factors that have shaped social policy in Canada. Certain national and provincial social programs such as old age pension, unemployment insurance, child benefits and welfare assistance will be analyzed. In the final section, attempt will be made to analyze and assess the ongoing pattern of social policy reforms and the impacts that these welfare reforms have had on Canadians of different socio-economic backgrounds. The implications of welfare state restructuring for the principles of social justice and equity will be evaluated.

Course objectives and learning outcomes:

Learning Objectives:

At the end of term students are expected to.

a-Acquire a foundational understanding of the interplay of economic, political, and social forces that structure the

terrain of social welfare policy in Canada.

b- Gain an appreciation for the dynamics and complexity of social policy in Canada.

c- Gain a comprehensive understanding of the interplay of political institutions and social policy

d- Be able to compare Canadian social welfare programs to other OECD countries.

e- Develop analytical and research skills that are essential to pursuing advanced studies in the field of public administration and social policy.

Course readings: Required Textbooks:

Blake, Raymond B., and Jeffrey A. Keshen, (2006). eds, *Social Fabric or Patchwork Quilt: The Development of Social Policy in Canada*. Peterborough, Ontario: Broadview Press.

Finkel, Alvin. (2006). *Social Policy and Practice in Canada: A History*. Waterloo, Ontario: Wilfred Laurier University Press.
(Electronically Accessible)

***** Additional readings may be assigned or recommended during study.**

Suggested (Optional)Textbooks:

Ernie Lightman and Naomi Lightman. (2017). *Social policy in Canada*. Oxford University Press,

Karimi, Sirvan (2017). *Beyond the Welfare State: Postwar Social Settlement and Public Pension Policy in Canada and Australia*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press **(on Reserve)**

Karimi, Sirvan (2015). *The Tragedy of Social Democracy*. Winnipeg: Fernwood Publishing **(On Reserve)**

Evaluation: Course Requirements:

Class participation:

%10

Mid-Term Exam: (Take Home Exam)

%30

Research paper: July 22nd (Research topics and instruction will be posted during the first class), due Aug 5

%30

Final Exam (Take Home Exam), during examination period

%30

Course policies

[Insert your course policies on grading, assignment submission, tests and makeup tests, lateness penalties, etc. For language on these policies, please review the [basic course outline](#) provided by the Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy Committee.

If audio-visual recordings of live sessions on Moodle is permitted, students should pay attention to the following conditions; 1) the recordings should be used for educational purposes only and as a means for enhancing accessibility; 2) students do not have permission to duplicate, copy and/or distribute the recordings outside of the class (these acts can violate not only copyright laws but also [FIPPA](#)); and 3) all recordings will be destroyed after the end of classes.

Academic honesty and integrity

In this course, we strive to maintain academic integrity to the highest extent possible. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing SPARK's [Academic Integrity module](#) at the beginning of the course. Breaches of academic integrity range from cheating to plagiarism (i.e., the improper crediting of another's work, the representation of another's ideas as your own, etc.). All instances of academic dishonesty in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities, and can be punishable according to the [Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

Course information

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information:

- [Student Rights & Responsibilities](#)
- [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)
- [For more language on course information, please consult the University's [Important Course Information document](#).]

Schedule of readings and activities

[Week 1:

Introduction to the Course

The Determinants of Social Policy

Finkel; Introduction

Richard Simeon, "Studying Public Policy." *Canadian Journal of Political Science*. 9:3 (Dec 1976), 548-580. **(electronically available)**. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3231089?>

Week 2:

Canadian welfare state in an international context

John Myles and Jill Quadagno. " Political Theories of the Welfare State. *Social Service Review* (March 2002).

(Electronically **accessible**).

Esping-Andersen, Gosta: *The Three Worlds of Welfare State Capitalism*, pp.10-46 (**Electronically accessible**)

Suggested Readings:

Karimi (2017) ch 1

Section II: Historical Contexts; Development of the welfare state in Canada

Social policy in the Pre-Keynesian Era

Finkel ch 3, ch 4

Blake and Keshen ch1, ch2

.

Week 3:

Historical Contexts; Social policy During the Keynesian Era

Finkel ch 5, ch6

Blake and Keshen ch 7, ch 8

Economic Crisis, Neo-liberalism, and Social policy Reform

Finkel ch 12

Blake and Keshen ch 13

Suggested Readings:

Karimi (2015), ch 3

Karimi (2017), ch 6

Stephen McBride and Kathleen McNutt, "Devolution and Neoliberalism in the Canadian Welfare State," *Global Social Policy* 7, no. 2 (2007): 177-201. **Electronically accessible.**

Social policy and elderly people; Old Age Pension

Finkel ch 7

Bake and Keshen ch 18

Suggested Readings:

Karimi (2017), ch 5, ch 8

Section III: Expansion, Restructuring and Retrenchment of Social Programs

Up to here will be the basis for Mid-term Exam

Week 4.

Social policy and Child Care

Finkel ch9

Bake and keshen ch 9, ch 12

Kelly Erica Pasolli. "Comparing Child Care Policy in the Canadian Provinces." *Canadian Political Science Review* Vol. 9, No. 2., 2015 pp: 63-78

Social policy and Medicare

Finkel ch 8

Blake and Keshen ch 14, ch 21

Brett J. Skinner and Mark Rovere, *Value for Money from Health Insurance Systems in Canada, and the OECD* (Fraser Institute: October 2010). **Electronically accessible.**

For a Fair Share of Federal Health Funding. Gouvernement du Québec, 2017.
http://www.budget.finances.gouv.qc.ca/budget/20172018/en/documents/Budget1718_Health.pdf

Week 5:

Social Policy and Unemployment Insurance/Employment Insurance

Blake and Keshen ch 5, ch 10, ch 20

Social Policy and Social Assistance; from Welfare to Workfare

Blake and Keshen, ch 17

Rebecca Crookshanks. (2012). "Marginalization Through a Custom of Deservingness: Sole Support Mother and the Welfare Law in Canada". *Appeal* Vol. 17, pp.97-113. **(Electronically accessible)**

Sherri Torjman. " Workfare: A poor Law." The Caledon Institute of Social Policy, Feb 1996. **(Electronically accessible)**

Ernie Lightman, Andrew Mitchell, and Dean Herd. (2005). " One Year On: Tracking the Experiences of Current and Former Welfare recipients in Toronto" *Journal of Poverty*, Vol. 9(4).

Electronically accessible.

Week 6:

Social Policy and Homelessness:

Finkle. ch 10

Canada's National Housing Strategy: A **Place** Call Home.
Government of Canada. **electronically available)**

Stephen Gaetz, Tanya Gulliver, & Tim Richter (2014): *The State of Homelessness in Canada: 2014*. Toronto: The Homeless Hub Press.
(electronically available)

Social Policy, Poverty, and Income Inequality

Finkel ch 11

Blake and Keshen ch 17

Lightman, Ernie et al. (2009). Poverty is Making Us Sick.

<http://www.library.yorku.ca/eresolver/?id=1249581> An electronic book accessible through the World Wide Web; click to view

Electronically Available)

Stephanie Procyk. 2014. Understanding Income Inequality in Canada, 1980–2014

(Electronically **accessible**)

Yalnizyan, A. (2010) The Rise of Canada's Richest 1%. Ottawa: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. **Electronically accessible**).

Karimi, Sirvan. 2021. Instead of a Universal Basic Income, Governments Should Enrich Existing Social Programs. *The Conversation*.

<https://theconversation.com/instead-of-a-universal-basic-income-governments-should-enrich-existing-social-programs-154354>