**SPD 307 THEORIES OF SOCIAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT**

**BA in SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT**

**FACULTY OF SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION**

**THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY**

**SEMESTER 2, 2019**

**Course Coordinator / Main Lecturer:**

Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond

Email: ttivayanond@yahoo.com

Office hours: by appointment

**Course hours**: Friday, 13:00 – 16:00 hrs

**Venue:** TBC, Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University (Tha Prachan)

**Course Description**

This course provides key understanding and analysis about theoretical and practical aspects of social policy and social development. Goals and scope of social policy and social development in comparison with economic policy; development of social welfare policy in the national and international arenas; social policy mechanisms for poverty reduction and enhancing equality; different development approaches and analysis of the social policy system in social, political, and economic perspectives.

**Teaching Methods**

Each class will begin with a lecture that will provide the overarching context of the session’s topic. Lectures are designed to explain and complement the reading materials. Assigned material must be read prior to class. Each member of the class is expected to actively engage in the class and contribute to the session’s discussion.

**Learning Objectives**

* To induce critical thinking of the different dimensions of social policy and development.
* To obtain a deeper understanding of the different steps of policy making.
* To examine the link between economic and social development at both the national and international level.

**ASSESSMENT PLAN**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No. of Activities** | **ASSESSMENTS** | **ASSESSMENT METHODS** | **Assessment weeks** | **Proportion of assessment score** |
| **1** | **Class attendance****& weekly class participation and assignment** | **Scores allocated to prompt attendance and signing of attendance sheet in timely manner. Late attendance will result in mark deduction.** **For some weeks, students are asked to complete assigned tasks. Also, students are expected to demonstrate active participation during class discussions.** | **All sessions** | **20 %** |
| **2** | **Midterm exam** | **Students are required to complete the midterm exam, which assesses what have been taught in the first part of the course.**  |  **5** | **20 %** |
| **3** | **Summary of Public Lecture Series**  | **Students are asked to attend the public lectures and provide summaries on the topic discussed** | **8-9** | **20%** |
| **4** | **Policy presentation** | **Students are asked to present a policy memo on the issue of their choice.** | **11-13** | **20 %** |
| **5** | **Written policy memo**  | **Students are asked to write a policy memo on the issue of their choice.**  | **Final week** | **20%** |

**ASSIGNMENT DETAILS**

* ***Weekly assignment***: For some weeks, students will be assigned weekly tasks. For example, in their first week, they will be asked to pick a news article related to social policy to be shared with the class.
* ***Summary of Public Lecture Series***: Students are asked to attend all public lectures and provide a summary on the topics lectured.
* ***Policy Memo Presentation:***Students will be asked to give a final presentation (approximately 20 minutes – 15 minutes for presenting and 5 minutes for Q&A) on the policy memo, which is to be handed at the end of the course. The presentation will help students prepare for their policy memo by gauging the feedback from their peers and from the lecturers.
* ***Written Policy Memo*:** Each student will prepare a policy memo on a topic of interest, as agreed with the lecturer. The paper itself should be submitted by 26th of May. The policy memo should be around 2,000 words in length (not including footnotes and references).

**COURSE POLICY**

* Punctual attendance is a requirement for all classes. Students must provide an excused absence from the lecturer for any class that they missed. An attendance sheet will be circulated when the class begins.
* All assignments must be handed in at the designated due dates. Late assignments will only be accepted if lateness is due to ill health or other emergencies that are documented. Any papers that are more than 3 days late will not be accepted.
* This course encourages free exchanges of ideas. Given that many social problems are controversial, students will be voicing different opinions that they may find disagreeable. In this classroom, it is expected that students respect each other’s opinions and support mutual dialogues.
* In order to promote a productive classroom environment, any behavior that distracts or disrupts other students and faculty is not acceptable. Such behavior includes cell phone use, surfing the internet, checking email, text messaging, listening to music, leaving early without permission, and discourteous remarks. There will be no tolerance for violation of these principles. Instead, students are expected to act with mutual respect and common courtesy towards other students and lecturers.
* Any student caught committing an act of plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will be given a fail grade for the entire course. Plagiarism is the act of stating or implying that another person's work is your own. Plagiarism can range from submitting a paper you did not write to omitting key citations. Any action in which you misleadingly claim an idea as your own when it is not could constitute plagiarism. Other forms of academic dishonesty include cheating, fabrication, denying others access to information or material, and facilitating violations of academic integrity.
* Students are asked to attend 60% of lectures for the sessions **before and after** the Midterm exam. Students who fail to attend 60% of the lectures will not be allowed to sit in and undertake the Midterm and/or Final exam(s).

**Main readings for the course**

* Alcock, P. et al. (2003) The Student’s Companion to Social Policy, Oxford: Blackwell.
* Dean, H. (2009) Short Introductions to Social Policy, Cambridge: Polity Press.
* Titmuss, R.M. (1974) An Introduction to Social Policy, London: George Allen & Unwin.
* Sachs, W. (1993) The Development Dictionary, London: Zed Books.

**Grading Scale**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Letter Grade | Percentage | GPA | Remark |
| A | 90 – 100  | 4.0 | Distinctive work which exhibits originality, thinking, and real contribution  |
| B+ | 85 - 89  | 3.5 | Great effort, meeting all requirements but which can still improve in originality and contribution  |
| B | 80 - 84 | 3.0 | Good effort meeting average requirement |
| C+ | 75 -79 | 2.5 | Passing work that does not meet all requirement but has sign of possible improvement |
| C | 70 - 74 | 2.0 | Passing work that does not meet all requirement |
| D+  | 65 - 69 | 1.5 | Poor quality which need extra effort in organization / English composition |
| D | 60 -64 | 1.0 | Poor quality work |
| F | 0 - 59 | 0.0 | Unacceptable work |

**COURSE PLAN**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sessions | DATE  | SESSION THEMES | LECTURERS | TOPICS COVERED / REFERENCES  |
| 1 | 18 JAN | Overview of course Introduction to what is social policy  | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond  | * Introduction the course
* Definition of Social Policy
* Difference between Public Policy and Social Policy
* Comparative Social Policy

**Readings*** Titmuss, R.M. (1974) An Introduction to Social Policy, London: George Allen & Unwin.
* Midgley, J. and Tang, K. (2010) Social Policy and Poverty in East Asia, London: Routledge

**Weekly Assignment**: find a news clipping (local or international) which cover a social policy. |
| 2 | 1 FEB | Social Administration  | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond | * Organization and Delivery of Welfare
* Arguments for and against welfare
* Welfare Pluralism
* State welfare
* Private welfare
* Residual welfare
* Welfare Regimes
 |
| 3 | 8 FEB | Who is welfare for? | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond | * Access to Weflare
* Universalism vs. Selectivity
* Mixed economy of welfare
* Social Insurance
* Social Assistance
* Dependency
 |
| 4 | 15 FEB | Review in preparation of Midterm exam | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond | * Review for Mid Term Exam
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| 5 | 8 MAR | MID TERM |  | * MID TERM EXAM
 |
| 6 | 19-22 MARTBC | Development and welfare | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond | * Linking development to social policy
* Attendance of UNESCAP “International Social Work Day” – Promoting Community and Environmental Sustainability
 |
| 7 | 5 APR | Policy CycleHow to write a policy memo | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond | * Stages of policy cycle
* Howlett, M. and Ramesh, M. (1995) Studying Public Policy: Policy Cycles and Policy Subsystems, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
* Craft of research
* Techniques of policy writing
 |
| 8 | 19 APR  | Cross cutting issues in social policy & development | Dr. Kevin Sieh Yeow Tan (Social Science University of Singapore) | * Public Lecture on Research in Social Policy and Development: Case Study from Singapore
 |
| 9 | 26 APR  | Policy Memo Workshop | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond  | * Submit assignment
* Open workshop for students to consult lecturer on policy memo assignment
 |
| 10 | 3 MAY | Policy memo | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond  | Students’ presentation |
| 11 | 10 MAY | Policy memo | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond  | Students’ presentation |
| 12 | 17 MAY | Policy memo | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond  | Students’ presentation  |
| 13 | 24 MAY | Policy Memo Submission  | Dr. Prapaporn Tivayanond  | Submit policy memo |