**THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY**

**SPD Course Descriptions**

**Faculty:** Faculty of Social Administration

**Program:** Bachelor of Arts Program in Social Policy and Development (SPD) (International Program)

**Semester/Academic Year**: Semester 1 Year 1

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Course Code** | **Course Title** | **Credits** | **Course Description** |
| 1 | TU 100 | Civic Education | 3 | This course aims to instill social conscience and awareness of one’s role and duties as a good global citizen through a variety of methods such as lectures, discussion of various case studies and field study outings. Students are required to organize a campaign to raise awareness and bring about changes in an area of their own interest. |
| 2 | TU 102 | Social Life Skills | 3 | This course focuses on holistic health care which addresses the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of individuals. Students will gain important skills essential for leading a happy life in society. Students learn to develop their ability to manage stress, build emotional security, understand themselves and adapt to psychological, emotional and social problems. Students also learn to understand the meaning of aesthetics, experiencing and appreciating the relationship between art and humanity in different fields, namely, visual arts, music, performing arts and architecture. |
| 3 | TU 105 | Communication Skills in English | 3 | Development of English listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, focusing on the ability to hold a conversation while exchanging opinions, as well as reading comprehension of academic texts from various disciplines related to students’ field of study. |
| 4 | TU 106 | Creativity and Communication | 3 | Creative thought processes, with critical thinking as an important component, as well as communication of these thoughts that lead to suitable results in social, cultural and environmental contexts, at personal, organizational and social levels. |
| 5 | PY 211 | General Psychology | 3 | Study of the history and methodology of psychology; introduction to the biological foundation of human behavior and human development; motivation, perception, learning, cognition, personality, social behavior, and abnormal behavior. |

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**Semester/Academic Year**: Semester 2 Year 1

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Course Code** | **Course Title** | **Credits** | **Course Description** |
| 1 | TU 101 | Thailand, ASEAN and the World | 3 | Study of significant phenomena in Thailand, ASEAN and the world in the context of political, economic and socio-cultural dimensions. This is achieved through different approaches, theories and principles of social science research via discussion and identifying examples of various situations and case studies. The purpose of this course is to create an understanding of diversity; to interpret the complexity of global interrelationships; to build a global mindset and to be able to challenge old paradigms by focusing on a broad and contemporary worldview. |
| 2 | TU 103 | Integrated Science of Sustainability | 3 | This course introduces students to the importance of life-cycle systems perspectives in understanding major challenges and solutions to achieving more sustainable societies in the world. Students will learn about the relationship between mankind and the environment in the context of energy and resource use, consumption and development, and environmental constraints. Furthermore, an examination of social conflict and change from the life-cycle perspective will be used to develop an understanding of potential solution pathways for sustainable lifestyle modifications. |
| 3 | TU 104 | Critical Thinking, Reading and Writing | 3 | Development of critical thinking through questioning and practising analytical, synthetic and evaluation skills. Students learn how to critically review texts, by considering the presented content in depth and taking into account the objectives, perspectives, assumptions, biases and supporting evidence, as well as logic or strategies leading to the author’s conclusion. The purpose of the course for students is to apply these methods to their own persuasive writing based on information from various sources, and to draw on effective presentation techniques. |
| 4 | TU 113 | Fundamentals of Religion and Philosophy | 3 | Students are introduced to philosophical and religious concepts affecting people’s attitudes, morality and ways of life. This course seeks to stimulate critical thinking through students’ analysis of diverse phenomena. This understanding can then be applied in social situations. |
| 5 | EG 231 | Paragraph Writing | 3 | Paragraph components and patterns of paragraph development; development  of skills in generating and shaping ideas or information to be presented in a paragraph. |

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**Semester/Academic Year**: Semester 1 Year 2

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Course Code** | **Course Title** | **Credits** | **Course Description** |
| 1 | PO 211 | Introduction to Political Science | 3 | Students will be introduced to the study of the essential principles of political science and the interlinkages between political science and other social sciences. This course will also explore important theories with an emphasis on power-structures and their role in the relationship between state, individuals, political institutions, government, political processes, and international communities. |
| 2 | LA 100 | Introduction to Law and Legal Systems | 3 | This course explores the development and sources of law; types and classification of law; the enactment, amendment and repeal processes; the relationship between law and other social phenomena; legal systems; rights and duties; and general principles of civil law based on the Civil and Commercial Code, Book I (to the extent not covered by LA 101). |
| 3 | EC 210 | Introductory Economics | 3 | Fundamental economic concepts of market mechanisms; resource allocation; and supply and demand of goods and services in relation to price determination, production of enterprises, and personal or household consumption. |
| 4 | SPD 201 | Human Behavior in Social Environment | 3 | Knowledge and understanding of empirically-based theories of human development and social functioning at the individual, family, group, community, organizational, and societal levels with application in explaining complex interactions between individuals and social environment. |
| 5 | SO 201 | Introduction to Sociology | 3 | Social behavior and social relationships. Overview of major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and methods of sociology; characteristics of basic social units e.g. social relations, groups, organizations, institutions, society; their patterns of interrelations and processes of change to develop an analytical and critical attitude toward social phenomena. |

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**Semester/Academic Year**: Semester 2 Year 2

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| **No** | **Course Code** | **Course Title** | **Credits** | **Course Description** |
| 1 | SPD 202 | Social Research & Statistics | 3 | Evidence-based analysis of the dynamics of social change; factors contributing to social integration or social problems; proactive and reactive measures to respond to social problems; and case studies of the dynamics of social change and social problems in Thailand and other countries. |
| 2 | SPD 203 | Social Change & Social Problems | 3 | The process of social science research: identification of a research problem, review of literature, variables, research designs, hypotheses, sampling, research instruments and data collection, data analysis by appropriate descriptive or inferential statistics, and preparation of a research report. |
| 3 | SPD 208 | Gender, Race and Class in a Multicultural Society | 3 | Study of gender, race, class, and culture in the Western world in comparison with those in the ASEAN region and within Thai society; roles and status of people of underprivileged groups in particular; and designing of social welfare policies to enhance equality. |
| 4 | SPD 209 | Welfare Economics | 3 | Introduction to welfare economics theory with understanding of utility maximization and modes of the free market, market failures and public and private interventions. This course focuses on the political economy and policy-making processes as well as stakeholders’ interest. Students will also learn about the design and consequences of various economic policy instruments with a concentration on income redistribution, efficiency of resource allocation and social security. |
| 5 | SPD 304 | Qualitative Social Research | 3 | Concepts of qualitative methods in social research; types of qualitative research methods; research questions and research design; data collection and data analysis; and interpretation; and research ethics. |

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**Semester/Academic Year**: Semester 1 Year 3

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| **No** | **Course Code** | **Course Title** | **Credits** | **Course Description** |
| 1 | SPD 305 | Direct Interventions | 3 | Social assessment and diagnosis, service planning, and interventions by using social work methodologies to work with individual clients, families, and groups in the contexts of service agencies. |
| 2 | SPD 306 | Management & Financing in Development & Welfare Organizations | 3 | Nature and analysis of non-profit organizations; motivations to work emphasizing non-fiscal incentives; laws concerning non-profit organizations; fundraising and management of human resources and other components in a development and social welfare organization. |
| 3 | SPD 307 | Theories of Social Policy & Development | 3 | Analysis in key 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. |
| 4 | SPD 310 | Analysis and Evaluation of Development and Welfare Programmes | 3 | The project cycle and problems in each step; appraisals of social welfare alternatives; monitoring tools; and evaluation of the effectiveness and efficiency of social welfare programs with an emphasis on social and economic analytical methods and assessment. |
| 5 | SPD 312 | Comparative Welfare States | 3 | Cross-national comparisons of differences and similarities among leading welfare regimes including a focus on social expenditures, approaches to welfare provision and management, effectiveness of the welfare states, and social, economic, and political considerations that shape social policies. |

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**Semester/Academic Year**: Semester 2 Year 3

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Course Code** | **Course Title** | **Credits** | **Course Description** |
| 1 | SPD 311 | Globalization & International Development Paradigms | 3 | Historical review of significant mainstream and alternative development paradigms; international social and economic contexts influencing particular development paradigms; empirical evidences of development impact upon quality of life of marginalized groups; and the development theories of contemporary thinkers. |
| 2 | SPD 313 | Socio-Political Economies of Global Communities | 3 | Understanding of social and political aspects of economic dynamics and functioning as influenced by globalized forces. A study of how economies are integrating and disintegrating amidst social and political changes that take place in global communities. |
| 3 | SPD 314 | Welfare Policies & Development in ASEAN | 3 | Comparative studies of the social policy components and administration in ASEAN member countries, covering topics including education, public health, housing, employment, taxation, social capital, civil society, social security, and people’s social or welfare rights as part of national and ASEAN citizenships. |
| 4 | SPD 315 | International Organizations & Human Rights | 3 | International organizations concerning human rights, including intergovernmental bodies and private organizations under the UN system, ASEAN and other regional and international organizations; study of international legal frameworks relating to human rights focusing on international laws and treaties. |
| 5 | SPD 416 | Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation | 3 | A study of social entrepreneurs and valuable tools in creative thinking and solutions in addressing societal problems. Novel thinking will be introduced in understanding how social entrepreneurship can be represented as a force for social change. This course combines both theory and practice related to impact change, social venture and social innovation. |
| 6 | SPD 339 | Part-time internship for exchange students | 3 | This course is for exchange students only. During SPD 339, students will gain professional experience by interning part-time with an organisation pre-approved by the SPD programme. There will be a clear understanding on the duties and responsibilities of the student. Students will produce a final report at the end of the internship as well as keep a daily journal log throughout the internship period. |

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**Semester/Academic Year**: Summer Year 3

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| **No** | **Course Code** | **Course Title** | **Credits** | **Course Description** |
| 1 | TU 399 | Professional Internship | 3 | Over the course of eight weeks, students will gain professional work experience through an internship with an organization approved by the SPD progamme. Students will work under the supervision of the internship supervisors and SPD coordinators. There will be clear stipulation of the internship duties and responsibilities, duration as well as of the appraisal criteria. The focus of the internship will be on learning via application of knowledge and skills gained during the programme to a real professional working environment in preparation for entry into the world of work after graduation. |

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**Semester/Academic Year**: Semester 1 Year 4

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| **No** | **Course Code** | **Course Title** | **Credits** | **Course Description** |
| 1 | SPD 417 | Strategic Communication for Social Changes | 3 | A basic grounding in contemporary mass communication theories and models that lead to effective planning and designing of communication materials used for social and behavior change theories and techniques for strategic change; application of knowledge through applied research project and integration of communication concepts to on-going projects. |
| 2 | SPD 419 | Seminar | 3 | This is a student-led course. The focus of the course will be on the presentation and discussion of the students’ internship experiences in TU 399. Students reflect on, evaluate, and share their internship experiences with their peers and build on their professional experience through readings and active discussions on topics directly related to the missions of their respective organizations. Through SPD 419, students will have the opportunity to enhance presentation, engagement, and communications skills through classroom  leadership. |
| 3 | SPD 440 | Transnational Corporations and Labor Welfare | 3 | This course aims to to familiarise students with the concepts of globalisation, TNCs and labor welfare. Students will be equipped to critically analyse the relationship between TNCs, international law and nation-states. Moreover, this course will facilitate students’ understanding of businesses and their role in the protection and promotion of labor welfare and labor rights. |
| 4 | SPD 444 | Globalization, Child and Family Welfare | 3 | Study of the changing roles and functions of modern families specifically influenced by globalization; strengths and problems in transnational families; and issues challenging the strengths of a family institution, such as marriage tourism, marriage and citizenship acquisition, and custody disputes across borders. Study will also focus on the social welfare appropriate for the needs of children and their families; welfare services available at the local and national levels; social work practice with children and families; issues of child welfare and family services; and roles of social workers in advocating for families and children, particularly those living in a different culture. |
| 5 | SPD 445 | Social Epidemiology, Health Ecology and Health Welfare Systems | 3 | Study of the meanings, concepts and principles of social epidemiology and ecology of health; methods for studying causes of health problems; preventing and intervening with health problems based on fundamental knowledge of human beings, diseases and the environment; the relationship between humans and the environment; and a culture-based arrangement of a healthy environment. Studies will also explore the development of health services in relation to social health work; needs of target groups; health service policies; future trends of health services and related welfare systems; and comparison of health care systems in Thailand with those in ASEAN and beyond. |

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**Program:** Bachelor of Arts in Social Policy and Development (International Program)

**Semester/Academic Year**: Semester 2 Year 4

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Course Code** | **Course Title** | **Credits** | **Course Description** |
| 1 | SPD 418 | Proposal Development and Grant Writing for Social Welfare Projects | 3 | Students will develop project proposal and grant application skills with strong emphasis on solid research and methodology, together with analytical skills, by applying social analysis to social welfare issues and proposing policies and interventions in a real world context. Students will also be exposed to strategies on conceptualising and developing grant proposals. This course encourages an interactive approach, drawing on a mixture of lectures, group workshop activities and interactions with experts and practitioners on real-life projects and case studies. |
| 2 | SPD 441 | Disaster Management and Social Intervention | 3 | Study of major disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, landslides, fire, terrorism, nuclear accidents; the socio-economic impact of disasters on the well-being of people and communities; analysis of hazards and risks; and roles and responsibilities of state and private agencies in responding to disasters and recovery work. Early protection by social welfare measures such as social insurance, disaster education, and financial planning; emergency center management with a focus on welfare provision; and rehabilitation programs for disaster victims and their communities after the incident. |
| 3 | SPD 442 | Crime and Correction Theories | 3 | Meanings, characteristics, and nature of crime; theories of crime and criminology; and principles and guidelines for practice with offenders who commit transnational crimes. Criminal justice management in and after the judicial process with emphasis on cases where offenders or victims are non-Thais, including topics such as prison services, pre-release programs, probation, parole supervision, intensive supervision, periodic detention, and services and rehabilitation for released offenders/victims/survivors. |
| 4 | SPD443 | Introduction to Gerontology | 3 | Overview of gerontology in a bio-psycho-social framework and demographic analysis of ageing by examining; theories of ageing, family and relational networks, gender, and ageism; basic techniques for managing continuity and change with seniors and skills for working with the elderly; professionalism, codes of ethics and legal issues at end-of-life; and analysis and development of policy on ageing. Analysis of current service delivery systems; social policy for the elderly at the local, regional, and national; efficiency and effectiveness of services and service gaps; and preparation for meeting the increasing demands of a rapidly ageing society. |