



Social Welfare (SOCI-2000)

Winter Semester 2018-19, M/W 2.30-3.45 PM // Room C06

Instructor: James Magnus-Johnston (MPhil Economics, Cambridge University)
jmagnus-johnston@cmu.ca // Office Hours: by appointment, in room C254

Summary: This course explores how economic, political, and ethical theories on society and human nature manifest in societal responses to human need and the provision of social services. We will survey the history of social welfare in Canada and the roles of major social welfare institutions.

Objectives: Students will be expected to:

- Understand the history of social welfare institutions in Canada
- Understand the roles of various state and non-state social service providers
- Identify competing and critical theories related to the provision of social welfare
- Outline current problems facing vulnerable social groups and assess potential for change

Deadline for withdrawal without academic penalty: November 13th

Reading List

REQUIRED TEXTS

Blake, Raymond, and Keshen, Jeffrey (2006). *Social Fabric or Patchwork Quilt: The Development of Social Policy in Canada*. Toronto, ON: University of Toronto Press.

Mulvale, James P. (2001). *Reimagining social welfare: beyond the Keynesian welfare state*. Aurora, ON: Garamond Press.

SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS

The following are optional, though excerpts of them may be assigned.

Lewis, Mike, and Conaty, Pat (2012). *The resilience imperative: cooperative transitions to a steady-state economy*. Gabriola, BC: New Society Publishers.

McKenzie, Brad, and Wharf, Brian (2016). *Connecting Policy to Practice in the Human Services (Fourth Edition)*. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Assignments and Grades

Class Participation	10%
Learning Statements	10%
Take-home test (due Feb 13 th)	20%
Annotated bibliography (due Mar 20 th)	10%
Presentation (sign up for your timeslot)	20%
Research Paper (due April 5 th)	30%

Letter	Percentage	GPA	Descriptor
A+	90-100	4.5	Exceptional
A	80-89	4	Excellent
B+	75-79	3.5	Very Good
B	70-74	3	Good
C+	65-69	2.5	Satisfactory
C	60-64	2	Adequate
D	50-59	1	Marginal
F	0-49	0	Failure

Class participation: Your participation grades will be posted at the same time as your mid-term grade; each quarterly grade is worth 5%. You will be graded on both the quality and quantity of interaction – that is, not only the volume of your interaction, but the quality of your contributions. Note also that you will be expected to provide feedback on the presentations of fellow classmates via a web-based form. The quality of your peer reviews will be reflected in your overall participation grade.

Learning statements: Each student is required to provide a learning summary on a class-by-class basis, outlining (a) your knowledge and interest in the topic at the beginning of each class; and (b) any additions to your knowledge of the topic at the end of the class. Short periods of class time will be allocated to ensuring summaries are completed. Please submit your final response via the web form by the end of class.

Annotated bibliography: In preparation for your research paper, your annotated bibliography will give an account of the research that has been undertaken on a given topic. In addition to bibliographic data, an annotated bibliography also provides a concise (2-4 sentence) summary of each source and some assessment of its relevance to your paper. It is therefore important to define the scope of your research (a problem or research question) so that you can make good judgments about what to include. Please include at least 10 sources, and ensure that approximately a third of them are scholarly journals or books.

Research paper (1500 words): Each student is invited to write a 1500-word research paper dealing with a substantive contemporary or historical issue in social welfare. Please ensure that you conduct a thorough appraisal of the issue and invest effort in the structure and quality of your argument. Please use a minimum of eight sources, four of which must come from recognized scholarly journals or books.

Presentation: Time will be designated during each class for you to present on one of the topics covered during the course. You may also choose to make connections to readings, lectures, and material from other courses. Be sure to sign up early for your timeslot. Note that a portion of your grade will be provided by your peers, but that peer reviews are accepted only as recommendations to the instructor. Final grades will be vetted and adjusted by the instructor.

Policies

Handing in: Both e-mail and paper formats will be accepted for written assignments. If you submit by e-mail, watch for a reply from me within 24 hours confirming receipt of your document. If you do not receive my response, please contact me or drop into my office.

Late submissions: Late assignments are subject to a 5% per day penalty, including weekends. Extensions can be provided for extenuating circumstances. Extensions will be given for trips and involvement in sports and music activities *with advance notice*.

Final grades: Grades submitted by instructors are provisional until they have been vetted by the Dean's Council. That process occurs early in January for fall semester grades and early in May for winter semester grades.

Plagiarizing: Cases of plagiarizing are taken seriously and can result in academic penalties and disciplinary action. CMU policies regarding 'academic misconduct' can be found in the Academic Calendar, available at https://www.cmu.ca/uploaded/files/Academic_Calendar_Section_II_Academic_Policies.pdf

Accessibility: CMU strives to provide a fair and supportive learning environment for academically qualified students with unique needs. The Accessibility Services office coordinates with the Academic Office to provide academic accommodations to eligible students. If believe you are eligible for these

Course Schedule

	Topic	Reading
07-Jan	Then and now: perspective on present-day entitlements <i>Late 19th c. approaches and an historical survey of non-state actors in the provision of social welfare</i> <i>How do we measure the adequacy of our welfare system today?</i>	N/A
09-Jan	The worker's compensation movement and "mothers' allowances" <i>Early state welfare programs</i>	Blake & Keshen, Ch. 1-2 referenced: McKenzie & Wharf Ch. 2
14-Jan	Land settlement as unemployment relief <i>How the settlement of Canada solved some problems and created others</i>	Blake & Keshen, Ch. 5
16-Jan	The "Keynesian Welfare State" vs. present day policy-making <i>Rationale for Keynes' welfare state policy and policy-making today</i>	Mulvale, Intro McKenzie & Wharf, Ch. 2
21-Jan	Ideology: Surveying theories of the welfare state <i>Social democratic, marxian, feminist, anti-racist, green approaches</i>	Mulvale, Ch. 1 McKenzie & Wharf, Ch. 1

23-Jan	The Liberal 1960s: childrens' and employment entitlements <i>Early programs geared to social welfare</i>	Blake & Keshen, Ch. 9-10
28-Jan	The welfare state expands north / Policy changes from within <i>Social work in the Arctic and participatory social change</i>	Blake & Keshen, Ch. 11 McKenzie & Wharf, Ch. 6
30-Jan	Colonialism and Indigenous perspectives: CFS and the 60s scoop <i>Facing the realities of colonialism in Canada</i>	Blake & Keshen, Ch. 12 McKenzie & Wharf, Ch. 10
04-Feb	Advocacy: What are the limits of the state? <i>Welfare state and changes during the Mulroney years</i>	Blake & Keshen, Ch. 13 McKenzie & Wharf, Ch. 7
06-Feb	Contemporary issues: privatization and marketization <i>What has led to a so-called "crisis" of the welfare state?</i>	Blake & Keshen, Ch 17-18
11-Feb	Macroeconomic and monetary factors <i>Systemic factors leading to the degradation of the welfare state</i> <i>Note: Test assigned</i>	Reading TBD
13-Feb	From theory to the "real world" <i>Screening of "Life on Victor St.," a film about inner-city poverty</i> <i>Note: Test due</i>	Mulvale, Ch. 1
18th/21st	*** Reading Week ***	
25-Feb	Providing opportunity for the underemployed <i>Integrating the disadvantaged into the labour force</i>	Mulvale, Ch. 2
27-Feb	Reducing work for the overemployed <i>Support for part-timers and the rationale for a shorter work-week in the workforce</i>	Mulvale, Ch. 2
04-Mar	Work, precarity, and quality of life <i>Overcoming alienation in the workforce</i>	Lewis & Conaty, Ch. 10
06-Mar	Defining "economic security" <i>Examining "adequate economic livelihood and material standard of living"</i>	Mulvale, Ch. 3
11-Mar	When income isn't enough <i>Nutrition, housing, safety, and other health-related needs</i> <i>Note: AB assigned</i>	Mulvale, Ch. 3

13-Mar	Critical issues in social welfare <i>Gender, disability, and human rights</i>	Mulvale, Ch. 4 McKenzie & Wharf, Ch. 8
18-Mar	Canadian disability rights and challenges <i>Disabled Canadians still often face an uphill battle to ensure adequate care</i>	Blake & Keshen, Ch. 19
20-Mar	Employment benefits for same-sex couples <i>Balancing human rights for all</i> Note: <i>AB due</i>	Blake & Keshen, Ch. 20
25-Mar	Present-day racism and social welfare: vestiges of past choices <i>Understanding racial issues in social welfare policy</i> <i>Excerpt from "Invisible City" film.</i>	Mulvale, Ch. 4
27-Mar	Medicare and its future <i>We outline "three choices" for the future of Medicare and discuss Charter implications for health reform</i>	Blake & Keshen, Ch. 21-22
01-Apr	Future directions and community approaches to social welfare <i>Community-based service delivery (Presentation: WMSC Inc.)</i>	Mulvale, Ch. 5-6 Blake & Keshen, Ch. 23
05-Apr	Research paper due	