

**Public Affairs (LAF/PubAffr) 888, Spring 2012**  
**Comparative and National Social Policy**

**SYLLABUS, SCHEDULE, AND REQUIRED READING LIST**

**INSTRUCTOR**

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**MEETING TIME and PLACE**

Monday 9:00 a.m. to 10:55 a.m., 6304 Sewell Social Science

**Please note that class will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. You are expected to be in your seat by that time, please comply. Class will end by 10:55 a.m. and there will be a short break in the middle.**

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday 12:00 - 2:00 p.m., **3420 SSSB or by appointment** (due to travel and management schedule)

In any case, check with me in class, and if you use email (usually fastest), copy David as he has my schedule. Or call 890-1317 and speak to David. Do one or the other of these *before* you come up to make sure the calendar is clear and/or I am in town.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to provide an overview of comparative cross-national social policy, the effects of the Great Recession on poverty and inequality, and the American system of public policy toward human resources, i.e., social policy, with added emphasis on other nations' approaches to social welfare policy. The other nations include the rich OECD nations as well as emerging middle income countries (MICs) in Asia and Latin America. We will segment social welfare policy into three major branches: health (less emphasis), education (a bit more emphasis), and welfare (income security policy). The lines among these categories are, however, often blurred. Similarly, "social policy" is delivered and financed by governments, faith-based organizations (FBO's) nonprofit agencies ("NGOs"), employers, and even the family itself. Spending on "HEW" comprises more than 70 percent of total government spending in the United States and an even higher fraction in other rich nations. The amounts are lower but sometimes with greater effect in the MICs. Thus, the topic is fiscally important. There will be some emphasis on cross-national policy analysis and the course will be 'foreign student friendly' in that each student can choose her or his own topic for the sequential paper.

What is emphasized in this course and curriculum includes “problem” or needs analysis, policy analysis, program development; and implementation (to some degree), and program evaluation. Disciplines of economics, sociology, demography, history, political science, evaluation, psychology, law, management, and education all have important contributions to make to the realm of social policy, and to this class. The goal of the course is therefore to give the student an appreciation of the breadth and depth of “social policy” and the way that public policy analysts and administrators design, analyze, and evaluate it.

This course is composed of a series of short lectures and longer class discussions about the various elements of social policy, which can be addressed with some degree of analytic objectivity. Thus, poverty, inequality and income maintenance, welfare reform, health care policy, education policy, income distribution, and urban problems are all part of the types of social problems which we will address.

There will be two short assignments to be handed in; one group project—a presentation for each team of two or three persons in the class; and one longer sequential paper in three parts: problem analysis, possible solutions, and pulling it all together.

There will be a good chance to express yourself both in writing and speaking in this course. Following the comments of previous classes, the required reading material has been condensed to shorter articles and class discussion time has been expanded. There will be two reading lists on line at “Learn@UW”: one encompassing what is required reading which is mainly short articles. The other is a longer research reading list, available only online, and covering a much wider swath of research on a given topic. The research reading list ought to help you develop a sequential paper topic or prepare for a class presentation. ***Class lectures will not repeat the readings, rather they will briefly summarize and clarify them. Each outline will include a set of questions for student presentations, class discussion, or a class exercise.*** On average, we hope to have about 1/2 of each class for lecture and the rest for discussion of social problems as well as potential policy solutions to these problems.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS, AND GRADES**

Grades will be based on two brief reaction papers to class readings or handouts; a sequential (3-part) policy analysis paper, and group presentation/class participation. There is no final examination.

Points (of 100 possible)

- 30     **Two short assignments** @ 15 points each (3 page reaction papers), see descriptive handout for assignment for more; due as specified on the class schedule.
- 60     **Sequential Paper:** describe and critically analyze a specific social program, policy alternatives, and the pros and cons of each alternative. This paper will be due in 3 parts. Each section will be graded on 1) quality and thoroughness of analysis; 2) incorporation of research from academic and other sources; and 3) clarity and organization of presentation; timely completion of each part of the exercise. At each stage you will be able to revise the previous edition of the paper if you also hand in the graded original. See descriptive handout on the sequential paper for more. **The final draft of this paper is due on Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> or earlier; no exceptions - no incompletes.**
- 10     **Quality of group presentations and of individual classroom participation, assessed all semester and dependent also on showing up for class.**

Final letter grades will conform to graduate/professional school standards, regarding your grasp of material and competence in analyzing policy issues. These range from A (excellent, superior), AB (very

good), B (average), BC (barely adequate), C (inadequate). The usual pattern of final grades for this class are about 1/2 A or AB, about 1/2 B, a few stray BC's, and an occasional C. In grading "parlance", I am a "hard" A, *and* a "hard" C. But yes, I will fail people with C's if their work is bad and they don't make a good effort

### **Masters in International Relations and International Students**

While most of the examples of policies in the class are drawn from U.S. experiences, the policy issues we address; e.g., child poverty, population aging, immigration, education and health care cost, quality, and access are multinational in scope. I will therefore add examples and we will read articles from the cross-national literature, and will encourage you to write your sequential policy analysis paper on a social policy topic of interest to you as it applies to your national situation or cross-national situation and interests. In other words, this course is "international student friendly and designed to be for MIR students as well as MPP students.

### **Doctoral Students**

While the class is mainly aimed at professional students, doctoral students are welcome. They should meet separately with me at the beginning of the semester to discuss their course and research objectives. In some cases the sequential paper will become a research paper suitable for journal submission if the student is so inclined. As you will see and hear, many PhD student papers and a few masters' papers were good enough to be published shortly after class ended.

### **Academic Integrity**

This course strictly adheres to the University of Wisconsin Honor System. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism or cheating on papers or assignments will be reported to the appropriate school and university authorities. I expect students to abide by the academic rules and regulations established by the University. These require students to "exhibit honesty in all academic endeavors. Cheating in any form is not tolerated, nor is assisting another person to cheat. The submission of any work by a student is taken as a guarantee that the thoughts and expressions in it are the student's own except when properly credited to another. Violations of this principle include giving or receiving aid where otherwise prohibited, fraud, plagiarism, or any other deceptive act in connection with academic work. Plagiarism is the representation of another's words, ideas, programs, formulae, opinions, or other products of work as one's own, either overtly or by failing to attribute them to their true source.

I take this extremely seriously. It is your responsibility as a student to understand what plagiarism is and how to correctly reference documents and attribute other peoples' arguments that you are citing. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, or how to make references in papers, see <http://www.uwstout.edu/stusrv/dean/facstaff/dishonesty.shtml>.

### **READING MATERIALS:**

There is no assigned textbook for this class.

1. Everything is online at Learn@UW.
2. In past years lecture outlines and newspaper clippings were provided, as were as copies of initial readings for the first and second class lectures, and later some readings were distributed online as they were published. This year I am going to use PowerPoint!! and expect that most everything will be online for you and not in hard print.

3. The required reading list follows. The longer reference reading list including research articles on given topics will be on Learn@UW where this list is also found.

## **LEARN@UW**

All of the required “online” readings and a majority of the reference readings will be available on the Learn@UW class site. If you are having trouble accessing the course information on Learn@UW, please contact David Chancellor or Professor Smeeding.

On this page, you will find each class PowerPoint *You will also find all of the required readings that you can directly click and download; also most reference readings can be found online.* There is a large set of *user-friendly and helpful websites* where you can find up-to-date information on social policy related statistics and reports that might be useful. These sources often prove valuable for your sequential paper background research.

*If there is a problem with a link, please notify David [Chancellor](mailto:dchancel@ssc.wisc.edu) (dchancel@ssc.wisc.edu), or myself as soon as you have difficulty.* From time to time during the year, I will use Learn@UW to add to readings or to give new addresses for readings and you will be notified by email about these readings

## **CLASS LISTSERVE**

The listserv address [LAF888@ssc.wisc.edu](mailto:LAF888@ssc.wisc.edu) will be used to send out class notices and updates. *If you do not get a message from me before the second class please see or email David Chancellor and give him your preferred email address! I rely on the Internet for class messages, notes, comments on assignments, new readings of interest for the course, etc. Hence, everyone should have access to the Net and regularly read their e-mail to fully participate in the class.*

<b>Pub Affairs (LAF) 974-1 KEY DATES AND BASIC SCHEDULE Spring 2011</b>			
<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Lecture/Topic</b>	<b>Comments and Exercise (due date)</b>
1	1/24	Introduction and Overview	Show up, having read a bit
2	1/31	Role of Government in Social Policy: Approaches, Values, and Institutions	Get the “Big Picture” day on Values and Ideology
3	2/7	Doing Policy Analysis( Program Evaluation and Implementation) in Social Policy: Tools for You to Use; Evidence and Analytic Methods and for Social Programs	Sequential paper topic (one paragraph outline and barebones bibliography) due. <b>Outline returned with comments on 2/14</b>
4	2/14	Financing Income Security: The Poor, the Old, the Children, the Cost and the Deficit.	The ‘stuff’ begins, dollars first, <b>Short Assignment #1 distributed</b>
5	2/21	Social Policy Context: Family Change and Family Policy. //	<b>Short Assignment #1 due</b>
6, 7	2/28 and 3/6	Social Policy Context: Poverty, Inequality, Immobility, and Economic Polarization. //	The changing and mostly unequal socioeconomic world <b>Sequential Paper Part I: Problem Analysis due on 3/6</b>
8	3/13	Human Capital Investment: Schooling, Job Training, and so on. //	One piece of puzzle; and preferred policy vehicle for enhanced social mobility?
9 and 10	3/20 and 3/27	Health and Health Care Systems: Focus on Families and Children.	<b>Short Assignment #2 distributed on 3/20</b>
11	10	National Health Care System Reformed: What is New and What is left to be Done? //	<b>Short Assignment # 2 due</b>
12	4/17	Urban Social Policy: Neighborhoods, Housing, Jobs, Young Men, and Crime—The ‘Low Market Income’ Problem. //	
13	4/24	Income Transfers and Earnings —The ‘Low Income’ Poverty <i>and</i> Welfare Solution? //	<b>Sequential paper part II: solution analysis due</b>
14	5/1	Aging: Social Security, Risk Shifting. //	
15	5/9	Medicare, Long Term Care and Disability. //	Last Class
<b>Monday 5/14</b>		<b>Final Draft of Sequential Paper due in 3420 SSSB 3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Sequential paper part III: Final Draft due</b>
// = group presentation possibilities. See sign-up sheet passed out during first class.			

### **COURSE OUTLINE AND REQUIRED READING LIST:**

**All of the articles here are required. These can be obtained from the class page on Learn@UW. The first 4 weeks of the required reading list will be distributed during the first class and are below. The rest will be emailed with the complete syllabus for weeks 5–15 once I know more about your cross-national interests.**

In addition to the required readings, there are many reference readings available as well. And so all other papers or books listed on the website are ‘optional.’ Most but are available on Learn@UW. Those that are not can be checked out from my office shelves for up to 48 hours (recorded by David Chancellor), although most would likely be available through the library as well. These readings may help you further understand a particular issue or better develop a sequential paper topic on a particular issue. If a reading you borrow from me is not accounted for, you will not receive a final grade in the course

Those preparing class presentations will be given a particular set of material for those presentations. The readings under the heading “**some general policy approaches/suggestions**” are especially useful for policy solution presentations as are some readings on the reference list Please be sure to read the assigned material **before** class. One objective of the course is **informed** discussion of social issues. One becomes informed by reading the assigned articles, then listening to the lecture, and then participating in the discussion and exercises.

### Week 1

**Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>: Introduction and Overview ( Emailed readings to all on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> on 20 January to be Read Before Class). All are available on the class’s Learn@UW page.**

Blank, Rebecca. 1992. “Social Scientists and the Problem of Poverty.” *Chronicle of Higher Education*, August 5, 1992.

Cancian, Maria, and Sheldon Danziger. 2009. Introduction to *Changing Poverty and Changing Policies* (Russell Sage Press, NY), short version, pp 1-6. Available at <http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc262a.pdf>.

Blum, Barbara. 2010. “Obama’s Quiet War to Fight Poverty.” MDRC. December 1. Available at [http://www.spotlightonpoverty.org/users/spotlight\\_on\\_poverty/documents/Blum\\_Spotlight\\_12012010.pdf](http://www.spotlightonpoverty.org/users/spotlight_on_poverty/documents/Blum_Spotlight_12012010.pdf)

Halstead, T. 2003. “The American Paradox.” *Atlantic Monthly* (January/February):123–125. Available at <http://www.theatlantic.com/past/docs/issues/2003/01/halstead.htm>.

Blow, Charles M. 2011. “Inconvenient Income Inequality.” *New York Times*, December 16, 2011 at [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/17/opinion/blow-inconvenient-income-inequality.html?\\_r=1&ref=charlesmblow](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/17/opinion/blow-inconvenient-income-inequality.html?_r=1&ref=charlesmblow)

Leonhardt, David. 2011. “Lessons from the Malaise.” *New York Times*, July 26, 2011. At <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/27/business/economy/lessons-from-the-us-economys-malaise.html?scp=1&sq=%E2%80%9CLessons%20from%20the%20Malaise.%E2%80%9D&st=cse> ( his last column as editor of the Economic Scene in the NYT)

Brooks, David. 2011. “The Achievement Test.” *New York Times*. January 3. Available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/04/opinion/04brooks.html> .

Trumbull, Mark. 2010. “Eight ways the Great Recession has Changed America.” *Christian Science Monitor*. June 30. Available at <http://www.csmonitor.com/Business/2010/0630/Eight-ways-the-Great-Recession-has-changed-Americans> .

- Peck, Don. 2010. "How A Jobless Era will Transform America." *The Atlantic*, March. Available at [http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2010/03/how-a-new-jobless-era-will-transform-america/7919.\(skim\)](http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2010/03/how-a-new-jobless-era-will-transform-america/7919.(skim))
- Leonhardt, David. 2010. "What Else Would \$60 Billion Buy?" *New York Times*. December 4. Available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/12/05/weekinreview/05numbers.html> .
- Grier, Peter. 2005. "Social Security's Battle over Values." *Christian Science Monitor*. January 12. Available at <http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0112/p01s03-uspo.html> .
- Sawhill, Isabelle V. 2002. "Is Lack of Marriage the Real Problem?" *American Prospect* 13(7): April. Available at <http://prospect.org/article/lack-marriage-real-problem>
- Norquist, Grover. 2004. "How Alternatives to the Welfare State Evolve." *The American Enterprise*. April/May.
- Kelly, Brendan, and David Fein. 2009. "Innovative Strategies for Increasing Self-Sufficiency (ISIS) Project: Stakeholder Views from Early Research." ISIS Project, Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**For students to do:**

Go to website and figure out YOUR Social Class

[http://www.nytimes.com/packages/html/national/20050515\\_CLASS\\_GRAPHIC/index\\_01.html?adxnnl=1&adxnnlx=1182872281-8NLzSk77sAGnsljA2SOAIA](http://www.nytimes.com/packages/html/national/20050515_CLASS_GRAPHIC/index_01.html?adxnnl=1&adxnnlx=1182872281-8NLzSk77sAGnsljA2SOAIA)

**Week 2**

**January 31<sup>st</sup>: Role of Government in Social Policy: Approaches, Values, Non-Profits, and Privatization**

- Levin, Yuval. 2011. "Beyond the Welfare State." *National Affairs* 7, Spring.
- Ellwood, D. 1989. "The Origins of 'Dependency': Choices, Confidence or Culture?" *IRP-Focus* 12(1): 6-13.
- Besharov, D. and M. Lopez. 1997. "Good Parents not Money." *Public Interest* Fall: 112-115.
- Starobin, P. 1998. "The Daddy State." *National Journal* (March 28): 678-683.
- Brooks, David. 2010. "The Geezer's Crusade" *New York Times*. Feb 2.
- Reinhardt, Uwe E. 2011. "Bristol Palin and How Society Establishes Value." *New York Times*. July 8, 2011
- Brooks, D. 2005. "The Virtues of Virtue." *New York Times*. August 7.  
—and in response—
- Hage, D. 2005. "Moral Revival? Not with Both Eyes Open." *Minneapolis Star Tribune*. August 10.
- Brooks, D. 2009. "The Values Question." *New York Times*. November 24.
- Belluck, Pam. 2010. "For Forgetful, Cash Helps the Medicine Go Down." *New York Times*. June 13.
- Jauhar, Sandeep. 2010. "No Matter What, We Pay for Others' Bad Habits." *New York Times*. March 29.

Rampell, Catherine. 2011. "Keep your Government Hands off My Government Programs!" *New York Times*.  
February 11.

### **Week 3**

#### **Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>: Doing Policy Analysis (Program Evaluation and Implementation) in Social Policy: Tools for You to Use; and Evidentiary Analytic Methods for Social Programs.**

*Due: Sequential paper topical outline—one paragraph on topic and why you want to explore it and a barebones bibliography—due via email to Professor Smeeding at 3pm (see "Sequential Paper" handout for more).*

Weimer, D. L., and A. R. Vining. 2009. "Chapter 14: Landing on Your Feet." for *Policy Analysis: Concepts and Practice*. 5th edition. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Weimer, D. L., and A. R. Vining. 1992. "What is Policy Analysis?" (Chapter 1, pp.1-13) In *Policy Analysis: Concepts and Practice*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Galster, G. 1996. "The Challenges for Policy Research in a Changing Environment." *The Future of the Public Sector Series*, No.7. Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

Kling, Jeffrey. 2011. "CBO's Use of Evidence in Analysis of Budget and Economic Policies." Presentation at the Annual Fall Research Conference of APPAM. Washington, D.C., November 3.

Ludwig, Jens, Jeffrey R. Kling, and Sendhil Mullainathan. 2011. "Mechanism Experiments and Policy Evaluations." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 25(3): 17–38.

Haskins, Ron, Christina Paxson, and Jeanne Brooks-Gunn. 2009. "Social Science Rising: A Tale of Evidence Shaping Policy." Policy Brief, *Future of Children*. Fall. Available at [http://futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/publications/docs/19\\_02\\_PolicyBrief.pdf](http://futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/publications/docs/19_02_PolicyBrief.pdf).

Bloom, Howard. 2010. "Nine Lessons about doing Evaluation Research." Downloaded January 10, 2011, from <http://www.mdrc.org/publications/575/presentation.html>.

Goldin, Rebecca. 2009. "Spinning Heads and Spinning News: How a Lack of Statistical Proficiency Affects Media Coverage." *Proceedings of the American Statistical Association*. October 8.

Moore, K. A., B. V. Brown, and H. J. Scarupa. 2003. "The Uses (and Misuses) of Social Indicators: Implications for Public Policy." *Child Trends Research Brief*. 2003-01. Available at <http://www.childtrends.org/files/SocialIndicatorsRB.pdf>.

### **Week 4**

#### **Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>: Financing Income Security: The Poor, the Old, the Children, and especially the Cost and the Deficit. (Short Assignment #1 distributed)**

##### ***Basics and overview:***

Rivlin, Alice M. 2011. "After the Lost Budget Opportunities of 2011: What Next?" *Up Front Blog*. Brookings Institution. Posted December 27, 2011.

Minarik, Joseph J. 2012. "Courting an Avoidable Financial Crisis." *Econ Journal Watch* 9(1, January): 60–70.

- Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget. 2010. "Ten Themes Emerging from the New Debt Reduction Plans." November 23. Available at [http://crfb.org/sites/default/files/Ten\\_Themes\\_in\\_New\\_Debt\\_Plans.pdf](http://crfb.org/sites/default/files/Ten_Themes_in_New_Debt_Plans.pdf)
- Bilheimer, Linda T. 2012. "Implications of Rising Health Care Costs." Congressional Budget Office: Presentation to the Heritage Foundation. January 13.
- Burtless, Gary. 2010. "Crisis No More: The Success of Obama's Stimulus Program." *Pathways*. Summer. Available at [http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/articles/2010/0817\\_stimulus\\_success\\_burtless/0817\\_stimulus\\_success\\_burtless.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/articles/2010/0817_stimulus_success_burtless/0817_stimulus_success_burtless.pdf).
- Richard Burkhauser, Robert Moffitt, and John Karl Scholz. 2011. "Transfers and taxes and the low-income population: Policy and research trends." *Focus* 27:2. Available at <http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc272d.pdf>
- Sawhill, Isabel. 2010. "Why Deficit Reduction is Necessary and Need Not Hurt the Poor." *Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity*. October 18. Available at [http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1018\\_deficit\\_reduction\\_sawhill.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1018_deficit_reduction_sawhill.aspx)
- Haskins, Ron. 2010. "Means Tested Programs Should Bear Part of the Deficit Burden." *Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity*. November. Available at [http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1115\\_means\\_tested\\_programs\\_haskins.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1115_means_tested_programs_haskins.aspx)
- Rivlin, A. M. 2002. "Another State Fiscal Crisis: Is There a Better Way?" Policy Brief No. 23 (December). Washington, DC. Available at <http://www.brookings.edu/es/wrb/publications/pb/pb23.htm>.
- Wildavsky, B. 1998. "Where Social Programs Go to Hide." *National Journal* (February 7): 294.
- Ravallion, M. 2009. "Do Poorer Countries Have Less Capacity for Redistribution? IPC One Pager #97.

***In the weeds (read if you want to get into budget details)***

Palmer, John L., and Rudolph G. Penner. 2011. "Controlling the Deficit: The Debate Continues." Urban Institute Report, December.

Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget. 2010. "CBO's Long Term Budget Outlook" [http://crfb.org/sites/default/files/CBO\\_Long\\_Term\\_Budget\\_Outlook.pdf](http://crfb.org/sites/default/files/CBO_Long_Term_Budget_Outlook.pdf) (will add 2011 when available end of January)

Social Security and Medicare Boards of Trustees. 2011. "Status of the Social Security and Medicare Programs: A Summary of the 2011 Annual Reports." (Including a message from the Public Trustees): 1-17. <http://www.ssa.gov/oact/trsum/index.html>

**Week 5**

**Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>: Social Policy Context: Family Change and Family Policy (Short Assignment #1 due at beginning of class)**

Frey, William H., Alan Berube, Audrey Singer, and Jill Wilson. 2011. "Five Things the Census Revealed about America in 2011." Brooks State of Metropolitan America brief 48,

- Cancian, Maria, and Deborah Reed. “[Family Structure, Childbearing, and Parental Employment: Implications for the Level and Trend in Poverty.](#)” *Focus* 26(2). Available at <http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc262d.pdf>.
- U.N. Division for Social Policy and Development Programme on the Family. 2003-04. “Major Trends Affecting Families: A Background Document, Introduction.” (<http://www0.un.org/esa/socdev/family/Publications/mtintro.pdf> (SKIM only))
- Smeeding, Timothy M., et al. 2011. “Introduction to Young Disadvantaged Men: Fathers, Families, Poverty, and Policy.” *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 635-1. May. [also in week 12]
- Cherlin, Andrew J. 2010. “Demographic Trends in the United States: A Review of Research in the 2000s.” *Journal of Marriage and Family* 72: 1–17.
- McLanahan, Sara, et al. 2010. “Strengthening Fragile Families.” *The Future of Children*. Available at [http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2010/1027\\_fragile\\_families\\_foc/1027\\_fragile\\_families\\_foc\\_policy\\_brief.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2010/1027_fragile_families_foc/1027_fragile_families_foc_policy_brief.pdf).
- Folbre, Nancy. 2010. “The Spousal Safety Net.” *New York Times*. October 12. Available at <http://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/10/12/the-spousal-safety-net/?pagemode=print>.
- Thomas, Adam, and Emily Monea. 2011. “The High Cost of Unintended Pregnancy.” *CCF Brief #45*, Center on Children and Families at Brookings. July.
- Transition to Adulthood – Executive Summary.” *Future of Children* 20(1). Spring 2010. Available at [http://futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/publications/docs/20\\_01\\_ExecSumm.pdf](http://futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/publications/docs/20_01_ExecSumm.pdf)
- Fragile Families: *Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study Fact Sheet*, accessed at: <http://www.fragilefamilies.princeton.edu/documents/FragileFamiliesandChildWellbeingStudyFactSheet.pdf>.”
- Bogenschneider, K. and T. Corbett. 2010. “Family Policy Becoming a Field of Inquiry and Subfield of Social Policy.” University of Wisconsin-Madison, IRP, January.
- Congressional Budget Office. December 2010. *Immigration Policy in the United States: An Update*. [http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/119xx/doc11959/12-03-Immigration\\_Chartbook.pdf](http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/119xx/doc11959/12-03-Immigration_Chartbook.pdf)
- Some General policy approaches /suggestions***
- Cancian, Maria, Daniel R. Meyer, and Deborah Reed. 2010. “Promising Antipoverty Strategies for Families.” *Fast Focus* 6. University of Wisconsin–Madison, Institute for Research on Poverty.
- Smeeding, T. M., and Marcia J. Carlson. 2011. “Family Change, Public Response: Social Policy in an Era of Complex Families,” in M. Carlson and P. England, eds. *Social Class and Changing Families in an Unequal America*. Stanford University Press.
- Waldfogel, J. “The Role of Family Policies in Antipoverty Policy.” *Focus* 26(2). University of Wisconsin–Madison, Institute for Research on Poverty. Available at <http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc262i.pdf>.

Haskins, Ron, Jane Waldfogel, and Sara McLanahan. Fall 2011. "Work-Family Conflict: Look to Employers and Communities for Solutions." *The Future of Children*, Policy Brief.

Cecchini, S. 2009. "Do CCT Programs Work in Low Income Countries?" IPC One Pager #90. July. (Much More on CCT's later on!)

Moore, Kristin Anderson. 2010. "What if We Took Research Seriously: What Would Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs Look Like?" Presentation at Healthy Teen Network Annual Conference. October 29.

### **Weeks 6 and 7**

**February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 6<sup>th</sup> Social Policy Context: Poverty, Inequality, Immobility, and Economic Polarization. (Sequential Paper Part I: "Problem" analysis due at the beginning of class on March 6<sup>th</sup>)**

### **Poverty Issues**

Haveman, Robert. 1995. "What Economists Can and Cannot Do for Journalists." *FACS News Backgrounder*. Los Angeles, CA: Foundation for American Communication.

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### **Week 8**

#### **March 13<sup>th</sup>: Human Capital Investment: Schooling, Job Training, and So On.**

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Jacob, Brian, and Jens Ludwig. 2009. "[Improving Educational Outcomes for Poor Children](#)." *Focus* 26(2). Available at <http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc262j.pdf>.

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### **Weeks 9 and 10**

#### **March 21<sup>th</sup> and March 27<sup>th</sup>: Health and the Health Care System: Focus on Families and Children (Short Assignment #2 distributed on March 27<sup>th</sup>)**

Magnuson, Katherine, and Elizabeth Votruba-Drzal. 2009. "[Enduring Influences of Childhood Poverty](http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc262f.pdf)." *Focus* 26(2) Fall. Available at <http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc262f.pdf>

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Wolfe, B. 2009. "Reducing Disparities by Targeting Women and Children." *Pathways*, Winter: 24–27.

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**(No Class April 3 –Spring Break)**

**Week 11**

**April 10<sup>th</sup>: National Health Care System Reformed?**

**(Short Assignment #2 due)**

Gawande, Atul. "The Hot Spotters: Can we lower medical costs by giving the neediest patients better care?" *New Yorker*, January 24.

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Hartzband, P. and J. Groopman. 2009. "Money and the Changing Culture of Medicine." *New England Journal of Medicine* 360(2) January 8: 101-103.

Leonhardt, David. 2011. "Wishful Thinking on Health Costs." *New York Times*. January 13.

Fuchs and Milstein: Why does cost-effective care diffuse so slowly

Buettgens, Dorn, and Carroll: Savings and Costs

***Some general policy approaches /suggestions other than or in addition to the ACA***

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Iglehardt, John. 2007. "Insuring All Children - The New Political Imperative." *NEJM* 357(1), July 5: 69-76.

Chandra, Amitabh, and Jonathan Skinner. 2011. "Technology Growth and Expenditure Growth in Health Care." NBER Working Paper 16953. Available at <http://www.nber.org/papers/w16953>.

**Week 12**

**April 17<sup>th</sup>: Urban Social Policy: Neighborhoods, Housing, Jobs, Young Men and Crime**

Blank, Rebecca. 2009. "Economic Change and the Structure of Opportunity for Less-skilled Workers." *Focus* 26(2). Fall. Available at <http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/focus/pdfs/foc262c.pdf>.

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Haveman, R., C. Heinrich, and T. M. Smeeding. 2011. "Jobs, skills, and policy for lower-wage workers." *Fast Focus* 10. UW-Madison, Institute for Research on Poverty, June. Available at <http://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/fastfocus/pdfs/FF10-2011.pdf>

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**Week 13****April 24<sup>th</sup>: Employment, Income Transfers, and Earnings – The ‘Low Income’ Poverty and Welfare Solution?****(Sequential Paper Part II: solution analysis due)**

Cauthen, N. K. 2006. “When Work Doesn’t Pay: What Every Policymaker Should Know.” National Center for Children in Policy. Columbia University. Available at [http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text\\_666.pdf](http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_666.pdf).

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James A. Riccio. 2010. “Early findings from New York City’s conditional cash transfer program.” *Fast Focus* 5-2010.

Pear, Robert. 2010. “In a Tough Economy, Old Limits on Welfare.” *New York Times*. April 10.

Pear, R. 2003. “Welfare Spending Shows Huge Shift from Checks to Services.” *New York Times*. October 13. <http://dpaweb.hss.state.ak.us/node/view/222>

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. 2011. “TANF at 15: A Weak Safety Net Getting Weaker.”

Mulligan, Casey B. 2012. “Testing for Need.” *New York Times*, January 18.

***Some policy approaches/suggestions***

Rosenberg, Tina. 2011. “To Beat Back Poverty, Pay the Poor.” *New York Times*. January 3.

Berlin, G. 2009. “Transforming the EITC to Reduce Poverty and Inequality.” *Pathways*. November, 28-32.

“The Next Generation of Antipoverty Policies.” 2007. Executive Summary. *The Future of Children* 17(2), Fall.

Tesliuc, Emil D., et al. 2009. “Social Assistance Schemes Across the World: Eligibility Conditions and Benefits.” World Bank. November 4, 2009.

Haskins, Ron. 2007. “Fighting Poverty through Work Incentives and Work Mandates for Young Men.” *The Future of Children*, Policy Brief, Fall.

Holt, S. and E. Maag. 2009. “Considerations in Efforts to Restructure Refundable Work-Based Credits.” Georgetown Center on Poverty, Inequality, and Public Policy. September.

Pavetti, LaDonna, Liz Schott, Elizabeth Lower-Basch. 2011. “Creating Subsidized Employment Opportunities for Low-Income Parents: The Legacy of the TANF Emergency Fund.” Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, February 16.

Chan, Pamela. 2011. “Beyond Barriers: Designing Attractive Savings Accounts for Lower-Income Consumers.” New America Foundation Asset Building Program Working Paper. November. Available at [http://www.ncdsv.org/images/NewAmerFndn\\_BeyondBarriersDesigningAttractiveSavingsAcctsLowerIncomeConsumers\\_11-11.pdf](http://www.ncdsv.org/images/NewAmerFndn_BeyondBarriersDesigningAttractiveSavingsAcctsLowerIncomeConsumers_11-11.pdf)

**Week 14****May 1<sup>st</sup>: Aging: Social Security and Risk Shifting of Security in Old Age**

CBO's Long Term Social Security Projections --infographic  
<http://www.cbo.gov/doc.cfm?index=12376&zzz=41984>

EBRI. 2009. "The Basics of Social Security." Fact Sheet (May). Washington, DC: Employee Benefit Research Institute. <http://www.ebri.org/pdf/publications/facts/0709fact-social-security.pdf>.

Munnell, Alicia H. 2010. "Social Security's Financial Outlook: The 2010 Update in Perspective." Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. September 2010, No. 10-15.

Munnell, A., Geoffrey Sanzenbacher, and Steven A. Sass. 2009. "Can the Bottom Third Work Longer?" *CRR Issue Brief* 9-1. Boston College, January.

Steuerle, E., and M. M. Favreault. 2002. "Social Security for Yesterday's Family?" *The Retirement Project* No. 35 (November). Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

***Some Social Security policy approaches /suggestions***

Herd, P., T. Smeeding, and M. H. Meyer. 2009. "A Targeted Minimum Benefit Plan (MBP) for OASI: A New Proposal to Reduce Poverty among the Elderly." IRP; available also on US Senate Aging committee website at <http://aging.senate.gov/ss/uwisconsin.pdf>.

Herd, P. 2005 "Reforming a Breadwinner Welfare State: Gender, Race, Class, and Social Security Reform." *Social Forces*, June 2005, 83(4): 1365–1394.

Biggs, Andrew G. 2010. "The Case for Raising Social Security's Early Retirement Age." American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. No. 3. October.

**Week 15****May 9<sup>th</sup>: Long Term Care, and Disability (and Medicare in the United States) (Last class!)**

Kaiser Commission Reports. 2010. "Medicare at a Glance." Washington, DC: Kaiser Family Foundation (September). <http://www.kff.org/medicare/upload/1066-13.pdf>.

Leonhardt, David. 2010. "Proving Innovation in Medicare." *New York Times*. October 19.

AARP, PPI. 2000. "Long-Term Care." (May): 1-4. Washington, DC: American Association of Retired Persons. ([http://research.aarp.org/health/fs27r\\_care.html](http://research.aarp.org/health/fs27r_care.html)).

Folbre, Nancy. 2009. "Who's Taking Care of Your Mother?" *New York Times*, December 14.

Autor, David H., and Mark Duggan. 2010. "Supporting Work: A Proposal For Modernizing the U.S. Disability Insurance System." The Hamilton Project. December 2010.

**Policy options: Disability and Medicare**

Kaiser Family Foundation 2010 Comparison of Medicare Provisions in Deficit-Reduction Proposals  
<http://www.kff.org/medicare/upload/8124.pdf>

Span, Paula. 2010. "Options Expand for Affordable Long Term Care." *New York Times*. March 29.

Reinhardt, Uwe E. 2011. "The Wyden-Ryan Plan: Déjà Vu All Over Again." *New York Times*, December 23.

**FINAL DEADLINE**

**Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>: Sequential Paper Part III, Final Paper due 3:00 p.m., 3420 SSSB**