

SWK371 Social Policy and Planning

Level: 3

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JAN

Synopsis:

This course provides an overview of the different models of social policy in practice across the world and the social theories that underpin these policy frameworks. With an understanding of Singapore's historical, cultural, economic, political and social contexts, the social policy model practiced in Singapore will be compared with models practiced in other countries. The course looks at the role of the state and the role of citizens in shaping social policies. The course will also take students through the policy-planning processes in Singapore and discuss the value of, as well as barriers to, achieving evidence-based policy. The aim is to enable students to think critically about the strengths and limitations of different social policy models, with a focus on comparing Singapore's social policies with examples drawn from other countries.

Topics:

- Social problems and social policy.
- State, governance and welfare provision.
- Models of social policy.
- Global change and social issues.
- Social policy evaluation.
- Evidence-based policy
- Social policy issues in Singapore.
- Comparative social policy.
- Policy design – stages and cycles.
- Policy stakeholders in Singapore.
- Contemporary social issues in Singapore.
- Global trends and emerging social issues in Singapore.

Textbooks:

Gilbert, N. & Terrell, P.: Dimensions of Social Welfare Policy (2014) <eBook> Pearson
ISBN-13: 9781292053219

Learning Outcome:

- Explain the role of the state in social policy.
- Appraise the different models of social policy.
- Discuss the different approaches and challenges to achieving “evidence-based” policies.
- Examine the roles of key policy stakeholders in Singapore.
- Explain the different stages and cycles of policy work in Singapore
- Assess policy responses to key contemporary social issues in Singapore.
- Plan and prepare a policy proposal.

Assessment Strategies (Daytime Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	PRE-COURSE QUIZ 1	5
	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	30
	GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT 1	15
Overall Examinable Components	Written Exam	50
Total		100