

Montgomery County Community College  
 HSW/SOC 105  
 Social Policy and Ethics in Human Services  
 3-3-0

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course examines the relationship of social policy, ethics, and the human services field. Students will address ethical dilemmas, particularly as they relate to current and needed social policies on local, state, and national levels. A basic understanding of social welfare theories will assist the student in evaluating, assessing, and advocating for change in both a micro / macro perspective. The Ethical Standards of Human Service Professionals (National Organization for Human Services) will serve as a backbone for students to use in decision-making, assessment of clients and client groups, and promotion of change in a diverse setting.

**REQUISITES:**

*Previous Course Requirements*

None

*Concurrent Course Requirements*

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Utilize the Ethical Standards of Human Service Professionals for decision-making processes in the field of human services.	Assigned Readings AV/Multimedia Materials Case Study Based Discussion Lecture/Discussion Policy Analysis Research Project	Required Component Needed for Portfolio-Building - Policy Analysis Research Project Presentations Written Examinations Case Study Essays/ Quizzes Web-based Research
2. Formulate and analyze opinions about social problems, and how social policy affects these problems in local, state, and national settings.	Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings Case Study Based Discussion Policy Analysis Research Project	Case Study Essays/ Quizzes Web-based Research Required Component Needed for Portfolio-Building - Policy Analysis Research Project Presentations

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
3. Evaluate theories of social policy, and how ethical reasoning is integrated into the process of developing and/or changing social policies.	Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings Case Study Based Discussion Policy Analysis Research Project Discussion	Written Examinations Case Study Essays/ Quizzes Web-based Research Required Component Needed for Portfolio-Building - Policy Analysis Research Project Presentations
4. Evaluate specific areas of need in the field of human services using the scientific method, and how to ethically advocate and promote change for the betterment of society	AV/Multimedia Materials Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings Case Study Based Discussion Policy Analysis Research Project Discussion	Web-based Research Case Study Essays/ Quizzes Required Component Needed for Portfolio-Building - Policy Analysis Research Project Presentations
5. Assess the impact on multicultural and diversity issues in formulating and implementing social policies in the United States.	AV/Multimedia Materials Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings Case Study Based Discussion Policy Analysis Research Project Discussion	Web-based Research Case Study Essays/ Quizzes Required Component Needed for Portfolio-Building - Policy Analysis Research Project Presentations
6. Compare the historical perspectives of social policy development and ethical decision making throughout the span of the human services profession.	AV/Multimedia Materials Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings Case Study Based Discussion Policy Analysis Research Project Discussion	Written Examinations Web-based Research Case Study Essays/ Quizzes Required Component Needed for Portfolio-Building - Policy Analysis Research Project Presentations
7. Demonstrate the analytical skills necessary to ethically work within the systems generated by social policy and government.	AV/Multimedia Materials Lecture/Discussion Assigned Readings Case Study Based Discussion	Web-based Research Case Study Essays/ Quizzes Written Examinations

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Course Introduction
2. Introduction to Social Problems, Social Policy and Professional Ethics
3. Definitions and Functions of Social Welfare Policy
4. Values, Conflicts and the Helping Profession
5. The Economy and Social Welfare
6. Multicultural Emphasis in Social Policies and Ethics
7. Job Training Programs and Policies
8. Challenges of Reaching Diverse Client Populations
9. Ethics Codes from a Diversity Perspective
10. Ideological Perspectives and Conflicts
11. Cultural Values and Assumptions
12. Social Movements and Social Change
13. Ethical Issues in Community Work
14. Social Welfare and the History of the United States
15. Protecting Children, the Elderly, and Adults from Harm
16. Working within a System
17. Housing, Health Care and Food
18. Roles of Helpers Working in the Community
19. Promoting Change in the Community

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Corey, Gerald, Marianne Schneider Corey, Patrick Callanan. (2007). *Issues and Ethics in the Helping Profession* (8th ed.). Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Maureen B. Rose, MSW	Date: 11/2009
Board of Trustees Presentation	Date: 11/15/2010
Interim VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 11/16/2010
Revised by: Maureen B. Rose, MSW, HS-BCP	Date: 9/2012
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 9/21/2012
Revised by: Maureen B. Rose, M.S.W., HS-BCP	Date: 12/18/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:	Date: 1/10/2018



*This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.*