

Rutgers School of Social Work
Conceptual Foundations of Social Work and Social Welfare
16:910:645
FALL 2024

Professor: Lenna Nepomnyaschy, MSW, PhD
Email: lennan@ssw.rutgers.edu
Bio/CV: <https://socialwork.rutgers.edu/lenna-nepomnyaschy>
Office hours: by appointment
Class day & time: Tuesdays, 1:30 – 4:10 pm
Class meeting space: 390 George St, 3rd floor – Classroom B

Course Description and Overview:

From a multi-disciplinary perspective, this course critically examines scholarship and contemporary debates addressing social work and social welfare structures, provisions, and systems of care. The course addresses the unique aspects of American social service systems, comparative perspectives, race and gender dynamics in contemporary social work policies and practice, and the dynamic nexus of state institutions, the social work profession and social service provision. Understanding the evolution of how social problems are construed, examined, and addressed is a key facet of this course.

Course Learning Objectives:

1. To understand the evolution of American social welfare policies, services, and programs in a historical perspective;
2. To examine the trends and patterns in social welfare expenditures and types of social welfare programs in the US;
3. To explore the interrelationship between class, race, and gender dynamics in how they affect social welfare policy and service responses to social problems;
4. To address the complexity and diversity in the construction of social problems;
5. To examine how the concepts of adequacy, efficiency, equality, equity, and social justice influence social welfare policy and drive the scope, structure, and implementation of social welfare policies;
6. To become familiar with the intersection of research, policy development, and social change;
7. To examine how research influences diverse policy interventions;
8. To become familiar with the conceptual frameworks that examine the efficacy of public policy interventions toward American social problems.

Course Materials:

There are **NO required texts or materials to be purchased** for this course. All required and suggested readings and materials are posted on the Canvas course site as either Rutgers Libraries links, links to other websites, or PDF documents.

Background Reading/Prerequisites:

While there are no formal prerequisites for this course, it is assumed that students have read **Matthew Desmond's *Poverty by America*** (2023), as that was a required reading for this year's

incoming students. This book does an excellent job of setting up some of the key themes that we will engage with over the course of the semester. If you no longer have a copy, it is available online through Rutgers Libraries: <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/lib/rutgers-ebooks/detail.action?pq-origsite=primo&docID=7206109>

In addition, it is helpful for students to have some familiarity with the history of social welfare provision in the United States. Students without this background may be interested in reading (or re-reading) Trattner, Walter (1999; 6th edition). *From poor law to welfare state: A history of social welfare in America*. New York: The Free Press, available online through Rutgers Libraries: <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/lib/rutgers-ebooks/detail.action?pq-origsite=primo&docID=4934957>

This is a lively and easily readable overview of the evolution of American social welfare provision.

Finally, all of our class materials and course topics are of course closely related to various political, social, and economic discussions and events that are happening in the US and all over the world. Students are expected to scan national, international (e.g.: [*The New York Times*](#), [*The Washington Post*](#), [*National Public Radio*](#), [*The Guardian*](#), [*The Economist*](#)), and local (e.g.: New Jersey: [*NJ Monitor*](#)) news sources regularly to be fully informed of what is happening related to social welfare problems, policies, and services that our class focuses on.

Rutgers University Libraries has purchased an [institutional subscription](#) to *The New York Times*, which provides **full FREE access** to NYTimes.com and The New York Times app. Students **MUST** create a personal account to access the NY Times for free.

A few of the other publications have paywalls, but most allow some number of free articles per month, and many are available through Rutgers.

Course Requirements Summary:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Weekly reading responses | 30% |
| 2. Class facilitation & participation | 15% |
| 3. Final paper | 40% |
| a. Part 1 | 15% |
| b. Part 2 | 25% |
| 4. Roundtable presentation of paper ideas | 10% |
| 5. Attend two research seminars | 5% |

Course Assignments & Requirements – Details:

Course assignments are designed to support your mastery of the course material and readings and your scholarly development—in this course and as you move through the PhD program.

1. Weekly reading responses (12 weeks) – 30%

- Students will submit brief responses (no more than 250 words) to the required readings each week (12 (or so) weeks), starting week 2 via the Canvas course site.

- Students will either respond to a specific question posted by the professor or provide very brief responses describing any questions, thoughts, or ideas that the readings brought up
- Responses must clearly identify (cite) the reading that they are referencing.
- Reading responses will be due the night before our class (***Mondays by midnight***).
- These will be graded on a 3-point scale:
 - 0= no submission (or not submitted prior to start of class)
 - 1= late (but prior to class) or incomplete submission
 - 2= submitted on time and with required elements
 - ***Responses submitted after start of class will not receive credit.***

2. Class facilitation & participation – 20%

- Students will be actively engaged in class discussions every week
- Students will sign up to help facilitate class discussions for two class sessions

3. Final paper: Analysis of a Social Welfare Problem and the Social Welfare Policy & Services Responses – 40%

- Students will write a 10-12 page (double-spaced, references do not count) paper on the definition, formulation, and evolution of a social welfare problem area, the social welfare system response to this problem, and how these responses are related to the unique elements of the US social welfare system. They will conclude with a brief set of suggestions for next steps and what research might be necessary to move towards justice and improving the well-being of those affected by the social problem.
- The paper is broken down into several sections which are due at different points over the semester with the goal of getting feedback from the professor and from their peers and making revisions for the subsequent submission.

Topic Selection: Due Week 4

- ***Select a social welfare problem–1 paragraph.***
 - Identify the social problem and briefly describe why it is important to you

Part 1: Due Week 8 (15%)

- ***What is the problem? (3-4 pages)***
 - Identify and define the social problem
 - Describe the extent of the social problem (how much is there), who is affected, and what are the costs (effects/impacts) of this social problem for those affected and society more broadly
 - Identify and describe the social welfare policy & service responses to the social problem currently in place

Final Paper: Due Week 15 (25%)

- ***Revised Part 1 – What is the problem?***
- ***Part 2: How did we get here? (6-7 pages)***
 - Describe how the definition and formulation of this social problem and how the social welfare system responses to this problem have evolved over time

- Discuss how we have arrived at the current state of affairs, with particular emphasis on the role of the relevant elements of the US social welfare system that we have discussed this semester:
 - Capitalism/Neoliberalism
 - Anti-Black racism & discrimination
 - Gender discrimination
 - Anti-immigrant sentiment/Nationalism
 - Decentralization/Federalism
 - Individualism/Meritocracy myth
 - **Part 3: Moving forward. (1-2 pages)**
 - Describe some ideas for policy or programmatic reforms that would promote justice and improve the lives of those affected
 - Identify some areas of research in which you are interested that could help us get to the next steps
- 4. Roundtable discussion & presentation of work (10%)**
- **Week 12:** In an informal (20 minute max) roundtable discussion with their peers, students will:
 - Describe what they found in Part 1 of their paper (what is the social problem?)
 - Share ideas for moving to Part 2 (how did we get here? & moving forward)
 - Students will engage with their peers' work and provide feedback.
 - **Week 15:** Students will present their final papers in class
 - In a powerpoint presentation (no more than 15 minutes)
- 5. Attend TWO academic seminars or presentations: 5%**
- Students will **attend** (virtually or in person) **TWO (2)** seminars or presentations **over the course of the semester** that focus on substantive issues or empirical research. These may be at the SSW, at other schools or departments at RU, at other universities, or through research think tanks, organizations, conferences, etc.
 - Students will write up and **submit a short description** of the seminar (1 or 2 paragraphs), including: (1) what you learned; (2) why this was of interest; and (3) provide a link to the presentation publicity, email, or notification. These will be graded on a 3-point scale: 0= no submission; 1= incomplete submission; 2= submitted with required elements. **Due by week 15.**

Attendance

- Students are expected to attend every class, come to class on time, remain in class for the entire session, and to be prepared for class having read the required readings and submitted the required materials (if something is due). While there is not specific course credit associated with attendance, absences (more than 1), being late to class, and lack of participation and preparation will substantially impact students' overall grades.
- If, for some reason, class has to be held in a virtual (zoom) setting, students are similarly expected to join the session on time, stay for the entire session, participate in discussions and breakout exercises, and must have their cameras on. If there is some reason that a student cannot have their camera turned on, they must inform the professor prior to class.

Grading

Grade cut-offs are as follows (scores of 0.5 and above will be rounded up):

A	92-100
B+	87-91
B	82-86
C+	77-81
C	70-76
F	0-69

Academic Integrity

As per Rutgers University Academic Integrity Policy, “Students are responsible for understanding the principles of academic integrity and abiding by them in all aspects of their work at the University. Students are also encouraged to help educate fellow students about academic integrity and to bring all alleged violations of academic integrity they encounter to the attention of the appropriate authorities.” All SSW students are expected to review and familiarize themselves with the [RU Academic Integrity Policy](#) in its’ entirety.

All work submitted by students may be run through the Turnitin plagiarism detection software at the professors’ discretion.

******Please note, topics, readings and due dates may change as we move through the material***

COURSE OUTLINE - SUMMARY

Week	Date	Topic	Work Due
1	Sept. 3	Introduction & Course Overview	
2	Sept. 10	What is the welfare state?	
3	Sept. 17	American Exceptionalism? The US Social Welfare System	
4	Sept. 24	Race, Racism & The Welfare State	<i>Social problem selection Due</i>
5	Oct. 1	Race, racism & The Welfare State (cont'd)	
6	Oct. 8	Gender & the Welfare State	
7	Oct. 15	Poverty & the Welfare State	
8	Oct. 22	Residential Segregation & the Welfare State	<i>Paper Part 1 Due</i>
9	Oct. 29	Criminal Legal System	
10	Nov. 5	Health Care system	
11	Nov. 12	Child Welfare System	
12	Nov. 19	Role of Social Work & Social Work Research	
13	Nov. 26	<i>Roundtable presentation & discussion of moving to paper 2 – Class held virtually – Thanksgiving week</i>	
14	Dec. 3	Writing week	
15	Dec. 10	<i>Final paper presentations & Wrap up</i>	<i>Final Paper Due: TBD</i>

DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1: September 3, 2024

Topic: Introductions & Course Overview

- Introduce ourselves
- Go over course & canvas site
- Discuss podcast/essay

Required Readings

- Read the essay: Nikole Hannah-Jones. 2019. *The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story*. *Our democracy's founding ideals were false when they were written. Black Americans have fought to make them true.* NY Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/black-history-american-democracy.html>
- Also available as a book chapter through Rutgers Libraries (but w/o pictures): <https://login.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=2766493&site=ehost-live&ebv=EK&ppid=Page--30>

OR

- Listen to Podcast (42 minutes): Nikole Hannah-Jones. 2019. *The 1619 Project*. *Episode 1: The Fight for a True Democracy. America was founded on the ideal of democracy. Black people fought to make it one.* <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/23/podcasts/1619-slavery-anniversary.html?>
Also available on spotify, apple, google

Week 2: September 10, 2024

Topic: Understanding the welfare state – theories, concepts, ideologies

- What is the purpose of the welfare state?
- Who gets what & why?
- Role of political ideologies
- Considering social justice

Required Readings

- Marshall, T.H. 1964. *Ch. 38: Class, Citizenship, and Social Development (3 page extract)*. In Blaug & Schwarzmantel (eds). 2016. *Democracy, A Reader*. Edinburgh University Press. <https://login.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=e000xna&AN=1341934&site=ehost-live>
- Gunner, Almgren. 2017 (3rd ed). *Health Care Politics, Policy, and Services: A Social Justice Analysis*. Springer. <https://connect.springerpub.com/content/book/978-0-8261-6898-6/chapter/ch01>
 - Chapter 1: A Primer on Theories of Social Justice and Defining the Problem of Health Care. P. 1-38.
- Platz, Jeppe. 2020. *Theories of Distributive Justice. Who Gets What and Why?* Routledge. <https://www.taylorfrancis->

[com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/books/mono/10.4324/9780429318788/theories-distributive-justice-jeppe-platz](https://www.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/books/mono/10.4324/9780429318788/theories-distributive-justice-jeppe-platz)

- *Chapter 1: Distributive Justice. p. 1-21.*
- *Chapter 6: Contrasts. p. 157-183 (Skim this chapter, but look at table 6.1 which summarizes the different points)*
- Myles, John & Jill Guadagno. 2002. Political Theories of the Welfare State. *Social Service Review*, p. 34-57. <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/324607>

Supplementary Readings

- Marshall, TH. 1965. *Class, Citizenship, and Social Development*. University of Chicago Press.
- Abromovitz, Mimi. 2013 (updated 2021). Political Ideologies and Social Welfare. *Encyclopedia of Social Work*. p. 1-20
<https://doi-org.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/10.1093/acrefore/9780199975839.013.292>
- Platz, Jeppe. 2020. *Theories of Distributive Justice. Who Gets What and Why?* Routledge. <https://www.taylorfrancis-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/books/mono/10.4324/9780429318788/theories-distributive-justice-jeppe-platz>

Week 3: September 17, 2024

Topic: The US Social Welfare State

- The size and scope of the US Social Welfare State
- Brief history of its development
- How do unique elements of the US social welfare state impact provision of social policies? Neoliberalism, racism, decentralization, individualism, administrative burden?

Required Readings

- Rodems, Richard & Shaefer, Luke. 2016. Left Out: Policy Diffusion and the Exclusion of Black Workers from Unemployment Insurance. *Social Science History*, 40(3):385-404.
<https://www-cambridge-org.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/core/journals/social-science-history/article/left-out-policy-diffusion-and-the-exclusion-of-black-workers-from-unemployment-insurance/BB47A78FB42748203E43CBDF1AABE8F2>
- Schram, Sanford. 2018. *Ch. 24: Neoliberalizing the Welfare State: Marketizing Social Policy, Disciplining Clients*, p. 308-322. In Cahill et al. (eds), *The Sage Handbook of Neoliberalism*. Sage Publications. <http://urban.hunter.cuny.edu/~schram/schramsage.pdf>
- Herd, Pamela, Hilary Hoynes, Jamila Michener & Donald Moynihan. 2023. Introduction: Administrative Burden as a Mechanism of Inequality in Policy Implementation. *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences*, 9(5):1-30.
<https://www.rsffournal.org/content/9/5/1>
- Bruch, Sarah, Janet C. Gornick, Joseph van der Naald. 2022. *Geographic Inequality of Social Provision: Variation across the US States*. In Chetty, Freidman, Gornick, Johnson, Kennickell (eds) *Measuring Distribution and Mobility of Income and Wealth*. National Bureau of Economic Research. <https://www.nber.org/books-and-chapters/measuring-distribution-and-mobility-income-and-wealth/geographic-inequality-social-provision-variation-across-us-states>

- ***Above is updated version of this older paper:*** Bruch, Sarah, Marcia Meyers & Janet Gornick. 2018. The consequences of Decentralization: Inequality in Safety net Provision in the Post-Welfare Reform Era. *Social Service Review*, p. 1-33. <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/696132>

Supplementary Readings

- Administrative Burdens and Inequality in Policy Implementation Special Issue of the RSF: Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences. 2023, vol 9, issues 4 & 5. <https://www.russellsage.org/news/new-rsf-journal-issue-administrative-burdens-and-inequality-policy-implementation>
- Abromovitz, Mimi. 2014. *Ch. 17. Economic Crises, Neoliberalism, and the US Welfare State: Trends, Outcomes, and Political Struggle*, p. 225-240. In Noble, Strauss & Littlechild (eds.) *Global Social Work: Crossing Borders, Blurring boundaries*. Sydney University Press. <https://ses.library.usyd.edu.au/handle/2123/18299>

Week 4: September 24, 2024

Topic: Race, Racism, and Social Work

- How does the history of racism in the US connect with the history of social work?
- What is critical race theory and what role does it play in modern life?
- How can we think about race and racism in today's world?

DUE: Selection of Social Problem Area

Required Readings

- Park, Yoosun & Reisch, Michael. 2022. To “Elevate, Humanize, Christianize, Americanize: Social Work, White Supremacy, and the Americanization Movement, 1880-1930. *Social Service Review*. 96(4): 779-835.
- Delgado & Stefancic. 2023. *Critical Race Theory: An Introduction*. 4th ed. New York University Press.
 - *Introduction*, p. 1-17.
 - *Ch. VII: Critical Race Theory Today*, p. 115-153<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/lib/rutgers-ebooks/reader.action?docID=30180140&ppg=25>
- Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. 2015. The Structure of Racism in Color-Blind, “Post-Racial” America. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 59(11): 1358-1376. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0002764215586826>

Supplementary Readings

- Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. 2022 (6th edition). *Racism without racists: Color-blind racism and the persistence of racial inequality in America*. Rowman & Littlefield. <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/lib/rutgers-ebooks/detail.action?pq-origsite=primo&docID=6738024>
- Gregory, Joshua. 2021. Social Work as a Product and Project of Whiteness, 1607-1900. *Journal of Progressive Human Services*. 32(1):17-36.

In-Class Activity:

- Listen to interview: CBC Canada Interview, James Baldwin on Being Black in America. 1960. (27 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mtnY004rhqo>

Week 5: October 1, 2024

Topic: Race, Racism and the Welfare State (cont'd)

- What role does racism play in the history and current elements of the US social welfare system?
- How did the development of the welfare state impact racially marginalized groups?

Required Readings

- McGhee, Heather. 2022. *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs All of Us and How We Can Prosper Together*. Random House.
 - Introduction, p. xi-xxiii
 - Chapter 1: An Old-Story: The Zero-Sum Hierarchy, p. 3-15.
 - Chapter 2: Racism Drained the Pool, p. 17-39.<https://login.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=2436234&site=ehost-live>
- Stoesz, David. 2016. The Excluded: An Estimate of the Consequences of Denying Social Security to Agricultural and Domestic Workers. Center for Social Development (CSD) Working Paper No. 16-17. George Warren Brown School of Social Work. Washington University, St. Louis, MO.
https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1409&context=csd_research

Supplementary Readings

- McGhee, Heather. 2022. *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs All of Us and How We Can Prosper Together*. Random House.
<https://login.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=2436234&site=ehost-live>
- Quadagno, Jill. 1996. *The Color of Welfare: How Racism Undermined the War on Poverty*. Oxford University Press.
<https://login.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=e000xna&AN=368810&site=ehost-live>
 - *Ch. 1: Unfinished Democracy, p. 17-31.*
 - *Ch. 9: Explaining American Exceptionalism, p. 187-197.*

In-Class activity:

- Interview w/Heather McGhee, extended discussion of the book, Feb. 17, 2021. NPR. Fresh Air (35 minutes)
<https://www.npr.org/2021/02/17/968638759/sum-of-us-examines-the-hidden-cost-of-racism-for-everyone>

Week 6: October 8, 2024

Topic: Gender & the Welfare State

- What is the role of gender in the evolution of the welfare state?
- How to think about gender inequality
- The role of intersectionality

Required Readings

- Abromovitz, Mimi. 2018 (3rd edition). *Regulating the Lives of Women: Social Welfare Policy from Colonial Times to the Present*. Taylor & Francis
 - SKIM Preface (new for the 2018 edition), p. ix-xxxvii.
 - **Chapter 1: Feminist Perspective on the Welfare State, p. 9-32.**
<https://www-taylorfrancis-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/books/mono/10.4324/9781315228150/regulating-lives-women-mimi-abramovitz>
- Calarco, Jessica. 2024. Holding it Together: How Women Became America's Safety Net. <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/lib/rutgers-ebooks/detail.action?pq-origsite=primo&docID=30728499>
 - **Preface**
 - **Intro**
 - **Chapter 5: the meritocracy myth**
 - SKIM Chapters 1-3
- Knauer, Nancy J. 2020. The LGBTQ Equality Gap and Federalism. *American University Law Review*, 1-70. <https://aulawreview.org/blog/the-lgbtq-equality-gap-and-federalism/>
 - **Introduction, p. 1-10**
 - **Section III. The Future of the Equality Gap, p. 47-64**
 - Last 5 pages are state by state laws and constitutional amendments

In-class activity

- Reeves, Richard. 2022. *Of Boys and Men: Why the modern man is struggling, why it matters, and what to do about it?* Brookings Institution Press.
 - Listen to interview w/Richard Reeves or his presentation (*will decide which*):
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YxLZpzoWaY>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQpMtA5uczS>
 - Ezra Klein (2hrs): <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/03/10/podcasts/ezra-klein-podcast-transcript-richard-reeves.html>
 - On point, WBUR (58 mins): <https://www.wbur.org/onpoint/2022/11/11/richard-reeves-gender-equality-boys-school-men>

Supplementary Readings

- Abrams, Laura & Laura Curran. 2004. Between Women: Gender and Social Work in Historical Perspective. *Social Service Review*, 429-446. <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/pdf/10.1086/421920>
- Folbre, Nancy. 2012. *For Love and Money: Care Provisions in the US*. Russell Sage Foundation. <https://www.russellsage.org/publications/love-and-money>

- Pettit, Becky & Jennifer L. Hook. 2009. *Gendered Tradeoffs: Family, Social Policy, and Economic Inequality in Twenty-One Countries*. Russell Sage Foundation.
<https://www.russellsage.org/publications/gendered-tradeoffs-0>

Week 7: October 15, 2024

Topic: Poverty & the Welfare State

- What are theories of the causes of poverty?
- What are myths of poverty and whom do they serve?
- What is state of poverty in the US?
- How is poverty related to the elements of the US social welfare state?

Required Readings

- Brady, David. 2019. Theories of the Causes of Poverty. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 45:155-75. <https://www.annualreviews.org/content/journals/10.1146/annurev-soc-073018-022550>
- Bruch, Sarah, Joseph van der Naald, Janet C. Gornick. 2023. Poverty Reduction through Federal and State Policy Mechanisms: Variation over Time and across the United States. *Social Service Review*, 1-50. <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/724556>
- Iceland, John. 2013. *Poverty in America: A Handbook (3rd ed)*. University of California Press. <https://www-jstor-org.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/stable/10.1525/j.ctt3fh34c>
 - [Chapter 2: Methods of Measuring Poverty \(p. 1-17\)](#)

Supplementary Readings

- How the Census Bureau Measures Poverty. (*1 page infographic*)
https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/2021/demo/poverty_measure-how.html
 - *More details and an example:* <https://www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/poverty/guidance/poverty-measures.html>
- Parolin, Zachary. 2021. Temporary Assistance for needy Families and the Black-White child poverty gap in the United States. *Socio-Economic Review*, 19(3): 1005-1035.
<https://academic.oup.com/ser/article/19/3/1005/5489411>
- Rank, Mark, Lawrence Eppard, Heather Bullock. 2021. *Poorly Understood: What America Gets Wrong About Poverty*. Oxford University Press.
<https://academic.oup.com/book/39419?login=true>
 - Read introduction & skim chapter titles

Week 8: October 22, 2024

Topic: Residential Segregation & the Welfare State

- How segregated is the US?
- How did we get here?
- How is residential segregation a key piece of the social welfare system in the US?

DUE: Paper Part 1: What is the problem?

Required Readings:

- Faber, Jacob William & Drummond, Jocelyn Park. 2024. Still Victimized a Thousand Ways: Segregation as a Tool for Exploitation in the Twenty-First Century. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 50: 501-520.
<https://www.annualreviews.org/content/journals/10.1146/annurev-soc-090523-054711>
- Jargowsky, Paul. 2018. The Persistence of Segregation in the 21st Century. *Minnesota Journal of Law & Inequality*, 36(2): 207-230.
<https://scholarship.law.umn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1594&context=lawineq>
- The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America. 2018. Rothstein, Richard. Liveright. <https://wnorton.com/books/the-color-of-law/>
<https://openmaktaba.com/wp-content/uploads/books/Islamic-English-Books/The%20Color%20of%20Law%20A%20Forgotten%20History%20of%20How%20Our%20Government%20Segregated%20America%20by%20Richard%20Rothstein.pdf>
 - **Read the Preface, (10 pages)**
 - All the chapters are great, here are two recommendations, but we will listen to a lecture in class:
 - *Chapter 1: If San Francisco, Then Everywhere?*
 - *Chapter 12: Considering Fixes*

Supplementary Readings

- Rothstein, Leah & Richard Rothstein. 2023. Just Action: How to Challenge Segregation Enacted Under the Color of Law. Liveright Publishing. <https://www.justactionbook.org/>

In-Class Activity:

- Richard Rothstein Lecture Video: TBD

Week 9: October 29, 2024

Topic: Criminal Legal System

- What is the size and scope of the criminal legal system in the US?
- How did we get here?
- How does the criminal legal system reflect the unique aspects of the US social welfare system?

Required Readings

- Hinton, Elizabeth & DeAnza Cook. 2021. The Mass Criminalization of Black Americans: A Historical Overview. *Annual Review of Criminology*, 4: 261-286.
<https://www.annualreviews.org/content/journals/10.1146/annurev-criminol-060520-033306>
- Hinton, Elizabeth. 2017. *From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime: The Making of Mass Incarceration in America*. Harvard University Press.
<https://hdl-handle-net.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/2027/heb40195.0001.001>
 - Introduction: Origins of Mass Incarceration
 - Chapter 1: The War on Black Poverty
 - Chapter 2: Law and Order in the Great Society
 - Chapter 9: From the War on Crime to the War on Drugs

- Michelle Alexander – interview?

Supplementary Readings

- Hinton, Elizabeth. 2017. *From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime: The Making of Mass Incarceration in America*. Harvard University Press.
<https://hdl-handle-net.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/2027/heb40195.0001.001>
 - All other chapters
- Alexander, Michelle. 2000. *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. New Press.

In-(and out of) Class Activity (?)

- Watch 13th film

Week 10: November 5, 2024

Topic: Health Care & the Welfare State

- What is the scope of the health care system in the US today?
- How did we get here?
- How does the health care system reflect the unique aspects of the US social welfare system?

Required Readings:

- Michener, Jamila. 2018. *Fragmented Democracy. Medicaid, Federalism and Unequal Politics*. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/fragmented-democracy/fragmented-democracy/19765423503CEF44ECEC4F2DA69B592B>
 - Selected chapters
- Quadagno, Jill. 2004. Why the US Has No National Health Insurance: Stakeholder Mobilization against the Welfare State, 1945-1996. *Journal of Health & Social Behavior*, 45: 25-44. <https://www-jstor-org.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/stable/3653822?sid=primo>
- Propublica Series on the American Health Care System: America's Mental Barrier: How Insurers Interfere w/Mental Health Care: <https://www.propublica.org/series/americas-mental-barrier>
 - What Mental Health Care Protections Exist in Your State?
<https://www.propublica.org/article/mental-health-wiltn-states>
 - Why its so hard to find a therapist who takes insurance: Why I left the network:
<https://projects.propublica.org/why-i-left-the-network/>

Supplementary Readings:

- US Healthcare System Overview. 2021. The Professional Society for Health Economics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR): <https://www.ispor.org/heor-resources/more-heor-resources/us-healthcare-system-overview>
- Kaiser Family Foundation: History of National Health care in the US. 2009. <https://www.kff.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/7871.pdf>
- Quadagno, Jill. 2006. *One Nation, Uninsured: Why the US Has No National Health Insurance*. Oxford University Press.

Week 11: November 12, 2024

Topic: Child Welfare & the Welfare State

- What is the scope & size of the child welfare system in the US?
- What are the problems with the child welfare system?
- How does it reflect the unique aspects of the development of the social welfare system in the US?
- How did we get here?

Required Readings

- Berger, Lawrence & Kristen Slack (eds). 2020. Toward a Better Approach to Preventing, Identifying, and Addressing Child Maltreatment. Special Issue of *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. 692(1).
<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/anna/692/1>
 - Berger, L. M., & Slack, K. S. (2020). The Contemporary U.S. Child Welfare System(s): Overview and Key Challenges. *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 692(1), 7-25.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0002716220969362>
 - Feely, M., Raissian, K. M., Schneider, W., & Bullinger, L. R. (2020). The Social Welfare Policy Landscape and Child Protective Services: Opportunities for and Barriers to Creating Systems Synergy. *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 692(1), 140-161.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0002716220973566>
 - Dettlaff, A. J., & Boyd, R. (2020). Racial Disproportionality and Disparities in the Child Welfare System: Why Do They Exist, and What Can Be Done to Address Them? *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 692(1), 253-274. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0002716220980329>
 - Merritt, D. H. (2020). How Do Families Experience and Interact with CPS? *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 692(1), 203-226. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0002716220979520>
- Pac, Jessica et al. 2023. The Effects of Child Poverty Reductions on Child Protective Services Involvement. *Social Service Review*, 97(1):43-91.
<https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/723219>

Supplementary Readings

- Roberts, Dorothy. 2022. *Torn Apart: How the Child Welfare System Destroys Black Families – and How Abolition Can Build a Safer World*.
<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/lib/rutgers-ebooks/detail.action?pq-origsite=primo&docID=6947158>
- Robert, Dorothy. 2009. *Shattered Bonds: The Color Of Child Welfare*. Civitas Books.
<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/lib/rutgers-ebooks/detail.action?pq-origsite=primo&docID=904463>

Week 12: November 19, 2024

Topic: Role of Social Work

- What is the role of the social work profession in the social problems discussed?

- What is the role of the social work profession in the social welfare system responses to these problems today and in the past?
- What has social work research contributed to the literature on social problems and the social welfare system?

Required Readings

- *Social Service Review* special issue celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Social Work Profession. December 2018.
 - Courtney, Mark. Introduction: Whither American Social Work in Its Second Century? p. 487-503.
 - Allen, Heidi, Irwin Garfinkel & Jane Waldfogel. Social Policy Research in Social Work in the 21st Century: The State of Scholarship and the Profession; What is Promising, and What Needs to be Done. p, 504-547.
 - XXXX, SW Research and practice....
- Abrams, Laura, Sandra Edmonds Crewe, Alan J. Dettlaff, & James Herbert Williams (eds). 2023. *Social Work, White Supremacy, and Racial Justice: Reckoning with Our History, Interrogating Our Present, Reimagining Our Future*. Oxford University Press. <https://academic.oup.com/book/51677?login=true>
 - Abrams, Crewe, Dettlaff & Williams. *Introduction*, p. 1-12.
 - Select other chapters of interest
- Bright, Charlotte Lyn & Thuli Katerere-Virima. 2021. Going Beyond, “the Moment” in Social Work Research. Editorial. *Social Work Research*, 45(2)71-74. <https://academic.oup.com/swr/article/45/2/71/6272865>

Supplementary Readings

- Park, Yoosun & Kemp, Susan. 2006. “Little Alien Colonies”: Representations of Immigrants and Their Neighborhoods in Social Work Discourse, 1875-1924. *Social Service Review*, p. 705-734.
- *Social Work Research*, 45(3). 2021. Special Issue: Applying and Theorizing Intersectionality in Social Work Research, edited by Tina Jiwatram-Negron, Beth Glover Reed, Odessa Gonzalez-Benson, and Larry M. Gant. <https://academic.oup.com/swr/issue/45/3>
 - Wu, Elwin. 2021. Learning from "Racism, Not Race" for Intersectionality Research and the Research Enterprise. Research Note. *Social Work Research*.

Week 13: November 26, 2024 (VIRTUAL CLASS)

Topic: Student Roundtable Presentations & Discussion

- In an informal (20 minute max) roundtable discussion with their peers, students will:
 - Describe what they found in Part 1 of their paper: *What is the problem?*
 - Share ideas for moving to Part 2: *How did we get here & moving forward*
 - Students will engage with their peers’ work and provide feedback.

Required Readings:

- Students’ papers from part 1 of the assignment

Week 14: December 3, 2024 – NO CLASS

Topic: Writing week

Week 15: December 10, 2024

Topic: Student Presentations of final papers & wrap up

- Students will present their final papers in class
 - In a powerpoint presentation (no more than 15 minutes)

Final paper due end of this week or following week:TBD