OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE
This course is designed to introduce students to the central issues in social policy as it relates to human services. The goal is to give students an understanding of what human services are and how the issues and policies that shaped them have evolved in America. Particular attention will be given to broad design issues and the purposes of human service intervention. It is expected that each student will formulate criteria for evaluating policy choices.

EVALUATION
- The student's grade for this course will be based on attendance, class participation, one short writing assignment, one midterm in class, and a take-home final.
- Late work will not be accepted. All reading should be done prior to class. Do not come unprepared.
- Bring the assigned materials to class.
- All written work must be typed if it is not done in class.
- All papers submitted for credit in this course must be sent as email attachments as well as delivered in printed form.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Students in this course are expected to comply with the policies found in the booklet, “Academic Integrity at Northwestern University: A Basic Guide.” Your written work may be electronically tested for plagiarized content. For details regarding academic integrity at Northwestern, visit: http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/
If you need a copy of the brochure, visit the SESP Student Affairs Office.
HELP
Time will be scheduled in the classes right before and after the midterms for discussion. The Instructor will be available to discuss how to improve your writing after you have taken the exams.

**Assigned Readings:**

All books are available at Norris Center Book Store.


In addition a packet of reading (and or web links) will be available the second week of class.

**Other readings and assignments:**

All students are expected to read a least one newspaper that covers both national and local news such as the New York Times, Chicago Tribune, Sun Times Los Angeles Times, Washington Post. Students will be required to prepare one short “op ed” piece (one to two pages) related to human services policies and program that examines an issue based on issues raised in their newspaper readings. Also, an optional “op ed” will be accepted for extra credit the last week of class.
SYLLABUS

Week One: March 29th

Introduction, Goals of Course, Requirements, etc.

Week Two: April 5th  Building a Social Contract: The Historical Roots of our Social Service System

Katz, Parts I and II, pages 1-259

Week Three: April 12th  Redefining the Social Contract: The conservative critique and welfare reform.

Charles Murray: Losing Ground

Week Four: April 19th  Impacting lives: Policy, programs and peoples lives.

Hancock: Hands on Work

Week Five: April 26th: Redefining the Social Contract: The continuing Neo–liberal response

Ellwood: Poor Support

Week Six: May 3:

Mid term in Class

Week Seven: May 10th: Defining a Problem, devising a solution: Homelessness.

Jencks: Homelessness

Week Eight: May 17th  Looking under the Rock: The effectiveness and limitations of Human Services.

Klinenberg, Heat Wave

Week Nine: May 24th  Building Policy and Program to Address Domestic Violence: From movement to human services.
Schneider: Battered Women and Feminist Lawmaking

**Week Ten: May 31:**

Last Class, Final Distributed.

Readings to be assigned.

**Final Due, June 7 at 6:00**