

SYLLABUS
The Ohio State University
College of Medicine and Public Health
School of Allied Medical Professions

- Course No.** Allied Medicine 667
Title, Credits Aging and Public Policy U G 3 credit hours
- Quarter of Offering** Spring Quarter
- Prerequisites :** Junior level in Health Sciences/Geriatrics and Gerontology or by permission of instructor
- Class Day/Time:** Tuesday 4:30 – 7:18 pm
Class Location: Atwell Hall
- Instructor:** Lecturer: Antonia Carroll, MA, LSW, Director, Franklin County Office on Aging
Office Hours: by appointment
- Required Text:** New Directions in Old Age Policies. (1998) Steckenrider, J.S., Parrott, T.. Albany NY. State University of New York Press.
- Additional Readings:** Additional readings will be assigned from The New Politics of Old Age Policy. (2005) Hudson, R.B.(ed.) Baltimore, MD. Johns Hopkins Press.
- Course Description:** Provides a framework to examine major policy issues of an aging society, overview of the legislative process, and a focus on citizen participation in the policy process.

Course Rationale:

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the concepts and knowledge of public and social policy in order to explore policy initiatives and processes and critically examine and analyze the effectiveness of public and social policy decisions for the aging population. Students will understand and apply a broader perspective of policy development within the larger context of the aging network and services provided at the national, state, and local level.

Students will acquire a knowledge of changes in societal institutions such as the economy, health care, and the family; public and social policy including the process of policy development; Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security; housing options for older adults; funded programs in the field of aging; and national, state, and local collaboration for policy development and advocacy.

Students will be challenged to build skills in the following areas: identifying the need for change, researching issues that will improve services to an aging population, and thinking critically, creatively, and at a systems level.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of the course, after attending scheduled classes, and after completing readings, activities, and assignments, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the critical issues that impact older adults related to political, social, economic, and cultural contexts.
2. Discuss the influence of issues facing older adults on public and social policy decisions.
3. Define advocacy and its role in public and social policy development.
4. Explain the role of collaboration at the national, state and local level in the process of public and social policy development.
5. Describe important issues related to public and social policy of an aging population that are reported in the media.
6. Observe a legislative hearing on an older adult issue and discuss the significance of who is involved and of the arguments, decisions, and impact related to the issue and older adults.
7. Integrate concepts of public and social policy development to design a new public or social policy or redesign an existing public or social policy for older adults.
8. Applying the framework of policy analysis, analyze critically and describe the impact of a current public and social policy on an aging population. Articulate and support the findings.

Instructional Strategies

This course will meet for lecture/discussion and group activities during the Spring Quarter for three hours, once per week. These meetings will combine lecture by the instructor and guest speakers, experiential opportunities, and discussion. Instructional strategies will include lectures, in-class activities, observations, evaluation, writing assignments, and exams.

Evaluation:

Activity	Points	Description
Class Attendance and Participation	20	Includes points for attendance at class sessions and active participation in class discussion and activities
Legislation Hearing Report	30	Visit a legislation hearing at the state, city, or county level on older adult issues. Students are to write a two page summary identifying the significant players in the process and the significance of the policy decision.
Article File	20	Maintain a newspaper/magazine clipping file of articles regarding public and social policy issues of an aging society. Provide a two page summary of the most important issues raised.
Design or Redesign Policy	30	Design or redesign a public or social policy which pertains to an aging society, utilizing material from readings and class discussion
Policy Analysis	70	Using the framework presented in Week 1, do a policy analysis of a current public or social policy. Paper should be ten pages minimum, use APA style, and have a bibliography of at least 10 references.
Mid-term Exam	65	Weeks 1-4
Final Exam	85	Comprehensive Weeks 1-10
Total Points U	320	
Additional Assignment for Graduate Level Work		
Analysis and Presentation	50	Perform an analysis of the 2005 Whitehouse Conference on Aging and make a class presentation on one of the recommendations of the Conference
Total Points G	370	

Final Grade Scale

The course is letter graded. Final grades will be calculated as a percent (total points accumulated divided by total points possible). The following percent system will be used to award a letter grade:

93	-	100	= A	77	-	79.9	= C+
90	-	92.9	= A-	73	-	76.9	= C
87	-	89.9	= B+	70	-	72.9	= C-
83	-	86.9	= B	67	-	69.9	= D+
80	-	82.9	= B-	63	-	66.9	= D

Statement of Student Rights

Any student with a documented disability, who may require special accommodations, should self-identify to the instructor as early in the quarter as possible to receive effective and timely accommodations. Help will be given to anyone who needs special assistance in this area. Accommodations will be made to fully include a student whose rights are protected under the American Disabilities Act. Students with disabilities are asked to speak with the instructor as soon as possible if special arrangements are needed.

Course Policies and Conduct

It is expected that students behave in a respectful and responsible manner. Students are expected to be present for classes and examination. If a student is unavoidably delayed or must be absent, the student is expected to send an email (insert Toni's email address here) before the absence and provide the reason for the absence. An excuse may be required at the discretion of the instructor.

The student is expected to make his/her arrangements to obtain and understand any material covered during an absence. Need for special consideration should be brought to the attention of the instructor.

Cell phones and pagers are absolutely to be turned off during class time. Failure to turn cell phones and pagers off will result in lost participation points.

Students are expected to complete and hand-in assignments by the due date and take examinations as scheduled. If an examination is missed (which is highly discouraged), arrangements for its completion must be made within 48 hours. The examination must be taken within 72 hours of the actual examination date. **Prior notice that the mid-term will be missed is required in order to do a make up mid-term examination.** Contact the instructor to make arrangements. Emergencies will be handled on an individual basis but will require appropriate documentation.

Academic integrity by all is expected at all times. Academic misconduct of any kind will not be tolerated. Any suspected violation of the codes of conduct will be reported to The Ohio State University Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) as stipulated in The Ohio State University Faculty Rules governing courses and curricula (#3335-7-03).

Class Topics and Reading Assignments**

Week	Topic	Assignment
#1	Introduction to Public and Social Policy Analysis	Chapter 1: Introduction Begin compiling Article File
#2	Public and Social Policy Analysis: demographics	Chapter 2: Health Care Chapter 10: Changing Demographics
#3	Legislative Process and Agenda Setting Advocacy – Guest Lecturer	Chapter 5: Policy, Politics, Aging: Crossroads in the 1990's. Chapter 6: The 1995 White House Conference on Aging: A Tradition Confronts a Revolution
#4	Public and Social Policy Related to Long-term Care Financing	Chapter 7: The Changing Political Activism Patterns of Older Americans: "Don't Throw the Dirt Over Us Yet" Chapter 8: Old Age Interest Groups in the 1990's: Coalitions, Competition, and Strategy.
#5	Mid-term Exam	Weeks 1-4
#6	Long Term Care Financing	Chapter 9: Competing Problems, Budget Constraints, and Claims for Intergenerational Equity Legislative Hearing Report due
#7	Long Term Care Financing	Chapter 4: Housing and Supportive Services for the Elderly: Intergenerational Perspectives and Options
#8	Legal Issues – Guest Lecturer	Readings on employment discrimination among older workers*** Design or Redesign Policy due
#9	Employment and Retirement Issues	Chapter 3: Economic Security: Strengthening Social Security
#10	Institutional Care Graduate: Presentations on 2005 Whitehouse Conference on Aging	Chapter 11: Aging Policy and the Experience of Older Minorities Chapter 12: Aging as a Female Phenomenon: The Plight of Older Women
#11	Final Exam	Comprehensive Weeks 1-10 Policy Analysis Project due

** Class Topics and Assignments are subject to change, with proper notice to students.

*** Additional readings from The New Politics of Old Age Policy. (2005) Hudson, R.B.(ed.) Baltimore, MD. Johns Hopkins Press.