

POLICY COURSE OFFERINGS & DESCRIPTIONS
SSW 701 & SSW 702*

**Course offerings and instructors subject to change per updates from the Registrar.*

SSW 701 Policy I Course Offerings:

Course: SSW 701.50 Social Welfare Policy and Services I

Instructor: Deborah Mullin

Description: This course explores the political, economic, ideological, and historical trends that have led to current social welfare policies in the United States. Students will gain skills needed to analyze policies and to understand how policies impact clients and social workers.

Course: SSW 701.50 Social Welfare Policy and Services I

Instructor: Robyn Rowe

Description: This course explores the political, economic, ideological, and historical trends that have led to current social welfare policies in the United States. Students will gain skills needed to analyze policies and to understand how policies impact clients and social workers.

SSW 702 Policy II Course Offerings:

Course: SSW 702.10 The Organization and Delivery of Social Services to Workers and Their Families

Instructor: Paul Kurzman

Brief Description: The course underscores the importance of work, income, and employment in our society, and in the lives of the clients, families and communities we serve. The theme of work covers the entire lifespan -- from preparation of children at school to retirement for seniors. The workplace not only provides wages and benefits but also the structure, identity, status and social contacts essential to personal well-being.

Instructor Bio: <https://sssw.hunter.cuny.edu/staff-members/kurzman-paul-m-s-w-ph-d/>

Course: SSW 702.11 Political Economy of Social Welfare

Instructor: Michael Anthony Lewis

Brief Course Description: This course will examine the nature of capitalism, primarily in the U.S., and its relationship to social welfare policy. It's essentially a principles of economics course but taught from a social work/social welfare policy perspective. We'll focus on how capitalist markets work, how they fail, the role of government in addressing market failures as well as equity concerns, and the relationship between politics and the economy.

Instructor Bio: <https://sssw.hunter.cuny.edu/staff-members/lewis-michael-m-s-w-ph-d/>

Silberman School of Social Work, Hunter College

Course: SSW 702.11 Political Economy of Social Welfare

Instructor: Christopher Famighetti

Brief Course Description: This course introduces students to the political economy of social policy, and U.S. social policy, within an international, institutional and discursive contexts. The class provides students with an understanding of the interdependence of ideas, interests and institutions in the formation, reformation and reproduction of social policies. We will take a particular focus on the role of social movements, social and economic stratification, and entrenched interests in policy formation.

Instructor Bio: <https://capitalismstudies.org/fellow/christopher-famighetti/>
<https://www.epi.org/people/christopher-famighetti/>

Course: SSW 702.13 Women & Social Welfare Policy

Instructor: Bojana Zezelj

Brief Course Description: This course examines the history and present of social control and oppression of women in the US. Through various feminist lenses, it analyzes social issues at the intersection of gender, race, economy, politics and culture. It examines the existing social welfare policies and discusses how they could be changed to better support the human and social well-being of women.

Course: SSW 702.15 Policy & Practice: Child Welfare

Instructor: Colleen Henry

Brief Course Description: This course compares and contrasts policies that promote child wellbeing in the US and Europe, examines policies that contribute to or mitigate against unequal childhoods in the US, and examines US child protection policies and outcomes.

Instructor Bio: <https://sssw.hunter.cuny.edu/staff-members/henry-colleen-m-s-w-ph-d/>

Course: SSW 702.17 Social Welfare Policy: Field of Aging

Instructor: Catherine Thurston

Brief Course Description: SSW 702 provides an overview of current aging policies in the United States, as well as in New York State and City. The course provides a framework for understanding the policy formulation process and examines the history of ageism and how it impacts policy and practice involving older adults.

Instructor Bio: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/catherine-thurston-13056169>

Course: SSW 702.19 Immigrants & Refugees and Policy Issues

Instructor: Anushay Said

Brief Course Description: This course is focused on understanding the interdependent nature of the global phenomenon of migration and its effects and influence on people, communities, places and their institutions. The course approaches the multitude issues revolving around immigrants through an interdisciplinary lens. From climate change to political, social, and economic adversity, the realities of migration call forth responses based on an increasing awareness of human interconnectedness. This course will approach the discussion on immigrants and refugees by looking at the larger context within which migration takes place, understand the scale of local and global migration, people's movement in history, and look at policies and approaches at the international, national and local levels.

Instructor Bio: <https://www.milanoschool.org/anushay-said/>

Silberman School of Social Work, Hunter College

Course: SSW 702.20 Clients Rights, The Legal System, and Social Policy

Instructor: Vicki Lens

Description: This course examines the role of law and the judiciary in addressing social problems and protecting the interests and rights of traditionally disenfranchised groups. It covers social policies and issues at the intersection of law and social work and basic social justice and constitutional law principles.

Instructor Bio: <https://sssw.hunter.cuny.edu/staff-members/lens-vicki-msw-jd-phd/>

Course: SSW 702.22 International Social Work Policy & Service

Instructor: Melissa Meinhart

Description: This course critically examines global policies that address topics of social welfare. Specific topics are identified by each class, and each week we situate the topic within a different geographical context across the globe.

Course: SSW 702.23 Sexuality in Social Work – LGBT Policy

Instructor: Jama Shelton

Brief Course Description: This course examines contemporary social policies in relation to their impact on LGBTQ+ individuals and communities, and the role of the LGBTQ+ movement(s) in policy advocacy in the US.

Instructor Bio: <https://www.jamashelton.com/>

Course: SSW 702.24: Health Care and Social Welfare Policy

Instructor: Richard A. Siegel

Brief Course Description: This course examines the evolution of health care policy in the United States. It describes how different actors worked to shape policy. The course presents the different ideologies that shape the perspectives on health care reform, the development of patients' rights and the role of social work advocates in achieving health justice.

Instructor Bio: Richard A. Siegel, LCSW has been an adjunct professor at Hunter College SSW for over 5 years. He is also the Director of Social Work at Metropolitan Hospital - part of the NYC public hospital system. He is a strong advocate for change that will benefit disadvantaged communities

Course: SSW 702.24 Health Care and Social Welfare Policy

Instructor: Robyn Rowe

Description: This course uses a critical, intersectional, historical and comparative approach to examine policies and politics of health and mental health and their relation to health outcomes of different groups in the US. It begins by exploring social-economic determinants of health, including structural inequalities, structural racism, and multiple forms of oppression, and how they shape communities' and individuals' health, mental health, and experiences of the U.S. health systems. We end by reflecting on future possibilities and on ways to make change through policies and practice.

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Course: SSW 702.25 Mental Health & Social Welfare Policy

Instructor: Sofia Oviedo

Brief course description: This course provides an overview of local, state and national policies that inform and influence the prevention, treatment, rehabilitation services, financing, and service delivery in mental health for adults with "serious mental illness" who access the public mental health and social welfare systems.

Instructor bio: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sofia-o-48053024/>

Course: SSW 702.25 Mental Health & Social Welfare Policy

Instructor: Rufina JiYeong Lee

Brief course description: This course provides an overview of local, state and national policies that inform and influence the prevention, treatment, rehabilitation services, financing, and service delivery in mental health for adults with "serious mental illness" who access the public mental health and social welfare systems.

Instructor bio: <https://sssw.hunter.cuny.edu/staff-members/lee-rufina-m-s-w-ph-d/>

Course: SSW 702.27 Criminal Justice Policy

Instructor: George Patterson

Brief Course Description: Pending

Instructor Bio: <https://sssw.hunter.cuny.edu/staff-members/patterson-george-m-s-ph-d/>

Course: SSW 702.28 Policy & Practice: Domestic Violence and the Law

Instructor: Dorchen A. Leidholdt

Brief Course Description: This course applies principles of social welfare policy to the social policies and issues concerning survivors of domestic violence and their children at the intersection of law and social work in the areas of government benefits, child welfare, mental health, criminal justice, immigration, housing, and employment.

Instructor Bio: <https://www.law.columbia.edu/faculty/dorchen-leidholdt>

Course: SSW 702.29 Human Rights and Social Policy in the United States.

Instructor: Makhone Mammotsa

Brief Course Description: This course is an introduction to the human rights and social justice perspectives and how they intersect with social work values, ethics and practice in local and global contexts. Students will learn a practice framework that integrates a human rights perspective.