



UNSW
SYDNEY

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SOSS3003

Policy Analysis

Term Three // 2020

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
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School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Room 159

Morven Brown C20

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This course asks what are some concrete ways to contribute to and influence policy? In this course, you will gain experience in dealing with 'real world' policy problems through a series of case studies on topics drawn from current policy issues. You will develop skills in problem analysis, working in groups, and oral and written communication (including submission writing). You will also develop an understanding of the practical constraints faced by social scientists working in applied policy settings.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Investigate policy problems, issues or concerns through contemporary policy case studies
2. Apply theory to real world policy domains to critically distill the problems, issues or concerns of relevance to the area
3. Undertake in-depth analysis of a policy problem, issue or concern by developing policy briefing skills
4. Demonstrate a strong awareness of the complex and dynamic nature of professional policy work

Teaching Strategies

In this course, you will be critically analysing a policy issue through structured hands-on activities. The course is a great opportunity to apply the knowledge you have acquired in SRAP policy courses so far. Our approach is premised on the belief that effective learning takes place when students are actively engaged in the learning process. You will be receiving theoretical knowledge in the lectures, which you can then apply in the workshops. You will be expected to engage with the material and prepare for the workshops and lectures to benefit from your learning experience.

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
In-class presentation 1	20%	Not Applicable	1,2,3,4
Policy Briefing Paper 1	30%	26/10/2020 04:00 PM	1,2,3,4
In-class presentation 2	20%	Not Applicable	1,2,3,4
Policy briefing paper 2	30%	23/11/2020 04:00 PM	1,2,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: In-class presentation 1

Start date:

Length: 10 minutes

Details:

Working in groups of 2, 3 or 4, you will prepare a 10 minute presentation or role play as defined by a Case Study Leader for a 5 week seminar series that addresses a topical policy issue. Each case study component is taught by a case study leader who is a specialist in a particular field of policy-making and will design a case study seminar that reflects real world policy practice.

Additional details:

Please see Moodle for further information.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: Policy Briefing Paper 1

Start date:

Length: 1,200 words

Details:

Based on what you learn in the case study seminars, you will prepare a 1,200 word policy briefing paper that addresses the key policy issues for policy topic 1. With the guidance of the case study leader, the briefing paper will analyse the key issues, challenges and recommendations for the policy topic.

Additional details:

Please see Moodle for further details.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: In-class presentation 2

Start date:

Length: 10 minutes

Details:

Working in groups of 2, 3 or 4, you will prepare a 10 minute presentation or role play as defined by a Case Study Leader for a 5 week seminar series that addresses a topical policy issue. Each case study component is taught by a case study leader who is a specialist in a particular field of policy-making and will design a case study seminar that reflects real world policy practice.

Additional details:

Please see Moodle for additional information.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 4: Policy briefing paper 2

Start date:

Length: 1,200 words

Details:

Based on what you learn in the case study seminars, you will prepare a 1,200 word policy briefing paper that addresses the key policy issues for policy topic 2. With the guidance of the case study leader, the briefing paper will analyse the key issues, challenges and recommendations for action for the policy topic.

Additional details:

Please see Moodle for additional information.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
O Week: 8 September - 9 September	Reading	Moodle will be live from O Week. You can start your course preparation during O Week.
Week 1: 14 September - 18 September	Lecture	Introduction to Australia's welfare-to-work system
Week 2: 21 September - 25 September	Lecture	Introduction to Policy Topic Number 1: The adequacy of unemployment benefits
Week 3: 28 September - 2 October	Lecture	Ideas about 'welfare' – competing ideas about the purpose and value of income support
Week 4: 5 October - 9 October	Lecture	Unemployed people and the media
Week 5: 12 October - 16 October	Lecture	Wedge politics and political mobilisation
Week 6: 19 October - 23 October	Reading	There are no classes in Week 6. You can use this week to catch up on your reading and work on your assignments.
Week 7: 26 October - 30 October	Lecture	Introduction to Policy Topic Number 2: The 'activation' of unemployed people
Week 8: 2 November - 6 November	Lecture	'Lifters not Leaners' and the language of welfare-to-work
Week 9: 9 November - 13 November	Lecture	Service privatisation and outsourcing
Week 10: 16 November - 20 November	Lecture	Australia's digital welfare-to-work future

Resources

Prescribed Resources

All readings and other resources will be available digitally via Moodle.

Recommended Resources

All readings and other resources will be available digitally via Moodle.

Course Evaluation and Development

Students will be asked for anonymous feedback part way through the course. Changes will be accommodated as needed. Further feedback will be sought via MyExperience at the end of term.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

Image Credit

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.