

# USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck

School of Social Work

**Social Work 627**

**Section #67068**

**Policy and Macro Practice in Child, Youth and Family Services**

**3 Units**

*Summer 2023*

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<b>Office</b>	Virtual
<b>Office Hours</b>	TBD
<b>Course Day(s)</b>	Thursday
<b>Course Time(s)</b>	6:05-7:40pm
<b>Course Location(s)</b>	VAC

## **Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and Concurrent Enrollment**

None

## **Catalogue Description**

Provides context and preparation for social work practitioners on policy, macro practice and leadership roles in communities and organizations serving children, youth and families.

## **Course Description**

This course prepares advanced social work practitioners for innovative policy, macro practice and leadership roles in community and organizational settings serving children, youth and families. Students will be exposed to key aspects of policy practice that are driving change in public and private agencies and service systems that support children, youth, families and communities.

The course includes content on: 1) Using research and data analysis to inform policy implementation at the federal, state and local levels; 2) models and practices for improving service systems to support human rights and advance social, economic and environmental justice. Students will reflect on the role of the social work practitioner in policy advocacy. Students will be exposed to the policy implementation process, models of community change designed to enhance resident engagement and community building, and the role of the social work practitioner in the policy making process.

## Course Objectives

1. Integrate information from multiple sources to assess and appraise social innovation models and system wide reforms that advance human rights and social justice for families and children in diverse communities.
2. Enhance awareness of evidence-based, evidence-informed and promising practices that guide policy and macro practice in a variety of child and family service settings.
3. Develop skills that support macro practice in complex environments, including data-driven decision-making, cross-organizational collaboration and group work to connect individual policy change to collective, system wide reform for children, youth, families and communities.
4. Increase understanding of policy practice, including opportunities and strategies for advocacy and intervention, at the federal, state, county/city and organizational/agency level in an effort toward effectuating systemic change for children, youth, families and the communities they live in.
5. Develop skills in policy research, policy analysis and policy implementation in order to provide/secure more appropriate services, supports and resources for communities, families and children.

## Course Format / Instructional Methods

The format for the course will include didactic instruction and experiential exercises. Case materials, videos, and vignettes will also be used to facilitate student learning. These exercises may include the use of videotapes, role-play, and/or structured small group exercises. Material from the field will be used to illustrate class content and to provide integration between class and field. Confidentiality of material shared in class will be maintained. As class discussion is an integral part of the learning process, students are expected to come to class ready to discuss required reading and its application to theory and practice.

## Student Learning Outcomes

The following table lists the nine Social Work core competencies, as defined by the Council on Social Work Education's 2015 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards, which are the basis of the student learning outcomes in the MSW program:

Social Work Core Competencies		
1	Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior	
2	Engage in diversity and difference in practice	
3	Advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice*	
4	Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice	
5	Engage in policy practice*	
6	Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities	
7	Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities	
8	Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities	
9	Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities	

\* Highlighted in this course

See **Appendix A** for an expanded table, which details the competencies and dimensions of competence highlighted in this course. The table also shows the course objective(s), behaviors/indicators of competence, and course content and assignments related to each competency highlighted in the course.

## Course Assignments, Due Dates, and Grading

Assignment	Due Date	% of Final Grade
Assignment 1: Policy Analysis (Group Assignment)	Unit 5	40%
Assignment 2: Policy Proposal Presentation (Group Presentation)	Unit 11/12	25%
Assignment 3: Bidens Policy Agenda: Analysis and Reflection (Individual Assignment)	Unit 12	25%

Each of the major assignments is described below.

### **Assignment 1: Policy Analysis (6-8 pages) 40% (Group assignment)**

Assignment 1 asks students to provide an analysis of a recent policy, which may include an enacted law, resolution, or ordinance, approved at the federal, state, or county level, that is currently in implementation phase. In addition to understanding the process for the passage of the selected policy, students will examine how data informs the implementation of the policy. The paper should be 6-8 pages in length. See Assignment prompt #1 for additional details.

**Due: Unit 5**

*This assignment relates to course objectives 1,2 and 3 and social work competency 3 and 5.*

### **Assignment 2: Policy Proposal Presentation 25%, (Group assignment)**

Assignment 2 is a group presentation. Each group will develop a policy proposal to address an implementation challenge identified in an existing policy. Policy proposal can include developing a new policy, modifying an existing policy, or otherwise improving the effectiveness of the existing policy. Each group will deliver a 25-minute group presentation on their policy proposal (followed by a 10-minute Q & A) to a governing board/decision maker of the group's choice (e.g. County Board of Supervisors, foundation, private funders, State legislature). Groups should develop a PowerPoint for the presentation. The presentation should highlight the policy and research context as well as the policy proposal, and a very specific request for action by the stakeholders who are the audience listening to your presentation.

**Due: Unit 11/12**

*This assignment relates course objectives 4 and 5 and social work competency 3 and 5.*

### **Assignment 3: Bidens Policy Agenda: Analysis and Reflection , 25%, (Individual assignment)**

Each student will choose one social issue on President Bidens policy agenda and write a critical analysis of his approach to addressing this issue. The Each student will also include a reflection on what they learned through the group process about policy, politics and social change. The paper will be due by 11:59 pm on the date of the final class of the semester. See Assignment Prompt #3 for additional details.

**Due: Unit 12**

*This assignment relates to course objective 1,2,3,4, and 5 and social work competency 3 and 5.*

### Class Participation (10% of Course Grade)

Participation points will be determined by the quality of in class contributions, engagement in classroom activities, completion of required readings and asynchronous content on the VAC Platform, completion of assignments prior to class, the quality of teamwork in preparation for Assignments 2/3 (as demonstrated by peer review feedback and instructor observation) and engagement with students and the instructor throughout the semester.

*Note:* Additional required and recommended readings and out of class activities may be assigned by the instructor throughout the course.

Class grades will be based on the following:

Grade Points		Letter Grades	
3.85 – 4.00	A	93 – 100	A
3.60 – 3.84	A-	90 – 92	A-
3.25 – 3.59	B+	87 – 89	B+
2.90 – 3.24	B	83 – 86	B
2.60 – 2.89	B-	80 – 82	B-
2.25 – 2.59	C+	77 – 79	C+
1.90 – 2.24	C	73 – 76	C
		70 – 72	C-

See **Appendix B** for additional details regarding the definitions of grades and standards established by faculty of the School.

### Attendance and Participation

Students’ active involvement in the class is considered essential to their growth as practitioners. Consistent attendance, preparation for and participation in class discussions and activities, timely completion of coursework and assignments, and personal conduct that fosters a respectful, collegial, and professional learning environment are expected. Having more than 2 unexcused absences in class may result in the lowering of the grade. For VAC and remote/hybrid Ground courses, substantive participation includes maintaining an active screen in live sessions and completing all asynchronous content and activities prior to the scheduled live class discussion. Failure to complete 2 or more asynchronous units before the live class, without prior instructor permission, also may result in a lowered grade.

### Class participation will be assessed according to the following criteria:

“A” grade range: Very Good to Outstanding Participation: Contributions in class reflect thorough preparation, and participation is substantial. Ideas offered are always substantive. Regularly provides one or more major insights and comments that provoke deeper thought. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of discussion and class activities would be diminished markedly.

“B” grade range: Good Participation: Contributions in class reflect solid preparation. Ideas offered are usually substantive, and participation is regular. Provides generally useful insights and some comments that provoke thought. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of discussion would be diminished somewhat.

“C+” or “C”: Adequate Participation: Contributions in class reflect some preparation. Ideas offered are somewhat substantive. Provides some insights, but seldom offers comments that provoke deeper thought. Participation is somewhat regular. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of discussion would be diminished slightly. Please note: The minimum passing grade at the graduate level is “C”.

“C-” or “D”: Inadequate Participation: Says little in class and does not adequately participate in activities or present insights or ideas. Does not appear to be engaged. Submits late work. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of discussion would not be affected.

“F”: Nonparticipant/Unsatisfactory Participation: Misses class. When present, contributions in class, if any, reflect inadequate preparation. Ideas offered are seldom substantive, and behavior may be inappropriate and/or disrespectful. Unable to work effectively on in-class assignments/activities and detracts from the learning process. Regularly misses assignment deadlines, if work is submitted at all.

## **Required Instructional Materials and Resources**

### ***Required Textbooks***

There is no textbook required for this course. All required readings will be available through ARES or via Blackboard or the VAC platform.

### ***Course Reader***

None

### ***Notes:***

- Additional required and recommended readings may be assigned by the instructor throughout the course.
- See **Appendix C** for recommended instructional materials and resources

**Course Overview (Summer)**

Unit/Week #	Date	Topics	Asynchronous Content	Assignments
1	May 18, 2023	Introduction: Social policy landscape for children youth and families, Models of policy practice and government structure	Unit 1 and 2	
2	May 25, 2023	Legislative Advocacy	Unit 3	
3	June 1, 2023	Data-driven decision making & analytic advocacy	Unit 4	
4	June 8, 2023	Implementation advocacy/Community Based Advocacy	Unit 5 and 6	
5	June 15, 2023	Piecing it Together	Unit 7	Assignment 1 Due
6	June 22, 2023	Ballot based advocacy and other external influences	Unit 8	
7	June 29, 2023	Collective Impact & place-based initiatives	Unit 9, Unit 10	
8	July 6, 2023	Systems reform: Education	Unit 11	
9	July 13, 2023	Systems reform: Child welfare	Unit 12	
10	July 20, 2023	Systems reform: Juvenile Justice	Unit 13	
11	July 27, 2023	Group Presentations	Unit 14	Assignment 2 Due
12	August 3, 2023	Group Presentations	Unit 15	Assignment 2 and 3 Due

## Course Schedule—Detailed Description

### Unit 1 – May 18, 2023

#### Introduction: Social policy landscape for children, youth, & families; Policy analysis framework

- The role of social policy in advancing individual and systemic reform
- The intersection of policy, practice, research and advocacy
- Social policy and data
- Our ethical obligation to advocacy and social justice
  
- 4 models of policy practice (legislative, ballot based, analytic and implementation advocacy)
- Civics 101: Policy making bodies and government structure
- Assessing the policy landscape and identifying opportunities for intervention

This unit relates to course objective(s) 1, 2 and 3.

#### Required Readings

- Glover Blackwell, A., (2015). Systemic Racism. Retrieved from:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syZj3J-93z8>
- Rothman, J. & Mizrahi, T. ; Balancing micro and macro practice: A challenge for Social Work, *Social Work*, Volume 59, Issue 1, 1 January 2014, 91–9.
- The influence of policy | Amy Hanauer | TEDxSHHS. Retrieved from  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBRx13Klhj0>
- Making data mean more through storytelling. Ben Wellington TEDxBroadway, Retrieved from  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xsvGYIxJok>
- Jansson, B. J., Dempsey, D., McCroskey, J., & Schneider, R. (2005). Four models of policy practice: Local, state and national arenas. In M. Weil, M. Reisch, D. N. Gamble, L. Gutierrez, E. A. Mulroy, & R. A. Cnaan (Eds.), *The Handbook of Community Practice*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 319–338.
- Segal, E., & Brzuzy, S. (1998). Social welfare policy analysis. In *Social welfare policy, programs and practice*. Itasca, IL: Peacock: 59–74.
- Stein, Theodore J. (2001). *Social Policy and Policymaking by the Branches of Government and the Public-at-Large*. **Chapter 1. Social policy: An introduction: 3-19.** Chapter 17: Implementation: 361-378.
- Nakamura, R., & Smallwood, F. (1980). Implementation and the policy process: A conceptual overview. In *The politics of policy implementation* (pp. 21–28). New York, NY: St. Martin's Press.

**Case Study Materials: Race, Class, and COVID-19**

- M. Cabildo, E. M. Graves, J. Kim & M. Russo. (2020). How race, class and place fuel an epidemic. Covid-19 Rapid Response, Los Angeles, CA: Advancement Project. Retrieved from <https://www.racecounts.org/covid/>

**Unit 2 – May 25, 2023**

**Legislative Advocacy**

- Navigating the political arena
- The legislative process
- Federal, state and local policy making

This unit relates to course objective(s) 1,2, and 3

**Required Readings**

- Stein, Theodore J. (2001). *Social policy and policymaking by the branches of government and the public-at-large*. Chapter 6. Policy Making: 91-114.
- DiNitto, D. M., & Johnson, D. W. (2012). Chapter 1. Politics and the policy making process. In *Essentials of social welfare: Politics and public policy*. London, UK: Pearson Higher Education, 1–26.
- Social Work Policy Institute. (2017). *Maximizing social work's policy impact in a changing political landscape*. NASW Press. Retrieved from <https://www.socialworkers.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=wcmBfKpf1Lw%3D&portalid=0>

**Case Study materials: Preschool and the Racial Achievement Gap**

- N. Nittle. (July 12, 2020). Study shows excellent preschool can narrow racial achievement gap. Chronicle of social change. Retrieved from: <https://chronicleofsocialchange.org/education/study-shows-excellent-preschool-experience-can-narrow-racial-achievement-gap/45195>
- Johnson-Staub, C. (December, 2017). Equity starts early: addressing racial inequities in child care and early education policy. Washington D.C.: The Center for Law and Social Policy. Retrieved from [https://www.clasp.org/sites/default/files/publications/2017/12/2017\\_EquityStartsEarly\\_0.pdf](https://www.clasp.org/sites/default/files/publications/2017/12/2017_EquityStartsEarly_0.pdf)
- M. Zepeda. (2017). California's Gold: An advocacy framework for dual language learners. Retrieved from: <https://glenpricegroup.com/californias-gold-an-advocacy-framework-for-young-dual-language-learners/> Download report and read pages 1-15.



### Unit 3 – June 1, 2023

#### *Data Driven Decision Making and Analytic Advocacy*

- Using data to drive decision making
- Sources of publicly available data

This unit relates to course objective(s) 1, 2 and 3.

#### *Required Readings*

- Barth R. P., Putnam-Hornstein E., Shaw T. V., Dickinson N. S. (2015). Safe children: Reducing severe and fatal maltreatment (Grand Challenges for Social Work Initiative Working Paper No. 17) Cleveland: American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare. Retrieved from: <https://grandchallengesforsocialwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/WP17-with-cover.pdf>
- Marsh, J. A., Pane, J. F., & Hamilton, L. S. (2006). Making sense of data-driven decision-making in education: Evidence from recent RAND research. LA, CA: RAND.
- Fostering Youth Transitions: Using data to drive policy and practice decisions. Retrieved from <https://www.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/aecf-fosteringyouthtransitions-2018.pdf>

#### *Case Study Materials: KIDS COUNT and Children's Data Network*

- Annie E. Casey Foundation (2020). 2020 KIDS COUNT data book: State trends in child well-being. Skim pp 1-47. Retrieved from <https://www.aecf.org/resources/2020-kids-count-data-book/>
- Children's Data Network- <http://www.datanetwork.org/>  
(See Research section for two studies: 1) Crossover Youth (report, media and events); 2) Child Protection Involvement Among Homeless Families (slide deck, talking points, article)
- Children's Data Network (2020) Developing the California Strong Start Index to Inform and Monitor Investments and Policy Development for Children and Families in California. <https://www.datanetwork.org/research/developing-the-california-strong-start-index-to-inform-and-monitor-program-investments-and-policy-development-for-children-and-families-in-california/> (see maps, animation and racial/ethnic distributions).

### Unit 4 – June 8, 2023

#### *Implementation Advocacy, Community Based Advocacy*

- The Policy Paradox
- The role of external influences in shaping policy
- Analytic advocacy and the role of research and advocacy groups in shaping policy
- Foster care for young adults
- Community organizing for the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Mobilization and other forms of advocacy
- Community based participatory research
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This unit relates to course objective(s) 1, 2 and 3.

**Required Readings**

- The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2017). *Race for results: Building a path to opportunity for all children*. Baltimore, MD. Retrieved from <http://www.aecf.org/resources/2017-race-for-results/>
- Stone, D. (2012). *Policy paradox: The art of political decision-making* (3rd ed.) New York, NY: Norton: Introduction and Chapter 1. The market and the polis: 19–36
- California Advocates for Change (April 2016). *Are there too many children in foster care?* Child Welfare Policy Brief. Retrieved from <http://stepupforkin.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Foster-Care-Policy-Brief-Too-Many-Children.pdf>
- Mosley, J. E. & Courtney, M. E. (2012). Partnership and the politics of care: Advocates role in passing and implementing California’s law to extend foster care. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. Retrieved from: [https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/BTB\\_23\\_2A\\_11.pdf](https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/BTB_23_2A_11.pdf)
- Fruchteman, J. (Summer 2016). Using data for action and impact. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*.
- Coulton, Claudia J, Goerge, Robert, Putnam-Hornstein, Emily, and de Haan, Benjamin. (2015). Harnessing big data for social good. (Grand Challenge: Harness Technology for Social Good. Working Paper No.11). Retrieved from: <https://grandchallengesforsocialwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/WP11-with-cover.pdf>
- Parker-Dominguez, T. (2019). Inequality embodied: Race, gender and class in African-American pregnancy. In Zaleski, K. L., Enrile, A., Weiss, E.L., & Wang, X. (Eds) (2019). *Women’s journey to empowerment in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: A transnational approach*. New York, NY: Oxford University press
- Connelly, R., Playford, C., Gayle, V, and Dibben, C. (2016) The role of administrative data in the big data revolution in social science research. *Social Science Research.*, Volume 59, September 2016, Pages 1-12.

**Case Study Materials: AB 12 Fostering Connections to Success Act**

- AB 12 Extended foster care Program and Benefits. Retrieved from <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/foster-care/extended-foster-care-ab-12>

**Case Study Materials: Black Lives Matter, Immigration, and First 5 LA Best Start Communities**

- Podcast: The Good Fight with Ben Winkler - Episode 40 Why #BlackLivesMatter- Co-founder Alicia Garza explains development of Black Lives Matter movement. **Start at Minute 7.** Retrieved from <http://rss.thegoodfight.fm/>
- American Psychological Association. APA's advocacy on immigration. Retrieved from: <https://www.apa.org/advocacy/immigration> Review thumbnails of APA Advocacy Materials on Immigration for 2020 and 2019
- First 5 LA Best Start Communities. Select at least one of the communities described on the First 5 LA website under Best Start Communities and read description of community processes underway. [www.first5la.org](http://www.first5la.org)

## Unit 5 – June 15, 2023

### *Piecing it Together*

- The power of analytic advocacy, legislative advocacy, and community-based advocacy
- Reform and systems change
- Uses of “big data”

This unit relates to course objective(s) 4 and 5.

### *Required Readings*

- Engler, P. (2018). Protest movements need the funding they deserve. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*.
- Chicago Beyond. (2018). Why am I always being researched? A guidebook for community organizations, researchers and funders to help us get from insufficient understanding to more authentic truth. Chicago Beyond Equity Series, Volume 1. Pps. 1-27.

Beckwith, D. & Lopez, C. Community organizing: People power from the grassroots. Center for Community Change. Retrieved from <http://comm-org.wisc.edu/papers97/beckwith.htm>

### *Case Study Materials: Family Health and Well-Being in Early Childhood*

- K. Margolis, A. Briscoe & J. Tracey. (2020). Babies don't go to the doctor by themselves, Innovating a dyadic behavioral health payment model to serve the youngest primary care patients and their families. California Children's Trust. Retrieved from [https://cachildrenstrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Dyadic\\_final\\_May2020.pdf](https://cachildrenstrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Dyadic_final_May2020.pdf)
- Zero to Three. (N.D.) The research case for home visiting. Retrieved from <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/144-the-research-case-for-home-visiting#downloads>

- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and Health Agency. (2018). Strengthening home visiting in LA County, A plan to improve child, family and community well-being. Executive summary: pp. 1-4.

## Unit 6 – June 22, 2023

### *Ballot based advocacy and other external influences*

- Voting as a political tool
- Ballot propositions
- Voter suppression and voter disenfranchisement

This unit relates to course objective(s) 4 and 5

### **Required Readings**

- Jansson, B. S. (2014). Engaging in ballot-based policy advocacy. In *Becoming an effective policy advocate: From policy practice to social justice* (7th ed., pp. 417- 447). Belmont, CA: Brooks-Cole.
- Newkirk, V. R. (2018 July 17). Voter suppression is warping democracy. *The Atlantic*. Retrieved from <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2018/07/poll-prri-voter-suppression/565355/>
- Reverend J. Jackson & D. Daley. (June 12, 2020). Voter suppression is still one of the greatest obstacles to a more just America. *Time*. Retrieved from
- Voter Suppression is Still Obstacle to a More Just America | *Time*  
<https://time.com/5852837/voter-suppression-obstacles-just-america/>

### **Case Study Materials: Voter suppression**

- Podcast: Justice in America. “Excluded from democracy.” (2018, Aug 22). *The Appeal*. Retrieved from <https://theappeal.org/justice-in-america-episode-5-excluded-from-democracy/>
- Podcast: Why is this happening? “Exploring voter suppression past and present with Carol Anderson. (2018, Oct 16). Retrieved from <https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/exploring-voter-suppression-past-present-carol-anderson-podcast-transcript-ncna920776>
- Uggen, C., Larson, R., & Shannon, S. (2016). 6 million lost voters: State-level estimates of felony disenfranchisement, 2016. *The Sentencing Project*.

## Unit 7 – June 29, 2023

### *Collective Impact and Place Based Initiatives*

- Agency collaboration
- Collective Impact as a model for social change
- Elements of collective impact
- Place-Based Initiatives
- Place and well-being
- Harlem Children's Zone
- Magnolia Community Initiative

This unit relates to course objective(s) 4 and 5.

### *Required Readings*

- National Council for Nonprofits. Collective Impact Website.  
<https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/tools-resources/collective-impact>
- Gase, L. & Stachowiak, S. (August 2018). Does Collective Impact really make an impact. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*.  
[https://ssir.org/articles/entry/does\\_collective\\_impact\\_really\\_make\\_an\\_impact](https://ssir.org/articles/entry/does_collective_impact_really_make_an_impact)
- Kania, J and Kramer, M. (2013). Embracing emergence: How collective impact addresses complexity. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*.
- Anderson, S. H. (2010, June). A good place to live? Municipality characteristics and children's placement risk. *Social Service Review*, 201–224.
- Harlem Children's Zone (2009). *Whatever it takes: Harlem Children's Zone White Paper*.
- Harlem Children's Zone. (2012). *Successful Research Collaborations: Rules of Engagement for Community-Based Organizations*. New York, NY.  
Available at [http://www.hcz.org/images/Rules\\_of\\_Engagement\\_paper.pdf](http://www.hcz.org/images/Rules_of_Engagement_paper.pdf) and  
<http://promiseneighborhoodsinstitute.org/Technical-Assistance/Resource-Library/Tools>.

### *Case Study Materials: Cradle to Career, Harlem Children's Zone, Magnolia Community Initiative*

- Cradle to Career (2019). 2019 Community Impact Report. Retrieved from:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zaxZV52zRHH8B7bFVrX7HbqNq1UEuGjY/view>
- Santa Monica Cradle to Career Website. **Review the website including videos and documents.**  
<https://www.santamoniacradletocareer.org/home>
- Collective Impact Forum website at <https://collectiveimpactforum.org/> Magnolia Community Initiative Website. read website materials on Our Approach (Theory of Change, Driven by Empathy and Protective Factors Framework) and other items of interest. Retrieved from <http://magnoliaplacela.org/>

- Podcast: This American Life, “Going Big.” Retrieved at <https://www.thisamericanlife.org/364/going-big> Listen up to 33:16 about Harlem Children's Zone

## Unit 8 – July 6, 2023

### *Systemic Reform: Education*

- Reform efforts to disrupt the School to Prison Pipeline
- Is absenteeism important?
- Trauma sensitive schools, PBIS, restorative justice, school discipline advocacy)
- School discipline and policing

This unit relates to course objective(s) 4 and 5.

### *Required Readings*

- Nauer, K., Mader, N., Robinson, G. and Jacobs. T. (2014). A better picture of poverty: What chronic absenteeism and risk load reveal about NYC’s lowest-income elementary schools (2014). Attendance Works. Retrieved from: <http://www.attendanceworks.org/a-better-picture-of-poverty/>
- Mizel, M., Miles, J, Pedersen, E. & Tucker, J & Ewing, B. & D'Amico, E.. (2016). To educate or to incarcerate: Factors in disproportionality in school discipline. Children and Youth Services Review. 70. DOI: 10.1016/j.chilyouth.2016.09.009
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- Cardoza, K. (2019). How schools are responding to migrant children. Education Week (April 9). Retrieved from: <https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2019/04/10/how-schools-are-responding-to-migrant-children.html>
- Leung, V., Mendoza, A., and Cobb, J. (2018). Here to learn: Creating safe and supportive schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Retrieved from [https://www.aclusocal.org/sites/default/files/aclu\\_social\\_report\\_here\\_to\\_learn.pdf](https://www.aclusocal.org/sites/default/files/aclu_social_report_here_to_learn.pdf)
- Community Rights Campaign of the Labor/Community Strategy Center & Black Organizing Project. (2014). The new “separate and unequal”: Using California’s Local Control Funding Formula to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline. Retrieved from <https://thestrategycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/lcff-policy-brief-3-20-2014.pdf>
- Lift us up, don’t push us out- A conversation on educational justice [media]. Brave New Films. Retrieved from [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=1&v=nCcjfoX5KfA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=nCcjfoX5KfA)

### *Case Study Materials: COVID-19, School mental health and school policing*

- B. Stratford. (2020). As schools reopen addressing COVID-19 related trauma and related mental health issues will take more than mental health services. Child Trends. Retrieved from <https://www.childtrends.org/blog/as-schools-reopen-addressing-covid-19-related-trauma-and-mental-health-issues-will-take-more-than-mental-health-services>

- Mark Ridley-Thomas and Sheila Kuehl. (August 13, 2019. Board of Supervisors Motion. Restructuring the Juvenile Justice System: Building a Health-Focused Model
- UTLA Press Release. \*July 1, 2020). UTLA statement on LAUSD vote to defund school police budget by 35%. Retrieved from <https://www.utla.net/news/utla-statement-lausd-vote-defund-school-police-budget-35>
- H. Blume & S. Kohli. (June 30, 2020). LA Unified police chief resigns after district slashed department budget. Los Angeles Times. Retrieved from
- L.A. school board cuts school police budget by \$25 million ...

### Unit 9 – July 13, 2023

#### ***Systemic Reform: Child Welfare***

- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Child Welfare
- A multitude of reform efforts
- Preventing child maltreatment
- California's Continuum of Care
- Pregnant and parenting foster youth

This unit relates to course objective(s) 4 and 5.

#### ***Required Readings***

- Los Angeles County Office of Child Protection. (2017) Paving the road to safety for our children: A prevention plan for Los Angeles County. LA, CA: Office of Child Protection.
- California Department of Social Services (January 2015). California's Child Welfare Continuum of Care Reform (Executive Summary, pages 1-22 only)  
[http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/pdf/CCR\\_LegislativeReport.pdf](http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/pdf/CCR_LegislativeReport.pdf)
- Barth, R. P., Jonson-Reid, M., Greeson, J. K. P., Drake, B., Berrick, J. D., Garcia, A. R., Show, T. V. & Gyourko, J. R. (2020). Outcomes following child welfare services: What are they and do they differ for black children? Journal of public child welfare.

#### ***Case Study Materials: Pregnant and parenting foster teens and basic income for foster youth***

- Casey Family Programs. (December 2018). What are some strategies for supporting pregnant and parenting teens in foster care? Retrieved from <https://www.casey.org/pregnant-parenting-teens/>
- DeSault. (July 2020). Santa Clara launches basic income program for foster youth.

<https://www.mercurynews.com/2020/07/27/santa-clara-county-launches-basic-income-program-for-foster-youth/>

## Unit 10 – July 20, 2023

### *Systemic Reform: Juvenile Justice*

- From punishment to rehabilitation
- Diversion and intervention reforms
- Restructuring juvenile justice systems
- LAPD Community Safety Partnership

This unit relates to course objective(s) 4 and 5.

### *Required Readings*

- Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee, Youth Diversion Committee and the Los Angeles Chief Executive Office (2017). *A roadmap for advancing youth diversion in Los Angeles County*. **READ ONLY Executive Summary**.
- Korman, H. & Dierkhising, C. B. (2016). A culture of care for all: Envisioning the LA model. Children's Defense Fund: Los Angeles, CA. Retrieved from <http://theunusualsuspects.org/assets/uploads/2017/09/Childrens-Defense-Fund-report-on-LA-Model.pdf>
- The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2018). Transforming juvenile probation: A vision for getting it right. Executive Summary. Baltimore, MD. Retrieved from <https://www.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/aecf-transformingjuvenileprobationsummary-2018.pdf>
- Watson, L. & Edelman, P. (2012). Improving the juvenile justice system for girls: Lessons from the states. Georgetown Center on Poverty, Inequality and Policy.
- Hertz, D, Eastman, A., McCroskey, J. Guo, L. & Putnam-Hornstein, E. (2021). The intersection of child welfare and juvenile justice: Key findings from the Los Angeles dual system youth study Children's Data Network.

### *Case Study Material: LAPD Community Safety Partnership and Building a Health Focused Model of Juvenile Justice for LA County*

- J. Leap, P.J. Brantingham, T. Franke & S. Bonis. (March 2020). Evaluation of the LAPD Community Safety Partnership. LA, CA: UCLA Luskin.
- C. Chang. (July 28, 2020). 'Guardian' policing expanded. Los Angeles Times. Retrieved from <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-07-27/lapd-expands-community-policing-program-appoints-black-female-deputy-chief>



- Mark Ridley-Thomas and Sheila Kuehl. (August 13, 2019. Board of Supervisors Motion). Restructuring the Juvenile Justice System: Building a Health-Focused Model

### **Unit 11 – July 27, 2023**

#### ***Group Presentation: Policy Reforms***

- Putting it all together

This unit relates to course objective(s) 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

#### ***Required Readings***

- Social Policy Institute (2012). Influencing social policy: Positioning Social Work graduates for policy careers. NASW. Retrieved from <https://www.socialworkers.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=zsQ-rV4Jc2c%3D&portalid=0>

#### ***Recommended Readings***

- None

### **Unit 12 – August 3, 2023**

#### ***Group Presentations: Policy Reform***

This unit relates to course objective(s) xxx.

#### ***Required Readings***

- Clarke, M. & Healy, J. (2018). Complex systems change starts with those who use the systems. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*

#### ***Recommended Readings***

- None

### **List of Appendices**

- A. Detailed Descriptions of Social Work Core Competencies Highlighted in this Course
- B. Definitions of Grades and Standards Established by Faculty of the School
- C. Recommended Instructional Materials and Resources
- D. Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work DEI Statement
- E. Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

**Appendix A: Detailed Description of Social Work Core Competencies Highlighted in this Course**

<b>Competency</b>	<b>Objective(s)</b>	<b>Behavior(s)</b>	<b>Dimension(s)</b>	<b>Content</b>
Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice	1-5	Incorporates social justice practices in advocating for policies that promote empowerment in vulnerable children, youth and families.	Knowledge, values, skills	Assignments 1-3
Engage in Policy Practice	1-5	Identifies policy and resource contexts of child, youth, and family services at the local, state, and federal levels.	Knowledge, values, skills	Assignments 1-3

## **Appendix B: Definitions of Grades and Standards Established by Faculty of the School**

Within the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, grades are determined in each class based on the following standards which have been established by the faculty of the School:

1. Grades of A or A- are reserved for student work which not only demonstrates very good mastery of content but which also shows that the student has undertaken a complex task, has applied critical thinking skills to the assignment, and/or has demonstrated creativity in her or his approach to the assignment. The difference between these two grades would be determined by the degree to which these skills have been demonstrated by the student.
2. A grade of B+ will be given to work which is judged to be very good. This grade denotes that a student has demonstrated a more-than-competent understanding of the material being tested in the assignment.
3. A grade of B will be given to student work which meets the basic requirements of the assignment. It denotes that the student has done adequate work on the assignment and meets basic course expectations.
4. A grade of B- will denote that a student's performance was less than adequate on an assignment, reflecting only moderate grasp of content and/or expectations.
5. A grade of C would reflect a minimal grasp of the assignments, poor organization of ideas and/or several significant areas requiring improvement.
6. Grades between C- and F will be applied to denote a failure to meet minimum standards, reflecting serious deficiencies in all aspects of a student's performance on the assignment.

## Appendix C: Recommended Instructional Materials and Resources

***Recommended Guidebook for APA Style Formatting*** American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

### ***Recommended Websites***

See weekly reading

## **Appendix D: Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement**

At the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work, we aspire to promote diversity, equity and inclusion in our courses and professional practice. We value the diverse backgrounds and perspectives that our students bring into the classroom as strengths and resources that enrich the academic and learning experience. We offer and value inclusive learning in the classroom and beyond. We integrate readings, materials and activities that are respectful of diversity in all forms, including race, ethnicity, culture, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, age, ability and disability, socioeconomic status, religion, and political perspectives. Collectively, we aspire to co-create a brave space with students and instructors to critically examine individual and collective sources of bias, prejudice, discrimination, and systematic oppression that affect the ability of people and communities to thrive. In this way, we fulfill our professional responsibility to practice the [NASW Code of Ethics](#), abide by the [CSWE Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards](#), and address the [American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare, Grand Challenges for Social Work](#).

## Appendix E: University Policies and Guidelines

### Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend every class and to remain in class for the duration of the unit. Failure to attend class or arriving late may impact your ability to achieve course objectives which could affect your course grade. Students are expected to notify the instructor by email [mziegler@usc.edu](mailto:mziegler@usc.edu) of any anticipated absence or reason for tardiness.

University of Southern California policy permits students to be excused from class for the observance of religious holy days. This policy also covers scheduled final examinations which conflict with students' observance of a holy day. Students must make arrangements in advance to complete class work which will be missed, or to reschedule an examination, due to holy days observance.

Please refer to [SCampus](#) and to the [USC School of Social Work Policies and Procedures](#) for additional information on attendance policies.

### Statement on Academic Conduct

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Recording a university class without the express permission of the instructor and an announcement to the class, as well as distributing or using recordings of university lectures or classes without the express permission of the instructor, for purposes other than individual or group study, also constitute violations of the USC Student Conduct Code.

Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism, unauthorized recording of university classes, and other forms of academic dishonesty and misconduct in SCampus, Part B, Section 11, "Behavior Violating University Standards," as well as information in SCampus and in the university policies on scientific misconduct.

### Statement about Incompletes

The Grade of Incomplete (IN) can be assigned only if there is work not completed because of a documented illness or some other emergency occurring after the 12th week of the semester. Students must NOT assume that the instructor will agree to the grade of IN. Removal of the grade of IN must be instituted by the student and agreed to be the instructor and reported on the official "Incomplete Completion Form."

### Policy on Late or Make-up Work

Papers are due on the day and time specified. Extensions will be granted only for extenuating circumstances. If the paper is late without permission, the grade will be affected.

## **Policy on Changes to the Syllabus and/or Course Requirements**

It may be necessary to make some adjustments in the syllabus during the semester in order to respond to unforeseen or extenuating circumstances. Adjustments that are made will be communicated to students both verbally and in writing.

## **Code of Ethics of the National Association of Social Workers**

*Approved by the 1996 NASW Delegate Assembly and revised by the 2020 and 2021 NASW Delegate Assembly <https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English>*

### **Preamble**

The primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty. A historic and defining feature of social work is the profession's focus on individual well-being in a social context and the well-being of society. Fundamental to social work is attention to the environmental forces that create, contribute to, and address problems in living.

Social workers promote social justice and social change with and on behalf of clients. "Clients" is used inclusively to refer to individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers are sensitive to cultural and ethnic diversity and strive to end discrimination, oppression, poverty, and other forms of social injustice. These activities may be in the form of direct practice, community organizing, supervision, consultation, administration, advocacy, social and political action, policy development and implementation, education, and research and evaluation. Social workers seek to enhance the capacity of people to address their own needs. Social workers also seek to promote the responsiveness of organizations, communities, and other social institutions to individuals' needs and social problems.

The mission of the social work profession is rooted in a set of core values. These core values, embraced by social workers throughout the profession's history, are the foundation of social work's unique purpose and perspective:

- Service
- Social justice
- Dignity and worth of the person
- Importance of human relationships
- Integrity
- Competence

This constellation of core values reflects what is unique to the social work profession. Core values, and the principles that flow from them, must be balanced within the context and complexity of the human experience.

## **Academic Dishonesty Sanction Guidelines**

Some lecture slides, notes, or exercises used in this course may be the property of the textbook publisher or other third parties. All other course material, including but not limited to slides developed by the

instructor(s), the syllabus, assignments, course notes, course recordings (whether audio or video) and examinations or quizzes are the property of the University or of the individual instructor who developed them. Students are free to use this material for study and learning, and for discussion with others, including those who may not be in this class, unless the instructor imposes more stringent requirements. Republishing or redistributing this material, including uploading it to web sites or linking to it through services like iTunes, violates the rights of the copyright holder and is prohibited. There are civil and criminal penalties for copyright violation. Publishing or redistributing this material in a way that might give others an unfair advantage in this or future courses may subject you to penalties for academic misconduct.

### **Complaints**

Please direct any concerns about the course with the instructor first. If you are unable to discuss your concerns with the instructor, please contact the faculty course lead. Any concerns unresolved with the course instructor or faculty course lead may be directed to the student's advisor and/or the Chair of your program.

### **Tips for Maximizing Your Learning Experience in this Course**

- Be mindful of getting proper nutrition, exercise, rest and sleep!
- Come to class.
- Complete required readings and assignments BEFORE coming to class.
- BEFORE coming to class, review the materials from the previous Unit AND the current Unit, AND scan the topics to be covered in the next Unit.
- Come to class prepared to ask any questions you might have.
- Participate in class discussions.
- AFTER you leave class, review the materials assigned for that Unit again, along with your notes from that Unit.
- If you don't understand something, ask questions! Ask questions in class, during office hours, and/or through email!
- Keep up with the assigned readings.



## Appendix F: Support Systems and Additional Resources

### Counseling and Mental Health

<https://studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling/>

Phone number (213) 740-9355

On call 24/7

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

### National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

Phone number 1 (800) 273-8255

On call 24/7

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP)

<https://studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault/>

Phone Number (213) 740-9355(WELL), press “0” after hours

On call 24/7

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

### USC Office of Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX

<https://eeotix.usc.edu/>

Phone number (213) 740-5086

Title IX Office (213) 821-8298

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

### Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment

[https://usc-advocate.symplcity.com/care\\_report/index.php/pid422659?](https://usc-advocate.symplcity.com/care_report/index.php/pid422659?)

Phone number (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

### The Office of Disability Services and Programs

<https://dsp.usc.edu/>

Phone number (213) 740-0776

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

### USC Campus Support and Intervention

<https://campussupport.usc.edu/>

Phone number (213) 821-4710

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

### **Diversity at USC**

<https://diversity.usc.edu/>

Phone number (213) 740-2101

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

### **USC Emergency**

<https://dps.usc.edu/>

UPC phone number (213) 740-4321

HSC phone number (323) 442-1000

On call 24/7

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

### **USC Department of Public Safety**

<https://dps.usc.edu/>

UPC phone number (213) 740-6000

HSC phone number (323) 442-120

On call 24/7

Non-emergency assistance or information.

### **Additional Resources**

Students enrolled in the Virtual Academic Center can access support services for themselves and their families by contacting Perspectives, Ltd., an independent student assistance program offering crisis services, short-term counseling, and referral 24/7. To access Perspectives, Ltd., call 800-456-6327.