

PSC 237

DOMESTIC SOCIAL POLICY

Spring 2014
Prof. Jacobs
Harkness 337
Phone Ext. 5-5319
Office Hrs.: MW 10:00 -11:00
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Books for purchase (all paperback):
Danziger and Haveman, Understanding Poverty
Mead, The New Paternalism
Cancian and Danziger, Changing Poverty, Changing Policies
Wilson, When Work Disappears
Sawhill, Welfare Reform and Beyond

Most all of the other readings will be on reserve or on the web.

Course requirements: There are two quizzes (**February 12 and March 5**), each worth 30 percent of the final grade. A final paper (**distributed on April 17 and due on May 1**) will count for 40 percent of the grade. **There is no final examination.**

1. Policy Analysis and Making Policy Decisions (1/15 – 1/22)

Okun, Equality and Efficiency, Ch. 2 ("The Case for the Market")
Lindblom, "The Science of Muddling Through"

2. The Commitment to Reduce Poverty (1/27 - 2/3)

Hecl, "Poverty Politics"
Understanding Poverty, Ch. 1, 6
Bane and Ellwood, Welfare Realities Ch.5
Holcombe, "AFDC's Formative Years (1935-1960)"

3. Definition of the Problem (2/5 - 2/10)

When Work Disappears Ch. 6, 7
Banfield, The Unheavenly City Revisited Ch. 3
Banfield, The Unheavenly City Ch. 6
Bane and Ellwood, Ch. 3
Mead, The New Politics of Poverty, Ch. 3, 4
Mead, The New Paternalism, Ch. 9, 10
Changing Poverty, Ch.2
2008 Green Book* Appendix E

FIRST QUIZ 2/12

4. The "Causes" of Poverty (2/17 - 2/24)

When Work Disappears Ch. 1-5

Changing Poverty, Ch2 - 7

Sowell, Markets and Minorities Ch. 2

Jacobs, The Political Economy of Organizational Change, pp. 1-8, 153-158

Katz, The Undeserving Poor pp. 9-35

Mead, "Misunderstanding Poverty"

5. Poverty Programs and Their Impact (2/26 - 3/3)

SECOND QUIZ 3/5

6. Rethinking (3/17 - 3/26)

Wilson, More Than Just Race Ch. 1

Sawhill, "Poverty and the Underclass" pp. 215-230

Sawhill, "The Behavioral Aspects of Poverty"

Mead, The New Paternalism Ch. 2-4

Understanding Poverty, Ch. 2 - 4, 8, 9 (skim)

McLanahan, "Consequences of Single Motherhood"

Wilson, Ch. 8

7. Welfare Reform (3/31 -4/17)

Mead, The New Paternalism Ch. 8

Bane, "Welfare Reform as We Might Know It"

Sawhill, Welfare Reform and Beyond, Ch. 1 – 18 and skim Ch. 19 - 23

Understanding Poverty, Ch.7 (to page 261)

Besharov, The Past and Future of Welfare Reform (The Public Interest - Winter, 2003)

Jargowsky and Sawhill, "The Decline of the Underclass"

Changing Poverty Ch. 12-14

Edelman, "Poverty in America: Why Can't We End It"

8. Where from here? (4/21 - 4/28)

POLICY ANALYSIS PROBLEM DISTRIBUTED 4/21

POLICY ANALYSIS DUE 5/2

* The Green Book can be accessed on the web at:

<http://democrats.waysandmeans.house.gov/singlepages.aspx?NewsID=10490>