

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: PERSPECTIVES ON WELFARE
Status: Definitive
Code: **4500EDSP** (116210)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2016

Owning School/Faculty: Education
Teaching School/Faculty: St Helens College

| Team | Leader |
|--------------|--------|
| Mark Meadows | Y |

Academic Level: FHEQ4
Credit Value: 24
Total Delivered Hours: 68
Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 172

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

| Component | Contact Hours |
|-----------|---------------|
| Lecture | 40 |
| Seminar | 16 |
| Tutorial | 4 |
| Workshop | 8 |

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

| Category | Short Description | Description | Weighting (%) | Exam Duration |
|--------------|-------------------|--|---------------|---------------|
| Essay | AS1 | Essay (1,500 words) examining an aspect of post-war social policy | 25 | |
| Presentation | AS2 | Seminar Presentation (20 minutes) covering a contemporary social issue or area of reform | 25 | |
| Report | AS3 | Research Project (2500 words) examining a chosen aspect of social policy history | 50 | |

Aims

This module provides students with a comprehensive introduction to social policy in Britain, covering the historical development of the Poor Law in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the evolution of the modern Welfare State, contemporary debates over the scope of welfare provision and welfare delivery, and an introduction to comparative social policy.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Discuss the development of social policy from the eighteenth century through to the establishment of the post-war welfare state
- 2 Examine the evolution of the welfare state since the Beveridge Report and debates over the performance and effectiveness of welfare policy
- 3 Identify major criticisms of the Welfare state from a range of ideological perspectives
- 4 Evaluate recent reforms of the welfare state in Britain, and compare reforms in Britain with developments in welfare provision in comparable countries (e.g. USA and Western Europe)

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| 1500 word essay | 2 | 3 |
| presentation | 4 | |
| 2500 research project | 1 | |

Outline Syllabus

The Old & the New Poor Law Systems; The Workhouse System in principle & practice; Urbanisation, public health, penal policy; Victorian attitudes towards poverty and pauperism, the role of charitable organisations, philanthropy and self-help; The extent to which attitudes and popular prejudices towards disadvantaged groups have changed over time; New Liberalism & the foundations of the Welfare State; War & welfare reform: the impact of Beveridge; Post-war developments in education, health, housing, social services and social security; The Welfare State in crisis: public services under Thatcher; Marketisation & modernisation: social policy reforms since New Labour; Comparative Social Policy: Britain, Europe and the United States

Learning Activities

Lectures and seminars including group work and group discussion and presentations supported by individual academic tutorials. Workshops will be used to underpin historical analysis and research

Notes

This introductory module covers historical, sociological and political aspects of welfare policy. It aims to provide students with a narrative that crosses the boundaries between different areas of the welfare state, bringing together themes from the fields of social welfare, health and housing, and offering an introduction to social policy debates in contemporary Britain.