

**Columbia College**  
**Special Topics in Human Services (HSPD285)**  
**Lecture 1**  
**Course Outline**

Semester Dates: May 25, 2020 to June 27, 2020

Please note that when a holiday falls during the week, your class will be rescheduled for the Friday of that week. Students are required to make arrangements to be present at the rescheduled class.

Facilitator: Kris McNab

Email: kris.mcnab@columbia.ca

Class Time: Tuesdays & Thursdays- See Microsoft Teams invites from facilitator )

Room: Microsoft Teams and HSDP285 Moodle Page

Credit: 3

Prerequisite: None

---

**Note:** It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in the Course Outline and to clarify any areas of concern with the facilitator. Please note that when a holiday falls during the week, your class will be rescheduled for the Friday of that week. Students are required to make arrangements to be present at the rescheduled class.

**Course Description:**

This course offers the student an opportunity to explore key topics and issues focusing on their area of specialization. Primary and secondary research will be used to prepare a major project on the topic/topics of choice.

**Learning Outcomes:**

As a result of active participation in these sessions, a student can expect to:

1. Define, explain, and describe key terms, concepts, theories, ideologies and models.
2. Apply and critically analyze ethics related to your profession.
3. Summarize a human services approach to working with individuals experiencing poverty, unemployment, and other associated challenges.
4. Identify and discuss how children and families are affected by parenting style, family type, and family violence.
5. Describe how human services workers work with diverse populations such as seniors, Aboriginal Canadians, immigrants, and individuals with disabilities,
6. Articulate an understanding of Social Agencies for delivering social welfare resources to people in need through strategic and operational frameworks.
7. Understand the social welfare system and critically assess its issues, roles, approaches, initiatives and challenges.
8. Discuss the role of professional and non-professional service providers within the social welfare provision.
9. Demonstrate professional and personal growth in human services through self-assessment activities.
10. Summarize the process of how social welfare policies are formalized, implemented, and evaluated.
11. Understand how Canada's Social Union Framework Agreement forms a foundation for agreed-upon principles and commitments for pan-Canadian social welfare developments. Apply these principles to current programs in Alberta.
12. Be able to articulate how the three main service sectors deliver social welfare programs to Canadians.

## **Course Format:**

This course uses a variety of teaching/learning methods including discussion, personal reflection, experiential exercises, student presentations, role-plays, group activities and especially case studies. Our faculty aims to create a learning environment where the learner is actively engaged in inquiry, critical thinking and problem solving. The online classroom provides you with a place where you can learn with and from others in a cooperative and collaborative manner.

You are expected to take a very active part in online class discussions and take responsibility for your own learning. Be a positive and co-operative team member. The expectation is that you will come to each online class prepared with pre-class homework completed. Your facilitator will engage you in activities that are based on your completed homework and readings. Your enthusiastic and positive approach in the online setting classroom will create an atmosphere that will help every student develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes that are needed for success.

How you conduct yourself in our online classes will, to a large extent, mirror your conduct in society and your future work site. For example, if you have a tendency to ask questions, challenge the ideas of others in a respectful manner, draw out the best from your colleagues, and encourage both group development and task accomplishment in this class, it is likely you will do the same at work. A high level of student involvement and developing professionalism is expected in the classroom as you work towards your goal.

## **Required Textbooks and Equipment:**

Chappell, R. (2014). *Social welfare in Canadian society (5th ed.)*. Toronto, ON: Nelson Education Learning.

## **Recommended Readings and Resources:**

*Further Recommended Readings and Resources:*

N/A

## **Homework Assignment Due for the First Class:**

1. Read this course outline and be prepared to discuss in class.
2. Read Chapters 1 and 2 of your text, *Social welfare in the Canadian Society*.
3. Prepare for a test on the assigned readings.

## Evaluation - Assessment of Student Performance:

The final grade in the course will be based on the following elements. Wherever possible facilitators will use rubrics to assess your performance and offer feedback.

| Title of Assignment/Examination | Due Date     | Weight |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Daily Tests                     | Class 1 - 10 | 25%    |
| Writing Assignment A            | Class 4      | 20%    |
| Writing Assignment B            | Class 7      | 30%    |
| Final Reflective Paper          | Class 10     | 25%    |

Please note that all homework and assignments are due at 11:59PM on the day of each due date.

## Grading:

Grades for each component will be added together at the end of the semester. The final total will be translated to the Columbia College's 4.0 grading scale as follows:

### Marking and Grading Conversion:

| Description  | Letter Grade | Grade Points | Percentage Scale |    |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|----|
| Excellent    | A+           | 4.0          | 100              | 95 |
|              | A            | 4.0          | 94               | 90 |
|              | A-           | 3.7          | 89               | 85 |
| Good         | B+           | 3.3          | 84               | 80 |
|              | B            | 3.0          | 79               | 75 |
|              | B-           | 2.7          | 74               | 70 |
| Satisfactory | C+           | 2.3          | 69               | 65 |
|              | C            | 2.0          | 64               | 60 |
|              | C-           | 1.7          | 59               | 55 |
| Poor         | D            | 1.0          | 54               | 50 |
| Failure      | F            | 0.0          | 49               | 0  |

Please note that to pass this course you must earn at least a "C+" (a minimal pass) for the course.

## Submission and Completion of Assignments:

You are expected to submit assignments by the due date. Any late assignments may be assessed a marking penalty of 5% per day. If you are unable to submit an assignment on the due date, you must request an extension **before** the due date by filling out an *Application for Assignment Extension form (SSPP-F012)* that is to be submitted to the Department Chair for approval. This form is available on Columbia's website and from Department Chairs.

### **Attendance Requirements:**

Columbia College believes that students are committed to their program and learning experiences. However, it is understood that there are times when students may be absent and unable to complete online activities and daily assessments. Any absences can be viewed as a potentially serious disruption of the learning process and necessary achievement of the learning objectives. Completion of online activities and Daily Tests constitute an attended day. Unavoidable absences or lateness must be reported to the course facilitator in advance. Please refer to Columbia College's *Attendance Policy and Regulations (ADM-P151)* for detailed information on Attendance Requirements.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from Columbia College.

There is no tolerance for academic dishonesty and any student caught plagiarizing is subject to serious sanctions as outlined in the *Student Code of Conduct Policy (ADM-P229)*. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with this policy and avoid any behavior that could possibly be seen as cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting, or putting into question the integrity of one's academic work.

### **Student Conduct:**

It is the responsibility of each student to uphold the expectations and responsibilities outlined in the *Student Code of Conduct Policy (ADM-P229)*, *Columbia College's Commitment to Human Rights and Diversity Policy (ADM-P029)*, and any additional requirements established by your program.

Generally, each student will:

- be respectful and courteous toward others; this includes online meetings and discussions
- demonstrate appropriate and supportive communication skills, and coach, assist, advise and otherwise support other students in their studies;
- manage any personal stress and conflict in a positive and resourceful manner, and assist others to do the same;
- be dressed in a manner appropriate for their workplace or learning environment, as established by the program;
- conduct themselves in a professional manner with regard to their communication with others and their behavior in class;
- conduct themselves with academic integrity in all of their learning activities, tests, exams, and assignments
- keep up with day-to-day classroom and course expectations.

**Important Dates:**

**Description**

**Date**

Last to add/drop courses

5 school operating days from the start of the semester  
OR before the third scheduled class, whichever is  
greater

Last day to withdraw without academic  
penalty

50% or less of the semester has been completed

**Appeals:**

Please refer to the *Student Appeal Policy (ADM-P177)*.

**Students with Temporary or Permanent Disabilities or Medical Condition:**

Students with temporary or permanent disabilities or medical condition may apply for accommodations. To be considered for an accommodation, a student must register with Columbia College's Accessibility Services by making an appointment with an Accessibility Services Advisor – Main Office – Bldg. 802 or emailing [accessibilityservices@columbia.ab.ca](mailto:accessibilityservices@columbia.ab.ca). The Department Chair or facilitator is not able to provide you with any accommodations without you taking this step. Please refer to Columbia College's website to review *the Accommodation Policy and Handbook (ADM-P188)*.

**Student Support:**

Students should be aware that Life Coaching, Career and Accessibility Services, and Student Support Services (i.e. tutoring, academic strategists, etc.) are provided by Columbia College. Inquire how to request these services at the Main Office in building 802. It is the student's responsibility to discuss their specific learning needs with the appropriate service provider.

### Class Schedule/Overview:

Please note that this schedule is subject to change. Any changes or cancellations will be emailed to you. It is your responsibility to check the email address you have given to the school on a daily basis for any messages from the Department Chair/designate, facilitator or College Administration. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in the Course Outline and to clarify any areas of concern with the facilitator.

| Class Session | Topics  | Pre-Class Readings  |
|---------------|---|---|
| 1             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The nature of Canadian social welfare</li> <li>Social welfare policy</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapters 1, 2</li> </ul> |
| 2             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social welfare in globalization</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapters 4</li> </ul>    |
| 3             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social sectors</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 5</li> </ul>     |
| 3             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social agencies</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapters 6</li> </ul>    |
| 4             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service providers</li> <li><b>Writing Assignment A Due</b></li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapters 7</li> </ul>    |
| 5             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planned change in micro, mezzo, and macro systems</li> <li>The social welfare of Canadians living in poverty</li> </ul>                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapters 8,9</li> </ul>  |
| 6             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The social welfare of children and their families</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapters 10</li> </ul>   |
| 7             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social welfare and older Canadians</li> <li>The social welfare with Aboriginal Canadians</li> <li><b>Writing Assignment B Due</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 11,12</li> </ul> |
| 8             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The social welfare of recent immigrants</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 13</li> </ul>    |
| 9             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social welfare and people with disabilities</li> <li>Emerging Issues &amp; Trends</li> <li><b>Final Project Due</b></li> </ul>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 14</li> </ul>    |

## Appendix 1 Assignment Outlines

**Please note: Students must complete all assignments, tests, and final projects in order to pass this course**

### Daily Tests

**Due Date: Each class from classes 1 through 10.**

**Weight: 25%**

Students will be expected to have read the assigned chapters in the text and other assigned readings and be prepared to write a graded test based on these reading assignments. Tests are open in Moodle from 8:30 AM to 11:59 PM on the day of the scheduled class. There is one attempt and a 30-minute time limit on each test

### Writing Assignment A

**Due: Class 4**

**Weight: 20%**

Canadian Social Policy

**Social policy** is a term which is applied to various areas of **policy**, usually within a governmental or political setting (such as the welfare state and study of **social** services). It can refer to guidelines, principles, legislation and activities that affect the living conditions conducive to human welfare, such as a person's quality of life.

Write a critical thinking response that focuses on a social policy that interests you (i.e. Immigration Policy, Child Welfare Act, and Disability Policy).

- Identify and describe the factors (e.g., political or economic climate) that may have influenced the need for the policy,
- How this policy affects vulnerable individuals.
- Name at least one (1) change would you make to this policy. Why would you make this change?
- Explore the reasons why the policy is relevant in Canada, Alberta and/or Calgary.

### Writing Assignments Expectations:

- **Objective:** The objectives of this writing assignments are to critically apply concepts, ideas, and procedures to facilitate higher level learning. The assignments are designed so students can demonstrate depth of knowledge related to the course content.
- **Focus:** Each assignment is designed to apply knowledge from the chapters and class discussions.
- **Format:** All assignments will be double-spaced. Do not include title pages. Include your name at the top of each page. A minimum of one inch margins on each side. 12 point Times New Roman font is preferred. Each assignment should have a minimum length of 500 words but is not to exceed 750 words. Students will be evaluated according to the attached rubric: **Critical Writing Response Marking Rubric.**

### How to avoid plagiarism

- The simplest way to avoid plagiarism is to reference any sources properly (using both in-text, parenthetical citations in the body of your assignment and a 'References' page at the end). While it is commonplace to build upon the knowledge of others, it is necessary to clearly state the sources and foundations of that knowledge. Referencing must conform to the APA style

## Writing Assignment B

Due: Class 8

Weight: 30%

### *Investigative Summary: Peer Intervention Program Assignment*

- Investigate how peer intervention programs are used in your community.
- Define what they are, and identify where and why they exist.
- What types of issues or social concerns use peer intervention models?
- What types of training, support, and resources are available to these initiatives?
- How are they funded or sustained?
- How are they evaluated?
- Are there risks or liabilities?
- What are the benefits?

What does the literature say about peer support interventions (reviews, best practices, concerns)?

- Consider the role of peer intervention in the overall social welfare picture, and comment on how the model is currently being used in your community.
- Is there over or under use?
- Is there a population, need, or issue in your community where individuals might benefit from this type of support?

Write a summary emphasizing the results and highlights of your investigation.

### **Writing Assignments Expectations:**

- **Objective:** The objectives of the two writing assignments are to critically apply concepts, ideas, and procedures to facilitate higher level learning. The assignments are designed so students can demonstrate depth of knowledge related to the course content.
- **Focus:** Each assignment is designed to apply knowledge from the chapters and class discussions.
- **Format:** All assignments will be double-spaced. Do not include title pages. Include your name at the top of each page. A minimum of one inch margins on each side. 12 point Times New Roman font is preferred. Each assignment should have a minimum length of 500 words but is not to exceed 750 words. Students will be evaluated according to the attached rubric: **Short Answer Writing Response Marking Rubric.**

### **How to avoid plagiarism**

The simplest way to avoid plagiarism is to reference any sources properly (using both in-text, parenthetical citations in the body of your assignment and a 'References' page at the end). While it is commonplace to build upon the knowledge of others, it is necessary to clearly state the sources and foundations of that knowledge. Referencing must conform to the APA style.



**Final Project**  
**Due Date: Class 10**  
**Weight: 25%**

Students will be required to write a final reflective project covering classroom learning, text content, and other readings. Choose one of the following hypothetical situations that involves an injustice of some kind.

Here are two examples:

- a) A local businessperson opens an adult-only restaurant and refuses to serve families with small children.
- b) A single mother is evicted from her apartment when the landlord discovers she is on welfare

Then, choose one group, either the “Collaborators,” the “Campaigners,” and the “Contestants.” (See the “Social Action” section in Chapter 8 for a description of the types of strategies each group might use to create social change.) Devise a social action your particular group would use for your chosen situation. Reflect on the potential pros and cons of the strategy you suggested.

**Writing Assignment:**

**Objective:**

The objectives of the two writing assignments are to critically apply concepts, ideas, and procedures to facilitate higher level learning. The assignments are designed so students can demonstrate depth of knowledge related to the course content.

- **Focus:** Each assignment is designed to apply knowledge from the chapters and class discussions.
- **Format:** All assignments will be double-spaced. Do not include title pages. Include your name at the top of each page. A minimum of one inch margins on each side. 12 point Times New Roman font is preferred. Each assignment should have a minimum length of 500 words but is not to exceed 750 words. Students will be evaluated according to the attached rubric: **Critical Writing Response Marking Rubric**

**How to avoid plagiarism**

- The simplest way to avoid plagiarism is to reference any sources properly (using both in-text, parenthetical citations in the body of your assignment and a ‘References’ page at the end). While it is commonplace to build upon the knowledge of others, it is necessary to clearly state the sources and foundations of that knowledge. Referencing must conform to the APA style.

**Appendix  
Assignment Rubrics**

**Columbia College  
Critical Writing Response Marking Rubric  
Revised Jan. 2018**

| Student's Name                               | Course Code  | Date  | Facilitator/Evaluator's Name  |   |              |
|--|--|---|---|---|--------------|
|  | <b>A</b><br>10-9   | <b>B</b><br>8-7   | <b>C-D</b><br>6-5   | <b>F</b><br>4-0   | <b>Score</b> |
| <b>Quality of Response<br/>Content/Ideas</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates reflection, insight, and accurate interpretation of assignment.</li> <li>• States main idea/opinion clearly.</li> <li>• Provides support for the main idea through numerous, relevant sources and/or references to the course readings.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates reflection and accurate interpretation of assignment.</li> <li>• States main idea /opinion clearly.</li> <li>• Provides support for the main idea through number of relevant sources and/or references to the course readings.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates limited response to assignment.</li> <li>• Partly identifies main idea/opinion.</li> <li>• Attempts some support for the main idea, but it is limited in applicability.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creates limited response that is hard to follow.</li> <li>• Main idea/opinion not identified.</li> <li>• Uses little to no references to support opinion.</li> </ul>       |              |
| <b>Analysis</b>                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explores issue thoroughly and with insight, developing a clear, original position with persuasive examples.</li> <li>• Demonstrates sound logic.</li> <li>• Demonstrates excellent critical thinking and problem solving skills.</li> </ul>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explores issue well, developing an original position with and good examples.</li> <li>• Demonstrates good logic.</li> <li>• Demonstrates very good critical thinking and problem solving skills.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defines the issue, but explores it inadequately.</li> <li>• Uses examples inconsistently and/or examples are lacking.</li> <li>• Demonstrates weakness in logic.</li> <li>• Demonstrates weak critical thinking and problem solving skills.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defines issue inadequately, demonstrating a simplistic view.</li> <li>• Lacks logic.</li> <li>• Demonstrates poor critical thinking and problem solving skills.</li> </ul> |              |

|                                   | <b>A</b>   | <b>B</b>   | <b>C-D</b>   | <b>F</b>  | <b>Score</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|---|--------------|
|                                   | 10-9   | 8-7  | 6-5  | 4-0   |              |
| <b>Style Expression of Ideas</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses highly effective, clearly focused, varied sentences, addressing audience and purpose.</li> <li>• Incorporates knowledge of stylistic techniques.</li> <li>• Conveys all ideas with originality and clarity.</li> <li>• Uses rich, accurate and effective word choice.</li> <li>• Consistently demonstrates original, sincere and compelling personal voice.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mostly uses effective, well structured, focused, varied sentences, addressing audience and purpose.</li> <li>• Demonstrates use of particular stylistic techniques.</li> <li>• Conveys most ideas with originality and clarity.</li> <li>• Uses accurate and effective word choice.</li> <li>• Mostly demonstrates original, sincere personal voice.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates limited attempts at creating varied sentences to address audience and purpose.</li> <li>• Often sentences are somewhat awkward.</li> <li>• Little attempt at using stylistic techniques.</li> <li>• Conveys some ideas clearly.</li> <li>• Uses vague, ineffective word choice.</li> <li>• Demonstrates little to no development of a personal voice.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses simplistic sentence structures that are awkward and do not address audience and purpose.</li> <li>• No stylistic devices attempted.</li> <li>• Most ideas are not conveyed clearly.</li> <li>• Inadequate word choice.</li> <li>• No evidence of a personal voice.</li> </ul> |              |
| <b>Organization and Structure</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creates a sophisticated, well developed beginning, middle and conclusion.</li> <li>• Connects all ideas logically.</li> <li>• Uses a variety of carefully crafted sentence structures.</li> <li>• Consistently establishes appropriate paragraphing and transitions.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creates a well-developed beginning, middle, and conclusion.</li> <li>• Connects most ideas logically.</li> <li>• Uses a variety of well-structured sentence</li> <li>• Most of the time establishes appropriate paragraphing and transitions</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creates an unfocused beginning, middle and a simple conclusion.</li> <li>• Creates answer that is poorly structured.</li> <li>• Uses some sentence variety with errors that begin to interfere with meaning.</li> <li>• Shows faulty paragraphing and lack of transitions.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creates a limited response with no clear beginning, middle, and conclusion.</li> <li>• Creates confusion in structure.</li> <li>• Uses little to no sentence structure variety.</li> <li>• Many structural errors</li> <li>• Weak to no paragraphing or transition.</li> </ul>     |              |

|  | <b>A</b>   | <b>B</b>  | <b>C-D</b>   | <b>F</b>   | <b>Score</b> |
|--|--|---|--|--|--------------|
|  | 10-9   | 8-7   | 6-5  | 4-0  |              |
| <b>Mechanics,<br/>Grammar,<br/>Professional Format</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mainly error free.</li> <li>Uses APA citation correctly where applicable for referencing sources.</li> <li>Meets and exceeds all requirements for an excellent academic response.</li> <li>Meets and exceeds all requirements of the assignment.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A few minor errors in usage, grammar, or mechanics.</li> <li>Generally uses APA citation correctly where applicable for referencing sources.</li> <li>Meets most requirements for a well written academic response.</li> <li>Meets most requirements of the assignment.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequent errors in usage, grammar, and mechanics, beginning to interfere with the readability and meaning of the paper.</li> <li>Uses APA citation inconsistently and with errors when sources are used.</li> <li>Meets a few requirements for an acceptable academic response.</li> <li>Meets a few requirements of the assignment.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerous errors in usage, grammar, and mechanics, affecting the readability and meaning of the paper.</li> <li>Many errors in APA citation, demonstrating lack of citation knowledge when sources are used.</li> <li>Meets few requirements for an acceptable academic response.</li> <li>Meets little to no requirements of the assignment.</li> </ul> |              |

**Plagiarism: A “0” grade will be given to a paper where significant sections of the paper were copied from other, unattributed sources.**

**Total Score out of 50:**

**Facilitator/Evaluator’s Comments:**