

26104 - Introduction to Social Policy

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2024/25

Subject: 26104 - Introduction to Social Policy

Faculty / School: 108 - Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y del Trabajo

Degree: 274 - Degree in Social Work

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 1

Semester: First semester

Subject type: Basic Education

Module:

1. General information

The subject is oriented to the understanding of the social-political protection system as a whole. The fundamental concepts of social policy and its evolution in relation to Social Work are introduced and studied at, from an integral vision of public and social policies, welfare systems and social services.

It is aligned with the following SDGs: Goal 1 - End poverty; Goal 5 - Gender equality; Goal 8 - Decent work and economic growth; Goal 10 - Reducing inequalities; and Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions.

2. Learning results

1. The student is able to explain the basis on which the State has come to assume responsibility in its functions in social policies.
2. The student understands in a systemic way the articulation of the State, the market and civil society, as well as the role of each of these agents in the provision of welfare.
3. The student knows what welfare and social protection systems are and what they consist of, understanding the fundamental differences between neoliberalism and social democracy.
4. The student has the elements to analyze differences in form and substance through which social work has evolved from its origins to the possibilities offered at the present time. At the same time, it recognizes that the values of have been consistent since the beginning of the profession: respect for human dignity and providing the means for social integration.
5. The student expresses, explains and argues with sense in the academic work knowing some of the main authors and reference manuals, learning to situate the university way the resources of the Internet.
6. The student has acquired basic and fundamental knowledge. Learn to analyze and comprehensively understand social policies within the social system, distinguishing the positions and consequences of the State, market and civil society, as well as the different trends or aspects in which they may manifest themselves.
7. The student begin to consider how he should position himself/herself as a future social worker in relation to the institutions where the resources come from and to the potential users with whom they will intervene.

3. Syllabus

THEMATIC BLOCK I: Foundations and components of social policy.

DIDACTIC UNIT 1. Key concepts.

Contextualization of the relationship between Social Policy and Social Work yesterday and today. Fundamentals and concepts of the Policy

Social: Differences between social policy, public policies, social well-being, need, social demand and social rights.

Key areas of social policy: health, education, housing, social security and pensions, employment and market policies labor. The role of the state, commercial, relational and family spheres in the provision of social well-being.

THEMATIC BLOCK II: History of the welfare state: the process of reform and social change

DIDACTIC UNIT 2. Historical background of social policy.

Modernity and the composition of the modern State. The Industrial Revolution and its effects: British liberalism, idealism

German and French republican dogmatism. The need for social reform: who and how to start it. The step to State interventionism. Ideological positions and their relationship with the origins of Welfare States

THEMATIC BLOCK III: Origins, development and crisis of the welfare state

DIDACTIC UNIT 3. The birth of the Welfare State: the Bismarckian keys. Recognition of function state regulator. The different typology models of states, depending on the development of welfare systems.

DIDACTIC UNIT 4. Key points of the Social Policy and Welfare State in Spain. The origins of the Welfare State in Spain:

The layout of insurance and social services: from social assistance to the welfare state. The expression of social policies in biographical trajectories.

DIDACTIC UNIT 5. Crisis of the Welfare State and alternative ways. Neoliberalism and social democracy under debate. From the welfare state to the welfare society: the so-called Welfare Mix and social policies. Foundations, background values and trends of social policies. Brief note on the new needs and challenges from the horizons of the European Union.

4. Academic activities

The activities will be built dynamically and according to the development of the learning process. Basically will consist of:

- Search for information on specific study topics
- Analysis and critique of previously selected readings
- Projection of multimedia materials related to the subject of study and critique of their contents
- Oral presentations, discussions and group work on different readings

- Exercises designed to reinforce theoretical content with practical cases

5. Assessment system

There are two modalities: Continuous evaluation and Global evaluation.

Continuous assessment. Whoever opts for continuous evaluation will have to attend classes regularly, with 80% of the necessary assistance to opt for this evaluation.

Throughout the course you will carry out different practices and supervised activities that constitute 50%. To master the theoretical part. Another 50% corresponds to the written exam. 5/10 is the minimum grade to pass to maintain the continuous evaluation. These exercises allow contrast the assimilation of concepts, capacity for relationship and synthesis, as well as argumentative clarity and coherence, ability to search for information and analyze and interpret the different texts and readings in relation to the part corresponding theory.

Global evaluation in first and second call

Whoever opts for the single evaluation will have to take a written test on the contents of the subject (80%) and submit a written work (20%) that must be defended orally on the date set for this purpose. In the second call the test can be oral and/or written and the grade corresponds to 100% with 5 being the minimum grade to pass the course.

6. Sustainable Development Goals

- 4 - Quality Education
- 10 - Reduction of Inequalities
- 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions