ASSIGNMENTS:
Students will complete and turn in assignments by respective due dates as noted in the course outline. Missed assignments may result in a course grade of incomplete.

(1) Policy Tracking Journals (100 Points): In this assignment you will select a social welfare policy issue and keep a journal over the course of the semester. The journal shall consist of four articles from media sources on the selected issue. Articles sourced should not predate the year preceding the current semester. Each article should be accompanied by your written critical review. In your critical review you should describe not only the content of the article but 1) the philosophical slant of the source and the writer, 2) the position the writer is taking regarding the issue, 3) your position on the issue, with reason(s) for your position. Respective due dates for the articles are 9/6, 9/27, 10/18, and 11/7. Content of the articles may reflect historical, economic, social, or political reporting. Reviews should be typed in 12-point double spaced format and be a minimum of two (2) pages in length. (Supports CSWE competency #5)

(2) Policy Analysis Paper (120 Points): In this assignment you are required to select a social welfare policy issue and write a paper analyzing a particular policy adopted to address it. The paper itself should be 8-10 pages in length and cite at least six (6) sources. It should be presented in typed 12-point double spaced format. An abstract for the paper is due on 10/11, the finished paper is due on 11/20. (Supports CSWE competencies #2, #3, #5) Your paper should:

1. Describe the social problem.
2. Describe the policy addressing the problem.
3. Describe the history of how the policy came about.
4. Describe the economic considerations pertinent to the policy.
5. Describe the social influences (values and ethical issues, human rights) on the policy.
6. Describe the political process and conditions influencing the policy.
7. Provide a thoughtful critique of the policy taking into account social, political, and economic variables.

(2a) Policy Analysis Presentation (80 Points): In this assignment you are required to present to the class on a social welfare policy issue. It may be the policy on which you wrote your paper, but it does not need to be. Presentations will take place on 11/13, 11/15, 11/20, and a sign-up sheet will be distributed in class to determine who is presenting when. (Supports CSWE competencies #2, #3, #5)

1. Create a 1-page outline of a current social welfare issue by analysis, posting it on Blackboard for your classmates by 5:00pm the evening before you present. A minimum of 4 references must be cited for the outline of your policy.
2. Orally summarize the policy in 3-5 minutes
3. During the remainder of the presentation, share your analytical position on the policy, with supporting data for your argument.
4. A/V aids may be incorporated in the presentation.

(3) Final Exam (100 Points): There will be a final exam at the end of the semester. It will be in the form of a list of essay questions from which you will be asked to select and respond to a portion of the questions. Your answers should be in 12-point double spaced format. The final will occur according to the university schedule for final exams (Supports CSWE competencies #2, #3, #5)