

Midstate College
411 W. Northmoor Rd.
Peoria, IL 61614
(309) 692-4092 (800) 251-4299
Winter Term 2018

Course Number and Name: LSJ 110 – Introduction to Social Justice

Credit Hours: 4 Quarter Credit Hours

Method of Delivery: eLearning Course – Midstate’s LMS

Course Description: This course examines the theme of justice as a foundational goal of all social institutions in a democracy and introduces students to critically examining social injustices, especially in institutions and social structures. In order to arrive at a vision and practice of justice we will study those “acceptable” injustices through the lens of justice and equality for all.

Prerequisites: None

Text: Brooks/Cole Empowerment Series:
Foundations of Social Policy: Social Justice in Human Perspective, 4th Edition
(ISBN-10: 0840034385, ISBN-13: 9780840034380)

Author: Amanda S. Barusch, University of Otago

Publisher: Cengage (2012)

Supplement: The Little Book of Restorative Justice, Revised and Updated
Howard Zehr
ISBN: 9781561488230
Good Books, Intercourse, PA (2015)

Other Readings: Other readings as assigned and available on JOULE

Materials needed for this course: The minimum system requirements to complete an eLearning course at Midstate College.

Topics: The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision-making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the theme of justice as a foundational goal of all social institutions.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical perspectives on social stratification while articulating their thoughts about social justice.

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4. Identify the common concepts, theories, and methods used to explain individual and social behavior while examining social injustices.
5. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary social justice policy debates

Midstate College Grading Scale: 100 – 90 = A
89 - 80 = B
79 - 70 = C
69 - 60 = D
59 - 00 = F

*All students must have a 70% or better to pass this course.

Midstate Plagiarism Policy: Plagiarism is using another person's words, either by paraphrase or direct quotation, without giving credit to the author(s). Plagiarism can also consist of cutting and pasting material from electronic sources by submitting all or a portion of work for assignment credit. This includes papers, computer programs, music, sculptures, paintings, photographs, etc. authored by another person without explicitly citing the original source(s). These actions violate the trust and honesty expected in academic work. Plagiarism is strictly against the academic policy of Midstate College. Its seriousness requires a measured, forceful response which includes consequences for inappropriate and/or no citation.

In courses containing writing assignments, the College promotes the use of an electronic resource which compares the student's writing against previously submitted papers, journals, periodicals, books, and web pages. Students and instructors can use this service to reduce the incidence of plagiarism. This electronic resource has been found to conform to legal requirements for fair use and student confidentiality. It is able to provide a report to the student indicating the parts of the assignment that match.

In addition to the plagiarism policy, for any written assignment in this course, Turnitin will also indicate originality of the student's work. **No written assignment should be more than 25% similar** to other works, which means that students are to paraphrase as much as possible instead of using direct quotations from **any** source!! You must demonstrate that you comprehend the material and can put it in your own words! Assignments submitted that are more than 25% similar to other works will be graded down, and any assignment **50% similar** or more to other works will be given a **ZERO**.

Student Success: The Office of Student Success is available to students seeking tutoring for individual classes or who need assistance with writing assignments. Information is also available on test taking techniques, how to take notes, developing good study skills, etc. Contact Student Success in Room 110 (in person); (309) 692-4092, extension 1100 (phone); studentsuccess@midstate.edu (email).

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Assessment Portfolio Reminder: Students (depending on your program major) may be required to prepare an assessment portfolio for graduation. Keep a copy of this syllabus in the portfolio. Use the “Evidence for Success” list from your program portfolio (or consult your Program Director) and instructions from the instructor to determine the assignment(s) that should be placed in the assessment portfolio.

Instructor Information

Instructor’s Name: Ashley M. Miller
Midstate College Phone: (309) 692-4092
Midstate College Fax: (309)-692-3893
Instructor’s email: amiller4@midstate.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays – 5:00PM to 6:00PM

Participation Requirements: You **will be required** to participate in the group discussion forum *substantively at least two times* each week in several discussion forum/homework assignments relating to the subject materials for the week. Discussions will take place in the online discussion forum as assigned by the faculty member in the course syllabus. You will read, analyze, and respond to questions and comments from the instructor and fellow students. When applicable, include page numbers from assigned readings or other sources to cite supporting documentation. All posts should advance the discussion and deepen academic inquiry. **PLEASE NOTE:** Substantive participation requires original thought and application to the threads and student posts. Participation in the “General Discussion” thread each week – which generally is a place for students and the instructor to ‘chat’, not engage in class material – **does not** count toward substantive participation. Congratulatory, “I agree”, and/or praising sentences – while encouraged – do not count toward substantive participation either.

Examination Information: There will be 2 examinations administered in this class.

1. **Midterm Examination** - will consist of 100 points and it will cover the chapters as indicated in the Course Outline.
2. **Final Examination** - will consist of 100 points and it will cover the chapters as indicated in the Course Outline.

Methods of evaluating student performance: Please see “Instructor Final Grade Determination” below for more information.

Attendance Policy: eLearning students must login and participate **at least** once a week to be counted present for the week (participation is essential for passing this course). You must post a gradable assignment each week to be counted as “Present” for the week.

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Instructors Grading Scale: The following assignments and activities are outlined in a week-by-week format. All assignments (unless specified otherwise) are due by the date identified by the instructor and they need to be posted to the location specified by the faculty member in the syllabus. The following schedule indicates the days of the week to be followed in this module.

Day 1	Monday
Day 2	Tuesday
Day 3	Wednesday
Day 4	Thursday
Day 5	Friday
Day 6	Saturday
Day 7	Sunday

Instructor Final Grade Determination: Your final grade in this course will be based on **650** points: Students will be required to complete a journal entry each week summarizing the material for that week. Instructions for the Journal Entry assignment are on the Introduction page on Joule. There will be three Reaction Assignments due during the semester as indicated on the class schedule. Guidelines and details for all assignments will be posted on Joule as they become due. Additionally, students will be expected to participate in group discussions having demonstrated they have read the material assigned. Points will be deducted at my discretion if a student does not demonstrate knowledge of the assigned material and/or does not contribute during group discussions. We will be engaging in group discussions over our textbook material, special readings, and any documentaries that we view throughout the term. Additionally, there will be a Midterm and Final Exam, both which will be administered online and will include essay, multiple choice, and true/false questions. Grading points are as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. Midterm exam | 100 points |
| 2. Final exam | 100 points |
| 3. Discussions | 200 points (20 points each X 10 entries) |
| 4. Essay Assignment | 150 points (50 points each x 3) |
| 5. Quizzes | <u>100 points</u> (10 points each x 10) |
| TOTAL POINTS | 650 points |

*All students must have a 70% or better to pass this course.

Course Policies and Procedures:

1. **eLearning Sessions:** In accordance with Midstate College policies, class material will be made available on Monday at 12:00 p.m. of that week (see dates in the Course Outline below) and will remain available until the following Monday until 8:00 a.m. This allows

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students one week to access the lecture and related material for that week's session, complete their journal entry, and participate in the mandatory discussion and summary boards.

2. **Late Policy:** All work must be submitted on time (by the assignment due date). Late work will not be accepted **unless** arrangements have been made with the instructor (arrangements must be made **prior to** the assignment due date). Approval for accepting late work is at the discretion of the instructor and will **only** be granted for extenuating circumstances. If late work is accepted, late penalties will apply at the discretion of the instructor.
3. **Reaction assignments:** These assignments will supplement the textbook, special readings and lectures to further your understanding and application of social justice analysis, research, and group/individual relationships. Writing assignments will be turned in online via Assignment links available on Joule depending on the due date. While this is not a composition course, I will be counting off for grammar and spelling errors, run-on sentences, and other writing errors. I expect good quality papers!
4. All work must be completed by **February 18, 2019**.
5. Academic dishonesty (cheating / plagiarism) in any form **will not** be tolerated in this course and may result in the dismissal/suspension from the course/program/college. Do your own work!! Not knowing the rules of plagiarism is not a valid defense. Check with me if you are not clear on what constitutes plagiarism.
6. This is a tentative syllabus and outline and is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Students will receive timely notice of all such changes via announcements made online in Joule and via email.

Introduction to Social Justice – LSJ 110
Winter Term 2017/2018
Course Outline

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This Outline is a guideline that may change as necessary as the quarter/term progresses. However, exams WILL BE on the given dates and will include questions on all information covered to that point.

Week 1:

1. Pretest
2. Introduction to Law and Social Justice and Syllabus Review/Course Goals
3. Social Justice and Social Workers (Chapter 1)

Topics Covered in Week 1:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 1:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the theme of justice as a foundational goal of all social institutions.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical perspectives on social stratification while articulating their thoughts about social justice.
4. Identify the common concepts, theories, and methods used to explain individual and social behavior while examining social injustices.
5. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary social justice policy debates

Week 2:

1. The Government's Role (Chapter 2)
2. Policy Analysis and Policy Practice (Chapter 3)

Topics Covered in Week 2:

1. Social Injustices
2. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 2:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the theme of justice as a foundational goal of all social institutions.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical perspectives on social stratification while articulating their thoughts about social justice.

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Week 3:

1. The Social Security Act (Chapter 4)
2. Poverty (Chapter 5)
3. Reaction Writing Assignment #1 due

Topics Covered in Week 3:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 3:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision-making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Identify the common concepts, theories, and methods used to explain individual and social behavior while examining social injustices.

Week 4:

1. Health (Chapter 6)

Topics Covered in Week 4:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 4:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Identify the common concepts, theories, and methods used to explain individual and social behavior while examining social injustices.

Week 5:

1. Mental Health and Mental Illness (Chapter 7)
2. Disability (Chapter 8)

Topics Covered in Week 5:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

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Objectives Covered in Week 5:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the theme of justice as a foundational goal of all social institutions.
2. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary social justice policy debates

Week 6:

1. Midterm Examination (100 Points): Chapters 1-8
2. ***Exam available day 1 of week 6 (at 12:00 PM) through day 1 of week 7 (at 8:00 AM)***

Topics Covered in Week 6:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 6:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the theme of justice as a foundational goal of all social institutions.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical perspectives on social stratification while articulating their thoughts about social justice.
4. Identify the common concepts, theories, and methods used to explain individual and social behavior while examining social injustices.
5. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary social justice policy debates

Week 7:

1. People of Color – Week 9
2. Reaction Assignment #2 Due

Topics Covered in Week 7:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 7:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the theme of justice as a foundational goal of all social institutions.
2. Identify the common concepts, theories, and methods used to explain individual and social behavior while examining social injustices.
3. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary social justice policy debates

Week 8:

1. Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Individuals (Chapter 10)

Topics Covered in Week 8:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 8:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical perspectives on social stratification while articulating their thoughts about social justice.
3. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary social justice policy debates

Week 9:

1. Children (Chapter 11)
2. Women (Chapter 12)

Topics Covered in Week 9:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 9:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical perspectives on social stratification while articulating their thoughts about social justice.
3. Identify the common concepts, theories, and methods used to explain individual and social behavior while examining social injustices.
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Week 10:

1. The Aged (Chapter 13)
2. Working Americans (Chapter 14)
3. Reaction Assignment #3 Due

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Topics Covered in Week 10:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 10:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical perspectives on social stratification while articulating their thoughts about social justice.
3. Identify the common concepts, theories, and methods used to explain individual and social behavior while examining social injustices.
4. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary social justice policy debates

Week 11:

1. The Little Book of Restorative Justice Chapters 1-4 AND all Appendices
2. Posttest

Topics Covered in Week 11:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 11:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the theme of justice as a foundational goal of all social institutions.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical perspectives on social stratification while articulating their thoughts about social justice.
4. Identify the common concepts, theories, and methods used to explain individual and social behavior while examining social injustices.
5. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary social justice policy debates

Week 12:

1. Final Examination (100 points): Chapters 9, 11 and 12, and The Little Book of Restorative Justice
2. ***Final Exam available day 1 of week 12 (at 12:00 PM) through day 7 of week 12 (at 11:59PM)***

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Topics Covered in Week 12:

1. Social Injustices
2. Susceptible Communities facing Discrimination and Oppression
3. Social Justice Policy Analysis/Practice

Objectives Covered in Week 12:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision making skills while promoting human and community well-being.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the theme of justice as a foundational goal of all social institutions.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical perspectives on social stratification while articulating their thoughts about social justice.
4. Identify the common concepts, theories, and methods used to explain individual and social behavior while examining social injustices.
5. Identify values and assumptions reflected in contemporary social justice policy debates