



# Family, Consumer, and Human Development

2905 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322-2905

<http://www.usu.edu/fchd>

## FCHD 4230: Family and Social Policy

Fall Semester 2016

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Office hours: Tues/Thurs after class or by appt.

**Textbook:** Jenson, J.M., & Fraser, M.W. (2011). Social policy for children and families. (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). Los Angeles: Sage.

### Course description and objectives:

1. This course is an overview of the political context that impacts families.
2. We will discuss policymaking, specific policies, and social contexts that influence the political process.
3. Students will understand how good research should inform the policymaking process.
4. Students will understand the challenges associated with policy making, and examine a variety of belief systems influencing the political process
5. Students will improve their collaborative and oral presentation skills through a series of in-class team exercises.

### Assignments and Testing:

- A. 6 mini papers: (25 points each)
- B. 4 presentations:
  1. "Our Town" project and presentation (50 points)
  2. Group presentation (90 Points)
  3. Hot Seat presentation (10 points)
  4. Music or Art presentation (25 points)
- C. One fact sheet on a specific policy (50 points)
- D. Random attendance points (40 points)
- E. 4 quizzes:
  - Quiz 1: Brief history (on canvas)
  - Quiz 2: Bills process (on canvas)
  - Quiz 3: Gov't details, policymakers (on canvas)
  - Quiz 4: Chapters 1, 10 (on canvas)
  - Quiz 5: Chapters 2, 3 (on canvas)
  - Quiz 6: Chapter 4 (on canvas)
  - Quiz 7: Chapter 5 (on canvas)
  - Quiz 8: Chapters 6, 7 (on canvas)
  - Quiz 9: Chapters 8, 9 (on canvas)
- F. Homework assignment (announced in class) (15 points)

**Grading:** Grades are based on total points earned ( $xx/450 = \%$ ). There is no extra credit offered in this class, and I do not curve the final grade.

**A** 100 – 94%, **A-** 93 – 90%, **B+** 89 -87%, **B** 86 – 84%, **B-** 83 - 80%, **C+** 79 – 77%, **C** 76 – 74%,

**C-** 73 – 70%, **D** 69 – 60%, **F** 59% or lower

### **Class Policies:**

Students are expected to follow all academic policies and regulations of the college. A complete set of policies for this academic year can be found online/canvas. Please be aware of all add/drop deadlines and procedures: that information is your responsibility. Students with documented disabilities need to make the instructor aware of any accommodations that are required. Students in the military or on sports teams who need to miss class must give **completed** documentation to the teacher **before the day you are going to miss: I expect to receive a game or military training schedule signed by your coach or officer-in-charge by the 2nd week of class, with departure times, name, and phone number of coach or military officer included.**

**1. PUT AWAY cell phones and electronic devices as they are distracting to you, the instructor, and others.** You won't need them during class unless I ask you to use them. **If you are using a phone in class (without prior permission), you will be asked to put it away. If your phone use continues to be a problem, then your grade will be impacted by one-third** (ex: B+ becomes a B; an A- becomes a B+, a C becomes a C-, etc). For those students who have permission to use an electronic device for disability purposes, I expect the device to be used for FCHD 4230 class notes only. **You will not need your computer or phone for most classes; however, when we do have a class that requires notetaking, you may use your computer to take notes - there are outlines on canvas to download for note taking.**

**2.** If you need to leave the classroom for any reason, please do so quietly (and return quietly).

**3.** Attendance will not be taken regularly; however, **it is expected that you attend class.** Students who do well in this course come to class, take good notes, read the text, do the assignments, and participate. Students who rarely come to class will forfeit attendance points, which will affect your grade at the end of the semester. Your attendance will be tracked by attendance points, my knowledge of who you are at the end of the semester, and occasional attendance taking. **Consistently being late to class will also impact your final grade by 10 points. If you sleep through the class, you will be counted as absent.**

**4. Assignments are due on or before the last scheduled due-dates. You may turn-in assignments early if you wish, but they will not be graded until the due date.** Late assignments will be accepted, but you will automatically lose 20% for each late assignment. **An assignment is late if it is not handed in by the due date and time, so plan ahead.** All out-of-class assignments must be typed. No assignments will be accepted after the last class of the semester.

**5. If you miss class, please get notes from a class member.** You are responsible for the missed information. I do not give students my power-points or notes.

**6. Emails** sent to me in the morning of a class day will usually be received, but they might not be read until after class. Please be aware that I am not available 24/7, so I may not respond right away if you ask me questions after 6pm and on weekends.

**7. If you have to miss class due to illness or a family emergency (or your car broke down), send me an email.** \*\*If you are going to be absent for an extended period of time, let me know so we can make arrangements for make-up work. You must have a doctor's note for extended absences (breaking up with a significant other is not a reason to have an extended absence from class).

**8.** If you have concerns about course work during the semester, please talk to the instructor outside of class (sooner than later).

**9. This is a lecture, discussion, and activity class.** Please raise your hand if you have a comment and do not monopolize the class time. Personal questions should be asked in reaction papers or outside of class. **Respect for the instructor and other students is expected at all times.**

**10.** All assignments will be graded within 2 weeks, usually within a week. Emailed questions or concerns will be responded to within 24 hours, except weekends. If you do not understand an assignment, please get instruction clarification from me ahead of time, not the day before it is due. I will review assignment requirements in class as they come due.

## **This course adheres to the following USU policies:**

### Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibilities

Academic freedom is the right to teach, study, discuss, investigate, discover, create, and publish freely. Academic freedom protects the rights of faculty members in teaching and of students in learning. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Faculty members are entitled to full freedom in teaching, research, and creative activities; subject only to the limitations imposed by professional responsibility. Faculty Code Policy # 403 further defines academic freedom and professional responsibilities: <http://personnel.usu.edu/policies/403.htm>

### Academic Integrity – The “Honor System”

Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The honor system is designed to establish the higher level of conduct expected and required of all USU students.

The Honor Pledge: To enhance the learning environment at USU and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following: “I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity.” A student who lives by the Honor pledge is a student who does more than not cheat, falsify, or plagiarize. A student who lives by the Honor Pledge:

- a. Espouses academic integrity as an underlying and essential principle of the USU community
- b. Understands that each act of academic dishonesty devalues every degree that is awarded by this institution; and
- c. Is a welcomed and valued member of USU

### Plagiarism

Plagiarism includes knowingly “representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one’s own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgement. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.” The penalties for plagiarism are severe. They include warning or reprimand, grade adjustment, probation, suspension, expulsion, withholding of transcripts, denial or revocation of degrees, and referral to psychological counseling.

### Grievance Process

Students who feel they have been unfairly treated [in matters other than discipline (i) or (ii) admission, residency, employment, traffic, and parking – which are addressed by procedure separate and independent from the Student Code] may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code: See USU Catalog.

### Sexual Harassment

Sexual Harassment is defined by the Affirmative Action /Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as any “unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and any other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.” If you feel you are a victim of sexual harassment, you may talk to or file a complaint with the Affirmative Action/ Equal Employment Opportunity office located in Old Main, Room 161, or call the AA/EEO office at 797-1266.

### Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act states: “Reasonable accommodation will be provided for all persons with disabilities in order to ensure equal participation within the program. If a student has a disability that will likely require some accommodation by the instructor, the student must contact the instructor and document the disability through the Disability Resource Center (797-2444), preferably during the first week of the course. Any request for special consideration relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking of examinations, etc., must be discussed with and approved by the instructor. In cooperation with the Disability Resource Center, course materials can be provided in alternative format, large print, audio, diskette, or Braille.”

### Withdrawal Policy an Incomplete Grade Policy

Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term ‘extenuating circumstances’ includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of 2 weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.