

Social Work 150: Social Welfare in America (3 units)

Section 01: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:00-1:15. Mariposa Hall 1014

Section 02: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1:30-2:45. Sequoia Hall 128

Legislation Analysis Prompt

Assignment	Due	Percent of final grade	Percent of total assignment
Legislation Analysis		40%	
A. Proposal	2/28/19 3/05/19		10%
B. Sentence Outline	3/28/19		20%
C. 1 st Submission	4/18/19		30%
D. Final Submission	5/09/19		40%

1. Term Paper. Legislation Analysis

The purpose of the 8-page, double-spaced legislation analysis paper is to analyze a specific social welfare law from a particular point in U.S. history. The law can be either state or federal and must be related to one of these seven social policy areas: 1. social security & family income supports, 2. homelessness & affordable housing, 3. health care, 4. mental health and developmental disabilities, 5. child welfare, 6. criminal justice, 7. aging.

The paper will be built through several assignments spread out over the semester (See the assignment table above). Details for each segment will be provided in class and via Canvas.

A. Proposal: (Due ~~Thursday 2/28~~) This document will capture your initial ideas for proceeding with the paper. It will be 2 paragraphs.

Tuesday 3/05

- In the first paragraph introduce/describe the specific law that you will be analyzing. Specifically, state from which of the 7 policy areas your law comes from, and where this law applies (e.g. Federal law, State law). Be sure to write at least 1-3 sentences describing what you know already about this law, e.g. what it does, who it serves, when it was proposed or enacted, etc.
- In the second paragraph discuss why you are interested in this policy area and this specific law.
- List references. Include at least one peer reviewed academic source of information (e.g. a journal article, or book) where you will be able to learn more about the issue/law. Please give in this format: author. (year of publication) *Title of the Article*. If a web source, also provide the url.

B. Outline: (Due 3/28/19) This paper is structured in a specific way, rather than an open format. For this paper you will use a set of prescribed section headings. That means you will provide information and analysis of your chosen law, by covering the following areas:

Overview

Historic Analysis

Social Analysis

Economic Analysis

Proposal for reform

Please review the assignment "Grading Matrix". It provides some prompts by which each section will be evaluated, and a grade ultimately derived.

Your task for the "outline" submission, due 3/28/19 is to draft a *sentence outline* for each of the sections of the assignment.

Potentially helpful: <https://www.examples.com/education/sentence-outline.html>

*Note: this sentence outline will be graded and makes up 20% of your total project grade. Outlines will be graded based on whether you address each section of the paper and the thoroughness and thoughtfulness applied to each section. In other words, to what level of readiness/preparation does the outline demonstrate toward writing your 1st draft submission? Citations should be included. Proper citation formats for a variety of sources can be found at: http://sites.umuc.edu/library/libhow/apa_examples.cfm

- C. 1st Submission: (Due: 4/18/19) You will turn in a full and complete 1st draft of your legislative analysis. It will be graded according to the components of the grading matrix.
- D. Revised Submission: (Due: 5/09/19) After receiving comments and feedback, you will revise your paper. It will again be graded according to the criteria provided in the grading matrix

The general structure for the paper will be as follows:

1. **Overview** (2-3 pages). Components: General description of the problem area of interest. Discuss why this is a problem and how the law analyzed intends to address it. Outline who are the major interest groups or stakeholders for this law. Finally, briefly highlight points of interest regarding the policy/legal context when and where the law was considered and adopted.
2. **Historical Analysis** (1 page). Components: Identify a question or two to guide your historical analysis. Collect evidence and summarize what you found. Be sure to include reflection on the history of the problem/issue area and other attempted programmatic or legislative solutions.
3. **Social Analysis** (2-3 pages, approximately). Some of the components include: problem description, related values, goals of the law, detailed review of stakeholders, who is/was left out, Consideration of influences in terms of race, gender sexual identity and/or other areas according to which discrimination occurs.
4. **Economic Analysis** (1 page). Components: What will/does the law cost? How will/is it paid for? Law's effect on the economy, behavior of individuals, firms, and markets; who wins/who loses. economically (consider both micro & macro financial impacts).
5. **Recommendations for Reform** (1 page). detailed proposal of personal recommendations for immediate and/or future change to the law.

Term Paper Format Guidelines:

- Use the major headings and cite at least 5 different academic references. (No references = minus 10 points. No headings = minus 10 points).
- Check spelling and grammar. (Spelling & grammar errors = -1/2 point per mistake)
- Submit each component of the assignment on time (Late = minus 10 points.)
- Do not plagiarize from another paper (Plagiarism = 0 pts for the assignment, referral to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.)