Module Details

Module Title	Social Policy and Social Change
Module Code	SAC4023-B
Academic Year	2024/5
Credits	20
School	School of Social Sciences
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 4

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	24
Seminars	12
Directed Study	164

Availability

Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 2

Module Aims

This module aims to develop your understanding of key processes of social change in Britain so that you have a coherent understanding of the origins of contemporary social issues and how these have evolved over time.

The first part of the module provides you with sociological and historical perspectives on ethnicity, gender and social class. These key areas of social division and stratification are explored in relation to factors such as affluence, technological change and the welfare state which have influenced the contemporary social world.

The second part provides students with an opportunity to be familiarized with social policy as an interdisciplinary field of study dealing with a vast range of contemporary social challenges and issues. In particular, the focus will be on the role of policy in enacting social change across various policy contexts.

Outline Syllabus
Social policy as an interdisciplinary field of study and research; The creation of the post-war welfare state; Key approaches and concepts in Social Policy; Social needs, rights and welfare provisions; The state, the market and other policy actors; Key domains of social provision; Social policy, social divisions and social stratification.; Approaches to state welfare: political ideology or something that situates policy as political. Approaches to poverty over time and impacts of different policy approaches or directions; the evolution of state education; educational inequality; immigration and migration patterns and their influence on British culture; changes in approaches to home and housing; changes in social class patterns; changes in gender relations and in the position of women in the workplace and in society; International and global social policy.

Learning Outcomes

Outcome Number	Description
01	Identify the main influences on post-war British social history.
02	Explore key points in the evolution of ethnicity, gender and social class in post-war Britain.
03	Have a developing understanding of how social problems are defined and policy responses formulated across different domains/contexts.
04	Recognise and show awareness of key events and developments that inform developments of sociological theory and social policy research.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy
Material will be delivered in lectures and discussed in smaller seminar groups. During the lectures, students will be given guidance on topics and supported in engaging with their reading during directed study time. In order to deepen understanding of the competing explanations of the history of social change in the UK, seminar sessions will encourage students to read in advance and come prepared to debate and engage with alternative perspectives on historical events and trends.
The portfolio will contain two parts: an essay of 2000 words and a collection of formative pieces of topics covered in the seminars, which act as evidence of engagement with the module and material over the course of the semester. The assessment format enables and encourages students to gain a grounding in the overall changes in British society that provide the background to many of their later modules. This form of assessment ensures the development of a fundamental knowledge of the main features of British social change in the time period covered.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Weighting
Summative	Coursework - Portfolio/e-portfolio	Essay task of 2000 words and reflective excerpts.	100%
Formative	Coursework - Written	Formative essays aligned to learning outcomes	N/A

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html