**WURZWEILER SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

**YESHIVA UNIVERSITY**

**SPRING**

**2020**

**History & Philosophy of Social Work**

**SWK 8425**

**On-Line Class with Canvas.**

**Instructor: Susan E. Mason**

**Electronic reserve** password is SWK8425 for Course SWK8425

**Course Description**

This is a first semester doctoral course exploring selected events in the history of social work and social welfare in America. The events have been chosen because each represents an important step in the professionalization of social work, or in the way we think about and try to help vulnerable populations. Where available, primary sources have been used to supplement contemporary writings on the subject. This course is required for all doctoral students because we believe that in order to become a sophisticated practitioner in this field, it is necessary to understand the social factors that brought about the changes in the way we reason and practice. Or, in the words of David McCullough, "History is who we are and why we are the way we are.”

**Learning Objectives**

Students who have taken this course…

1. Will understand the social forces that have come to define 21st century social work.
2. Will better understand how the public’s attitude toward vulnerable populations, and particularly their attitude about the poor, has changed over the past century.
3. Will be able to explain their interventions, and agency missions not only in empirical terms, but also as the sequelae of 19th and 20th century social movements and popular ideologies and philosophies.
4. Will know how to write a persuasive and informative article, supporting their arguments with the analysis of one or more historical events.

**Required texts**

Katz, M. B. (1996). *In the shadow of the poorhouse: a social history of welfare in America*. New York: Basic Books. $26.00 retail, $16.78 on Amazon.  ISBN-10: 0465032109; ISBN-13: 978-0465032105

Richmond, M. E. (2012). *Social Diagnosis: C. 2 (Classic Reprint)*. Forgotten Books.Richmond, M. E. (1917/ 2012). ISBN-10: 1440085579; ISBN-13: 978-1440085574. $12.18. Also online at: <http://archive.org/details/socialdiagnosis00richiala>

Specht, H., & Courtney, M. E. (1995). *Unfaithful Angels: How Social Work Has Abandoned its Mission*. Simon and Schuster. Retail, $18.06. Amazon: $17.05.

ISBN-10: 0028740866; ISBN-13: 978-0028740867

Trattner, W. I. (1999). *From poor law to welfare state: a history of social welfare in America*. New York: The Free Press. Retail: $18.06, Amazon: $17.06. (Also Kindle $11.61. Easier to search) ISBN-10: 0684854716; ISBN-13: 978-0684854717

**Recommended**

Dulmas, C.N. , & Sowers, K.M. (2012). *The profession of social work: Guided by history, led by evidence.* New York: Wiley. Amazon, $47.76. **ISBN-10:** 111817691X; **ISBN-13:** 978-1118176917

Pimpare, S. (2011). *A people’s history of poverty in America*. New York: New Press. Retail: $21.95; Amazon: $16.76.(Also Kindle $9.99. Easier to search) ISBN-10: 1595586725, ISBN-13: 978-1595586728.

**Course Assignments**

The assignments for this course include, participation in on-line prompts and responses, a midterm paper and a final paper.

Course Assignments will be added.

**Grading:**

Midterm 30% of grade

Final Paper 35% of grade

On-Line participation 35% of grade

**E-RESERVES**

**To access E-Reserves from Canvas:**

***Electronic reserve lists are now automatically added to all Canvas course pages. Students can directly access the list without a password by clicking the "Library and Research Services" link on the Canvas page.***

**To access E-Reserves from the library website (2 ways):**

**·         The E-Reserves platform URL:** [**https://library.yu.edu/er.php**](https://owa.yu.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=xMKUtEqrfXDzA8lqVp8jJrkmKkJpqNJRQUxzdyot8Fv20bAg6vfVCA..&URL=https%3a%2f%2flibrary.yu.edu%2fer.php) **(Direct link)**

**·         Go to** [**https://library.yu.edu/home**](https://owa.yu.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=rntg7XLWZjqD3JZRfQsmHZvP9R9IKmyPeDUfmyiWbEL20bAg6vfVCA..&URL=https%3a%2f%2flibrary.yu.edu%2fhome) **(Homepage)**

**Click on “E-Reserves” under the “Resources” drop-down menu.**

·         Search for & select your course by beginning to type course number, course name, or instructor name. This course is SWK8425.

·         Enter your course password when prompted **(SWK8425).**

If you have questions or concerns about reserves or E-reserves, please contact:

* Stephanie Gross, Librarian, [gross@yu.edu](https://owa.yu.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=n8obWGUXdWOD8uxF9dbOaYfuSd8nGbM-sAnI4ylp_uX20bAg6vfVCA..&URL=mailto%3agross%40yu.edu)

Have a good semester.

**Session 1 – Elizabethan Poor Laws (Caring for the poor vs. controlling the poor)**

The British Poor Laws, established during the reign of Queen Elizabeth (1601), are often identified as the legal basis for our current attitudes about charity and poverty. What were the Poor Laws and why were they passed?

**Required Reading:**

Trattner: Preface to the 6th Edition, Chapters 1 & 2

**Recommended:**

Blaug, M. (1963). The Myth of the Old Poor Law and the Making of the New. *The Journal of Economic History*, *23*(2), 151–184. doi:10.2307/2116435

Quigley, W. P. (1997). Reluctant Charity: Poor Laws in the Original Thirteen States. *University of Richmond Law Review*, *31*, 111.

**Sessions 2 – The 3rd Great Awakening (Darwinism versus the Social Gospel)**

Religious “awakenings” are periods of revitalization that occur in times of cultural stress and result in drastic social reform. The climate that gave birth to social work was the result of a wave of evangelicalism that swept post civil war America, and the belief in a “Social Gospel.”

**Required Reading:**

McLoughlin, W. G. (1978). *Revivals, Awakenings, and Reform*. University of Chicago Press. Chapters 1 (p. 1) and 5 (p. 141)

Trattner: Chapter 3, The Era of the American Revolution

White, R. C., & Hopkins, C. H. (1976). *The Social Gospel: Religion and Reform in Changing America*. Temple University Press. Section IV, Resources and Strategies for Social Salvation (p. 129)

**Session 3 – Friendly Visitors (Autonomy vs. Patriarchy)**

While most of the friendly visitors were blue bloods, Mary Richmond was born of “common stock.” She educated herself and rose through the ranks to become the director of the Russell Sage Foundation.

**Required Reading**

Agnew, E. N. (2004). *From Charity to Social Work: Mary E. Richmond and the Creation of an American Profession*. University of Illinois Press. Chapters 1, 2, 3

Katz: Chapter 3 – The Theory and Practice of Scientific Charity

Trattnor: Chapter 5: The Civil War and After—Scientific Charity

**Recommended**

Kellogg, C. D., & York, C. O. S. of the C. of N. (1883). *Hand-book for friendly visitors among the poor.* New York: G. P. Putnam’s sons.

**Session 4 – Social Diagnosis**

Mary Richmond’s book, Social Diagnosis, has perhaps had a greater influence on 20th century social work than any other single work.

Richmond, M. E. (1917/ 2012). *Social Diagnosis*. Forgotten Books.  ISBN-10: 1440085579; ISBN-13: 978-1440085574 $12.18. Also online at: <http://archive.org/details/socialdiagnosis00richiala>

**Session 5 – The Settlement House movement (Treating the Community vs. Treating the Individual)**

The Settlement House movement began in London, the brainchild of an Oxford economist named Arnold Toynbee, the same man who gave a name to the industrial revolution. Jane Addams transplanted the idea to American soil.

**Required Reading**

Addams, J. (1999). *Twenty years at Hull-House: with autobiographical notes*. New York: Signet Classic. Chapters: 5 (First Days at Hull House) & 8 (Problems of Poverty).

Trattner: Chapter 8, The Settlement House Movement

Franklin, D. L. (1986). Mary Richmond and Jane Addams: From moral certainty to rational inquiry in social work practice. *The Social Service Review*, 504–525.

**Recommended Reading**

Anonymous. (1890). *Annual Report of the Universities’ Settlement in East London, England*.

Anonymous. (1895). *Hull-House maps and papers a presentation of nationalities and wages in a congested district of Chicago, together with comments and essays on problems growing out of the social conditions*. New York: T.Y. Crowell.

Milner, A. (1901). *Arnold Toynbee a reminiscence*. London: E. Arnold.

Steyeart, J. (n.d.). 1884 Arnold Toynbee - University Settlement. Retrieved August 10, 2013, from http://www.historyofsocialwork.org/eng/details.php?cps=3&canon\_id=136

Polacheck, H. S. (1991). *I Came a Stranger: The Story of a Hull-House Girl*. University of Illinois Press.

**Session 6 – Creation of the Profession Part I (Profession vs. Pasttime)**

By 1907 there were social workers in the schools, in the hospitals, in child welfare, and in the nascent mental hygiene movement.

**Required Reading:**

Trattner: Chapter 11 – The Quest for Professionalization

Buell, J. B. (1922). The American Association of Social Workers. *Journal of Social Forces*. Retrieved from http://archive.org/details/jstor-3005423

Cabot, R. C. (1911). Social Service Work in Hospitals. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. Retrieved from http://archive.org/details/jstor-1011080

Felix, R. H., & Bowers, R. V. (1948). Mental hygiene and socio-environmental factors. *The Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly*, *26*(2), 125–147.

Montgomery, L. (1907). Social Work in the Hamline School. *The Elementary School Teacher*. Retrieved from http://archive.org/details/jstor-992672

Woods, R. A. (1905). Social work: A new profession. *International Journal of Ethics*, *16*(1), 25–39.

**Session 7 –Creation of the Profession Part II (Profession vs. Passtime)**

But was social work a profession? Abraham Flexner, a world-renowned educator, was asked to speak on the subject at the 1915 meeting of the National Conference of Charities and Corrections.

**Required Reading**

Flexner, A. (1915). *Is social work a profession?* New York, The New York School of philanthropy. Retrieved from http://archive.org/details/cu31924014006617

Austin, D. M. (1983). The Flexner myth and the history of social work. *The Social Service Review*, 357–377.

**Session 8 – Feminism & Social Work (Feminism vs. Patriarchy)**

Social work is a profession created by women and dominated by much of what is best in feminist thinking and theory. Yet over the years compromises have been made to remain competitive with professions dominated by men and masculine ideology.

Kemp, S. P., & Brandwein, R. (2010). Feminisms and Social Work in the United States: An Intertwined History. *Affilia*, *25*(4), 341–364. doi:10.1177/0886109910384075

Chambers, C. A. (1986). Women in the creation of the profession of social work. *The Social Service Review*, 1–33.

Joan Orme. (2012). Feminist Social Work (Chapter 7). In M. Gray & S. Webb (Eds.), *Social Work Theories and Methods*. SAGE.

**Session 9 – The Great Depression (Welfare State vs. private charities)**

When FDR crafted the Social Security Act of 1935, he had two social workers at his side: Harry Hopkins and Frances Perkins. The federal government took over many of the concrete services of private charities, leaving social workers free to address problems of personality in their clients.

**Required Reading:**

Trattner: Chapter 13 – Depression and a New Deal

Hopkins, J. (1999). The Road Not Taken: Harry Hopkins and New Deal Work Relief. *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *29*(2), 316–306.

Wandersee, W. D. (1993). “I’d rather pass a law than organize a union”: Frances Perkins and the reformist approach to organized labor. *Labor History*, *34*(1), 5–32. doi:10.1080/00236569300890011

**Session 10 – The Emergence of clinical social work Part I (Functional vs. Diagnostic School)**

In the 1930s and ‘40s, Jessie Taft and her colleagues at University of Pennsylvania developed the Functional school of social work, based on the work of Otto Rank. For a number of years this stood in opposition to the Diagnostic School, which was based on Freudian theory. This debate had important ramifications for the future of social work.

**Required Reading**:

Trattner: Chapter 9 – The Mental Health Movement.

Dore, M. M. (1990). Functional Theory: It’s history and influence on Contemporary social work practice. *Social Service Review*, *64*(3).

McLaughlin. (2002). Social work’s legacy: Irreconcilable differences? *Clinical Social Work Journal*, *30*(2), 187.

**Session 11 – Clinical Social Work Part II**

More on the great debate between private practice and agency work.

**Required Reading**:

Specht, H., & Courtney, M. E. (1995). *Unfaithful Angels: How Social Work Has Abandoned its Mission*. Simon and Schuster. (Read the whole book, please.)

**Session 12 – McCarthyism & Groupwork (Repressive vs. Progressive Politics)**

Beginning in the 1930s, a group of social work activists known as “The Rank and File” began to espouse radical ideas about unionizing, called for the replacement of capitalism with a collective economy, and presented the USSR as a model for the US to emulate. Some of the rank and File were members of the Communist Party. It should be no surprise that during the 1950s, group workers and community organizers became the one of the foci of the McCarthy witch hunt.

**Required Reading:**

Andrews, J., & Reisch, M. (1997a). Social work and anti-communism: A historical analysis of the McCarthy era. *Journal of Progessive Human Services*, *8*(2), 29–49.

Andrews, J., & Reisch, M. (1997b). Legacy of McCarthyism on Social Group Work: An Historical Analysis, The. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, *24*, 211.

Haynes, J. E. (1975). The “rank and File Movement” in Private Social Work. *Labor History*, *16*(1), 78.

**Sessions 13 – Social Work and the Great Society**

The presidencies of John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson provided an opportunity to enact a variety of social welfare programs including ESEA, Head Start, Medicare, Medicaid, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Had Camelot arrived as promised?

**Required Reading**

Trattner: Chapter 14 - From World War to Great Society

Katz: Chapter 9 - The War on Poverty and the Expansion of Social Welfare

**Session 14 – Reagonomics, Clinton’s Middle of the Road Approach, and then we have Obama**

David Stockman, the disenchanted director of Reagon’s Office of Management and Budget, told journalists that the administration’s policies were a “Trojan horse full of benefits for the rich” and that supply-side economics were really trickle-down economics in disguise. Dark days for social welfare! Clinton then surprises everyone with the middle of the road approach. The second President Bush pushes back followed by the Obama sprint. And now President Trump.

**Required Reading:**

Trattner: Chapter 16 - War on the Welfare State

Katz: Chapter 10 – The War on Welfare

**Readings to be Added:**

**Bibliography**

Addams, J. (1999). *Twenty years at Hull-House: with autobiographical notes*. New York: Signet Classic.

Agnew, E. N. (2004). *From Charity to Social Work: Mary E. Richmond and the Creation of an American Profession*. University of Illinois Press.

American Association of Social Workers - Social Welfare History Project. (n.d.). *Social Welfare History Project*. Retrieved August 8, 2013, from http://www.socialwelfarehistory.com/organizations/american-association-of-social-workers/

Andrews, J., & Reisch, M. (1997a). Legacy of McCarthyism on Social Group Work: An Historical Analysis, The. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, *24*, 211.

Andrews, J., & Reisch, M. (1997b). Social work and anti-communism: A historical analysis of the McCarthy era. *Journal of Progessive Human Services*, *8*(2), 29–49.

Anonymous. (1890). *Annual Report of the Universities’ Settlement in East London, England*.

Anonymous. (1895). *Hull-House maps and papers a presentation of nationalities and wages in a congested district of Chicago, together with comments and essays on problems growing out of the social conditions*. New York: T.Y. Crowell.

Austin, D. M. (1983). The Flexner myth and the history of social work. *The Social Service Review*, 357–377.

Blaug, M. (1963). The Myth of the Old Poor Law and the Making of the New. *The Journal of Economic History*, *23*(2), 151–184. doi:10.2307/2116435

Borenzweig, H. (1971). Social Work and Psychoanalytic Theory: A Historical Analysis. *Social Work*, *16*(1), 7–16. doi:10.1093/sw/16.1.7

Buell, J. B. (1922). The American Association of Social Workers. *Journal of Social Forces*. Retrieved from http://archive.org/details/jstor-3005423

Cabot, R. C. (1911). Social Service Work in Hospitals. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. Retrieved from http://archive.org/details/jstor-1011080

Chambers, C. A. (1986). Women in the creation of the profession of social work. *The Social Service Review*, 1–33.

Cohen, S. (1983). The mental hygiene movement, the development of personality and the school: The medicalization of American education. *History of Education Quarterly*, *23*(2), 123–149.

Davis, K. (1938). Mental hygiene and the class structure. *Psychiatry: Journal for the Study of Interpersonal Processes*. Retrieved from http://doi.apa.org/?uid=1938-04086-001

Deutsch, A. (1949). The mentally ill in America; a history of their care and treatment from Colonial times (2nd rev. Retrieved from http://psycnet.apa.org/psycinfo/1949-03262-000

Dore, M. M. (1990). Functional Theory: It’s history and influence on Contemporary social work practice. *Social Service Review*, *64*(3).

Felix, R. H., & Bowers, R. V. (1948). Mental hygiene and socio-environmental factors. *The Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly*, *26*(2), 125–147.

Fischer, J. (1970). Portents from the Past: What Ever Happened to Social Diagnosis? *International Social Work*, *13*(2), 18–28. doi:10.1177/002087287001300204

Flexner, A. (1915). *Is social work a profession?* New York, The New York school of philanthropy. Retrieved from http://archive.org/details/cu31924014006617

Frances Perkins. (2013, August 7). In *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*. Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Frances\_Perkins&oldid=566081673

Franklin, D. L. (1986). Mary Richmond and Jane Addams: From moral certainty to rational inquiry in social work practice. *The Social Service Review*, 504–525.

Gibelman, M. (1999). The search for identity: Defining social work--past, present, future. *Social Work*, *44*(4), 298–310.

Greenwood, E. (1957). Attributes of a Profession. *Social Work*, *2*(3), 45–55. doi:10.1093/sw/2.3.45

Haynes, J. E. (1975). The “rank and File Movement” in Private Social Work. *Labor History*, *16*(1), 78.

Hopkins, Harry Lloyd - Social Welfare History Project. (n.d.). *Social Welfare History Project*. Retrieved August 8, 2013, from http://www.socialwelfarehistory.com/people/hopkins-harry-lloyd/

Hopkins, J. (1999). The Road Not Taken: Harry Hopkins and New Deal Work Relief. *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *29*(2), 316–306.

Jackson, P. (1978). Black charity in progressive era Chicago. *The Social Service Review*, 400–417.

Joan Orme. (2012). Feminist Social Work (Chapter 7). In M. Gray & S. Webb (Eds.), *Social Work Theories and Methods*. SAGE.

Johnson, T. J. (1972). *Professions and power*. Macmillan.

Katz, M. B. (1996). *In the shadow of the poorhouse: a social history of welfare in America*. New York: BasicBooks.

Kellogg, C. D., & York, C. O. S. of the C. of N. (1883). *Hand-book for friendly visitors among the poor.* New York: G. P. Putnam’s sons.

Kemp, S. P., & Brandwein, R. (2010). Feminisms and Social Work in the United States: An Intertwined History. *Affilia*, *25*(4), 341–364. doi:10.1177/0886109910384075

Kessler-Harris, A. (1989). Gender Ideology in Historical Reconstruction: A Case Study from the 1930s. *Gender & History*, *1*(1), 31–49. doi:10.1111/j.1468-0424.1989.tb00233.x

Kusmer, K. L. (1973). The functions of organized charity in the progressive era: Chicago as a case study. *The Journal of American History*, *60*(3), 657–678.

McLaughlin. (2002). Social work’s legacy: Irreconcilable differences? *Clinical Social Work Journal*, *30*(2), 187.

McLoughlin, W. G. (1978). *Revivals, Awakenings, and Reform*. University of Chicago Press.

Milner, A. (1901). *Arnold Toynbee a reminiscence*. London: E. Arnold.

Montgomery, L. (1907). Social Work in the Hamline School. *The Elementary School Teacher*. Retrieved from http://archive.org/details/jstor-992672

National association of visiting teachers and home and school visitors, & Public Education Association of the City of New York. (1921). *The visiting teacher in the United States. A survey by the National association of visiting teachers and home and school visitors* (p. 76). New York City: Public education association of the city of New York. Retrieved from http://archive.org/details/visitingteacheri00natirich

Part I National Conference of Charities and Correction - Social Welfare History Project. (n.d.). *Social Welfare History Project*. Retrieved August 13, 2013, from http://www.socialwelfarehistory.com/organizations/national-conference-of-charities-and-correction-the-beginning/

Part II National Conference of Charities and Corrections: Part II: Progress 1874-1893 - Social Welfare History Project. (n.d.). Retrieved August 13, 2013, from http://www.socialwelfarehistory.com/organizations/national-conference-of-charities-and-correction-part-ii-progress-1874-1893/

Pimpare, S. (2011). *A people’s history of poverty in America*. New York: New Press.

Polacheck, H. S. (1991). *I Came a Stranger: The Story of a Hull-House Girl*. University of Illinois Press.

Quigley, W. P. (1997). Reluctant Charity: Poor Laws in the Original Thirteen States. *University of Richmond Law Review*, *31*, 111.

Richmond, Mary Ellen. (2012). *Social Diagnosis: C. 2 (Classic Reprint)*. Forgotten Books.

Specht, H., & Courtney, M. E. (1995). *Unfaithful Angels: How Social Work Has Abandoned its Mission*. Simon and Schuster.

Steyeart, J. (n.d.). 1884 Arnold Toynbee - University Settlement. Retrieved August 10, 2013, from http://www.historyofsocialwork.org/eng/details.php?cps=3&canon\_id=136

Trattner, W. I. (1999). *From poor law to welfare state: a history of social welfare in America* (6th ed.). New York: The Free Press.

Wandersee, W. D. (1993). “I’d rather pass a law than organize a union”: Frances Perkins and the reformist approach to organized labor. *Labor History*, *34*(1), 5–32. doi:10.1080/00236569300890011

White, R. C., & Hopkins, C. H. (1976). *The Social Gospel: Religion and Reform in Changing America*. Temple University Press.