

NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

POL #122 **Course Title: The Politics of Social Welfare**

Course Description: Review the basic concepts of social welfare and its social, economic, and political roots. Studies the influence of beliefs about the appropriate role of the government in the economy and in peoples live on the provision of welfare decision-making and services. Review of basic practices and procedures of federal and state-level social welfare programs.

Prerequisites: Eligibility for ENG* 101

Goals: Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Master the basic concepts of Social Welfare policy in the US and the role that the American Political System plays in the provision of social services.
2. Develop an awareness of the potential and limits of government actions to deal with social problems.
3. Demonstrate a critical awareness of how the contemporary political system impacts individuals and groups of people in meeting their basic needs.

Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the role that social welfare programs play in post-industrial American society.
2. Articulate how social welfare programs influence Americans' lives from birth to old age.
3. Identify basic human needs and explain the resources currently provided to assist families and individuals in need.
4. Describe the historical and philosophical roots of social welfare from ancient cultures to contemporary America.
5. Critically analyze social welfare systems, including their basic concepts and economic and political determinants.