SOC 322

Human Services in the 21st Century: Care, Gender and Institutions

S1 External 2016

Dept of Sociology

Contents

General Information 2
Learning Outcomes 3
General Assessment Information 3
Assessment Tasks 4
Delivery and Resources 6
Unit Schedule 7
Policies and Procedures 9
Graduate Capabilities 10

Disclaimer
Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.
General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Tobia Fattore
tobia.fattore@mq.edu.au
Contact via By email: tobia.fattore@mq.edu.au

W
B

Tutor
Emma Mitchell
emma.mitchell@mq.edu.au
Contact via emma.mitchell@mq.edu.au

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
39cp

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is based on an exploration of the concept of care and its meaning in a range of different human service developments such as mental health, childcare, child protection, disability services and aged care. A starting point for these discussions is an examination of the ideas of care. We explore the links between informal supports, typically, although not exclusively, provided by women within families and households, and formal supports as provided by professional, trained and untrained staff, through organisations and other, often newly emergent, systems of support. Drawing together the fields of social theory and applied research, this unit provides an opportunity to examine responses to changing concepts of human need for interpersonal support. You will be able to learn from policy makers and practitioners working in this field, and enjoy opportunities to analyse state of the art studies of care and human services in Australia and other comparable countries.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/enrolmentguide/academicdates/
Learning Outcomes

1. A critical understanding of the different meanings attached to the concept of care and of changing patterns in the need for care across the life course.

2. A capacity to analyse the characteristics of care in intimate interpersonal relationships, as well as in contexts in which professional relationships require the provision of care to strangers.

3. Recognition of the contribution of a range of sociological, economic, demographic and other perspectives to developments in care and human services.

4. An ability to work with a range of policy documents concerned with the planning, provision, regulation, and funding of human services.

5. Experience in considering the application of a number of research perspectives to the study of human services.

6. Capability in working as part of a social research or policy development team in the human services field.

7. A demonstrated understanding of the key issues involved in undertaking social analyses of policies and programs for the development of human services.

General Assessment Information

Assignment Submission

All written assignments will be submitted using the turnitin link for each assignment. These can be accessed via the iLearn page for the assignment.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is an integral part of the core values and principles contained in the Macquarie University Ethics Statement (http://www.mq.edu.au/ethics/ethic-statement-final.html). Its fundamental principle is that all staff and students act with integrity in the creation, development, application and use of ideas and information. This means that:

- All academic work claimed as original is the work of the author making the claim.
- All academic collaborations are acknowledged.
- Academic work is not falsified in any way
- When the ideas of others are used, these ideas are acknowledged appropriately.

The link below has more details about the policy, procedure and schedule of penalties that will apply to breaches of the Academic Honesty policy.

http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html
**Special consideration**

If, due to illness or unavoidable disruption, you miss a number of seminars or are unable to complete all assessment requirements satisfactorily; if you miss the final assessment item or your assessment performance is seriously prejudiced in some way, you must report the circumstances in writing to the Registrar through the Student Centre for your case to receive special consideration. Include a medical certificate, a letter from the University Counselling Service, or other documentary evidence. The Registrar’s Office will advise the unit convenor you are enrolled in. You do not need to advise the unit convener directly, although it is a good idea to let us know if you are having problems. The link for application for Special consideration can be found at [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html)

## Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human Services Briefing Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>End Week 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Analysis</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>End Week 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Answer Test</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Human Services Briefing Paper

**Due:** **End Week 5**  
**Weighting:** **30%**

Prepare a short briefing paper on the services (or programs), facilities, budget and numbers of clients in one human service sector in Australia. Focus on one of the following areas of service provision: aged care; disability support services; child care; child protection services; mental health care; or supported accommodation services. In your briefing paper, provide a critical overview of services across Australia and include as far as possible, a comparison of interstate variations. Use tables to present comparative data where applicable.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- A critical understanding of the different meanings attached to the concept of care and of changing patterns in the need for care across the life course.
- A capacity to analyse the characteristics of care in intimate interpersonal relationships, as well as in contexts in which professional relationships require the provision of care to strangers.
- An ability to work with a range of policy documents concerned with the planning, provision, regulation, and funding of human services.

http://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/62621/unit_guide/print
• Experience in considering the application of a number of research perspectives to the study of human services.

Policy Analysis
Due: End Week 12
Weighting: 40%

Students will be required to identify one recent innovation in human service delivery in Australia or one overseas country and critically examine its characteristics, the logic for its introduction, and its current or potential contribution to policy. The review should also discuss links between the service development and broader processes of social, demographic and political change. The review should be with reference to one (and only one) of the following fields of human services: aged care; disability services; mental health; child protection; child care; health care; or supported accommodation. Some of the innovations that could be considered include case management; consumer-directed care; service contracting arrangements; improvements in the coordination of services; or the development of innovative servicing arrangements for a particular client group.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Recognition of the contribution of a range of sociological, economic, demographic and other perspectives to developments in care and human services.
• An ability to work with a range of policy documents concerned with the planning, provision, regulation, and funding of human services.
• Experience in considering the application of a number of research perspectives to the study of human services.
• A demonstrated understanding of the key issues involved in undertaking social analyses of policies and programs for the development of human services.

Participation
Due: Weekly
Weighting: 20%

For internal students, attendance at workshops and active participation is the basis for half the assessment. This will be assessed via student engagement in class and submission of a reading summary worksheet.

Additionally, students will be required to lead the tutorial for one of the weeks. Students will be required to submit discussion notes in the week they lead the discussion.

External students will be assessed by their active engagement in external student discussions each week. Each week students will be required to provide a brief comment on at least one of
the readings. Additionally, students will be assessed on their active engagement with other student postings.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

• Recognition of the contribution of a range of sociological, economic, demographic and other perspectives to developments in care and human services.

• Experience in considering the application of a number of research perspectives to the study of human services.

• Capability in working as part of a social research or policy development team in the human services field.

Short Answer Test
Due: Week 13
Weighting: 10%

Students will undertake a short, ten question multiple choice test undertaken in Week 13. The examination will be undertaken on-line and cover topics in the lectures.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

• Recognition of the contribution of a range of sociological, economic, demographic and other perspectives to developments in care and human services.

• A demonstrated understanding of the key issues involved in undertaking social analyses of policies and programs for the development of human services.

Delivery and Resources
Unit Requirements and Expectations

The teaching program consists of:

• A two hour lecture/workshop each week. For external students, these will take the form of recorded lectures made available to you through the Echo lecture system, with accompanying lecture notes available online. The lecture slides and recorded lectures are available through the SOC322 iLearn site.

• Site visit to one human services organisation, organised as part of the teaching program. Attendance is required for all internal students and is optional for external students;

• Weekly readings;
• Tutorial participation. Internal students are required to contribute each week to discussion in the tutorial program and submit a reading summary worksheet. Additionally they will be required to lead at least one workshop as part of their participation assessment. External students are required to make a comparable contribution to the online discussion; and

• Related reading and research development tasks over the course of the unit.

As this is an advanced course in the uses and development of sociological analysis, it is vital for students to participate in all components of the unit. The lectures provide the conceptual basis for the course, examining the theory and much of the relevant evidence for each topic. The tutorials and online discussions are designed to complement this by providing the opportunity to exchange ideas, discuss research, and develop a critical and collaborative approach.

Readings for each week’s topics are listed in the course outline and you are expected to have read them before contributing to the tutorial / online discussion. Active participation is a requirement of the course.

Course Texts

While there is no required texts for the unit, we will be extensively using the following resources:


• Australia’s Welfare, 2015, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Canberra

(This can be downloaded free from: http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129552015)

Other recommended texts for this unit include:


A number of other recommended readings and texts are listed in the weekly overview. You are also encouraged to seek out others through the electronic databases available through the library and from other sources.

Unit Schedule
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Introduction: Care and Human Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Understanding care: Contested definitions and perspectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>Families or organisations? The substitutability of care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Care and organisations: Bureaucracies and alternative models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Total Institutions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Human Services Briefing Paper assignment due end of Week 5**

| Week 6 | April 8 | Reinventing Human Services: The social market for care          |

**Mid-session Recess**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>April 29</th>
<th>The Human Services Workforce</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>New organisational logics and the political economy of globalised service provision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td></td>
<td>Human services site visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>Care around the world: Care and welfare state regimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>New perspectives on human services: Individualisation, the body and risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>Conclusion- The Future of Human Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Policy Analysis assignment due end of Week 12**
Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:


In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

**Student Code of Conduct**

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)

**Results**

Results shown in iLearn, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au).

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/)

**Learning Skills**

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.
Student Enquiry Service
For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

Equity Support
Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help
For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University’s IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities
Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking
We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes
• A critical understanding of the different meanings attached to the concept of care and of changing patterns in the need for care across the life course.
• A capacity to analyse the characteristics of care in intimate interpersonal relationships, as well as in contexts in which professional relationships require the provision of care to strangers.

Assessment tasks
• Human Services Briefing Paper
• Policy Analysis
Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Assessment tasks**

- Policy Analysis
- Participation

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcome**

- An ability to work with a range of policy documents concerned with the planning, provision, regulation, and funding of human services.

**Assessment task**

- Policy Analysis

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- A capacity to analyse the characteristics of care in intimate interpersonal relationships, as well as in contexts in which professional relationships require the provision of care to strangers.
- Recognition of the contribution of a range of sociological, economic, demographic and other perspectives to developments in care and human services.
Experience in considering the application of a number of research perspectives to the study of human services.

A demonstrated understanding of the key issues involved in undertaking social analyses of policies and programs for the development of human services.

**Assessment tasks**

- Human Services Briefing Paper
- Policy Analysis
- Short Answer Test

**Problem Solving and Research Capability**

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Experience in considering the application of a number of research perspectives to the study of human services.
- A demonstrated understanding of the key issues involved in undertaking social analyses of policies and programs for the development of human services.

**Assessment tasks**

- Human Services Briefing Paper
- Policy Analysis

**Effective Communication**

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Assessment tasks**

- Policy Analysis
- Participation
Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- A critical understanding of the different meanings attached to the concept of care and of changing patterns in the need for care across the life course.
- An ability to work with a range of policy documents concerned with the planning, provision, regulation, and funding of human services.
- Capability in working as part of a social research or policy development team in the human services field.

**Assessment tasks**

- Policy Analysis
- Participation

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- A capacity to analyse the characteristics of care in intimate interpersonal relationships, as well as in contexts in which professional relationships require the provision of care to strangers.
- Experience in considering the application of a number of research perspectives to the study of human services.
- Capability in working as part of a social research or policy development team in the human services field.
- A demonstrated understanding of the key issues involved in undertaking social analyses of policies and programs for the development of human services.

**Assessment tasks**

- Policy Analysis
- Participation
- Short Answer Test

**Commitment to Continuous Learning**

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Recognition of the contribution of a range of sociological, economic, demographic and other perspectives to developments in care and human services.
- An ability to work with a range of policy documents concerned with the planning, provision, regulation, and funding of human services.