

**San Diego State University
School of Social Work
Spring 2007**

Monday 4:00-6:40 HH 146222

Office Hours:

Monday 3:00-4:00

**Thursday 11:00-12:00
3:00 - 4:00**

**David Engstrom, PhD
Hepner Hall 205
(619) 594-5966 (O)**

Engstrom@mail.sdsu.edu
dengstrom@usa.net

**International Social Work and Social Welfare
Social Work 780**

Purpose and Description

The purpose of this course is to expose students to salient global issues and to relate how the institution of social welfare has developed in different regions of the world. The course examines globalization and its effect on social welfare and human need. The fields of comparative social welfare analysis and social development are surveyed briefly. Special attention is given to the linkage of human rights and social work. As a way of understanding how different regions and countries have responded to human need, the course explores the specific problem areas of women in developing countries, street children and child labor, HIV in the developing world, and the plight of refugees. The course explores the international practice of social work as one of the primary professions associated with social welfare. Finally, the course delves into the role of international organizations, such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the agencies of the United Nations (UN), and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) such as Catholic Relief Services and Save the Children, in shaping international welfare policy and services.

Course Objectives

Knowledge

1. Understand how different countries approach and configure their social welfare systems and social services.
2. Identify the role of globalization in shaping social problems and country-specific responses to social problems.
3. Demonstrate a working knowledge of key international social welfare organizations and their social welfare orientation.
4. Understand the functions and contributions of social work in countries around the world.

Skills

1. Articulate different approaches to structuring social welfare programs and services.
2. Identify major resources for research in international social welfare.
3. Assess the prevalence of social problems, such as poverty, AIDS, and human rights violations, in specific countries.
4. Identify how social work is practiced in a specific country.

Values

1. Identify the need to strengthen and enhance social welfare systems in the face of globalization.
2. Recognize social work as a global profession.
3. Associate human rights with social welfare and social work practice.
4. Recognize value conflicts that influence global and international social interventions.

Outcomes

1. Become familiar with key concepts and issues in international social welfare.
2. Recognize the effect of globalization on social work and social welfare.
3. Identify organizational actors involved in international social work and social welfare.
4. Identify resources and data used in analyzing global social conditions and international social welfare.

Required Text

Healy, L. (2001). *International social work*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Optional Texts

Midgley, J. (1997). *Social welfare in the global context*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
Ife, J. (2001). *Human rights and social work*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Required Readings

Copies of all the non-textbook readings will be placed on reserve at Love Library. A course reader is available for purchase at the SDSU Bookstore.

All readings denoted by * are available online through the library and are not part of the reader.

Source Materials

The United Nations Development Programme's *Human Development Report* (2006, New York: Oxford University Press) will be held on reserve at Government Documents. The latest *World Development Report* from the World Bank (2006, New York: Oxford University Press) is in the reference room.

The following books have been placed on reserve at the Reserve Room at Love Library:

- Hokenstad, M. C., Khinduka, S. K., & Midgley, J. (Eds.). (1992). *Profiles in international social work*. Washington, DC: NASW Press. (chapters on social work practice in countries throughout the world)
- Hokenstad, M. C., & Midgley, J. (Eds.). (1997). *Issues in international social work*. Washington, DC: NASW Press. (chapters on international issues)
- Mayadas, N. S., Watts, T. D., & Elliot, D. (Eds.). (1997). *International handbook on social work theory and practice*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press. (chapters on social work practice throughout the regions and countries of the world)
- Ramanathan, S. C., & Link, R. (1999). *All our futures: Principles and resources for social work practice in a global era*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.

Assignments

1. **Discussion Questions:** For four classes, you are to develop a minimum of two discussion questions per reading and send the set of discussion questions to the instructor at least one day before the class (late questions will be docked two points). Two sets of discussion questions should relate to the conceptual portion of the course (Weeks 1 to 7), one set to vulnerable populations (Weeks 8 to 11), and one set to professional or organizational interventions (Weeks 12 to 15). The discussion questions should demonstrate that you have read and thought about the materials. Questions should link the readings and explore common themes. To receive the maximum points per set of questions, you should bring copies of the questions to class and share them with your colleagues to help shape class discussion. **20 points**

Submit copies of your questions as part of the portfolio (see below).

2. **International Social Work and Social Welfare Portfolio:** Select a developing country and provide the following:
 - 1) a brief history of the country;
 - 2) an outline specifying its major ethnic/racial groups;
 - 3) a demographic profile (e.g., total population, population growth rate, age structure, percent urban population, life expectancy, infant mortality rates, maternal mortality rates, fertility rates, HIV rates);
 - 4) a poverty profile (e.g., income inequality, poverty levels, access to clean water, per capita health expenditures, adult literacy rate, global poverty ranking, ranking on the human development index);
 - 5) an economic profile (e.g., GDP, GDP growth rate, major industries, major agricultural products, military expenditures, level of high-technology exports, level of foreign investment);
 - 6) a social welfare profile (what types of social assistance and social insurance programs the country offers);
 - 7) information on the country's human rights issues or track record;
 - 8) two scholarly articles that discuss a social problem(s) that affects a vulnerable population;
 - 9) two journalistic articles that discuss a social problem(s) that affects a vulnerable population;

- 10) a description of social work (whether the country has a school of social work, what type of social work is practiced);
- 11) a description of World Bank, World Health Organization, UNICEF, or International Labour Organization programs;
- 12) a description of NGO activity;
- 13) a description of social work, human services, public health, and/or Peace Corps voluntary opportunities.

All the materials in the preceding list are to be submitted in the form of a portfolio:

Items 1–5: These items serve as an assessment of the country. What do the data tell you about the country and its level of human development? It may help to examine how the country compares to others in the region. You may also find it helpful to organize the information into tables. The assessment should be no more than five pages long and should demonstrate some analysis of the information you present. Due by February 19th. **15 points**

Item 6: Given your country assessment, how does the formal social welfare system correspond to and deal with the country's social conditions? No more than three pages; include reference material. Due by March 5th. **10 points**

Item 7: Using the information gathered, identify and describe the state of human rights in the country. No more than three pages; include reference material. Due by March 12th. **10 points**

Items 8–9: Include in portfolio and develop a brief summary of the articles, including why you chose them. No more than three pages. Due by April 9th. **10 points**

Item 10: Include information on topic in portfolio. Due by May 7th.

Item 11: Provide information on topic in portfolio and develop a brief assessment of the appropriateness of the projects given the country's socio/political/economic conditions. No more than two pages. Due by May 7th.

Item 12: Include information on topic in portfolio and assess the importance of the work being done. No more than two pages. Due by May 7th.

Item 13: Include information on topic in portfolio. Due by May 7th.

The final portfolio should include all materials and previous written work. It should include a statement that **synthesizes** your grasp of the material and what you have found most interesting, troubling, or exciting about the process of exploring social welfare and social work in the country you chose. No more than 10 pages. Due on May 7th. **80 points** (including the 30 points from Items 1–9)

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1 Introduction
1/22/2007

Overview of the course and introductory comments

Required Reading

- Healy, *International Social Work*, ch. 1: International social work: Why is it important and what is it?

Suggested Readings

To keep up with international developments, you will need to read regularly one of the major newspapers. Almost all have web versions:

- www.nytimes.com
- www.washingtonpost.com
- www.latimes.com
- www.iht.com/frontpage.html (The International Herald Tribune)
- Additionally, Dr. Richard Estes has an excellent web page with international hyperlinks: <http://caster.ssw.upenn.edu/~restes/praxis.html>

Week 2 Globalization **1/29/2007**

These two sections review competing theories of globalization and examine how global economic and social change influence the provision of social welfare in developing countries. Data sources for documenting socioeconomic conditions are reviewed.

Required Reading

- Deacon, B. (1997). *Global social policy*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. (Pages 11–27)
- Packer, G. (2006). The megacity. *The New Yorker*. November 13th, 62-75.
- Micklethwait, J., & Woolridge, A. (2001). The globalization backlash. *Foreign Policy*, 126, 16–26.
- Healy, ch. 5: Global interdependence and social work.

Suggested Reading

- Friedman, T. (2000). *The Lexus and the olive tree*. New York: Anchor Books.
- Stiglitz, J. (2003). *Globalization and its discontents*. New York: Norton.

Week 3 Globalization **2/5/2007**

Required Reading

- Midgley, ch. 3: Social conditions in global context.
- Drager, N., Woodward, D., Beaglehold, R., & Lipson, D. (2001). Globalization and the health of the poor. *Development*, 44(1), 73–76.
- www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook
This web page provides summary data and analysis on the social, economic, and political conditions of virtually every country.
- State Department: <http://www.state.gov/>

Suggested Reading

- Estes, R. J. (1997). The world social situation: Social work's contribution to international development. In R. Edwards (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of social work* (Supplement to

the 19th ed) (pp. 21–36). Washington, DC: NASW Press. (available in reference room, Love Library)

- Midgley, ch. 4: description of social welfare around the world.
- For the latest data on global trends in social welfare, see the World Bank, *World Development Report*, and the United Nations Development Programme, *Human Development Report*, which are annual publications.

Week 4 Comparative Social Welfare **2/12/2007**

This section examines different approaches to comparative social welfare and assesses the relevance of formal social welfare programs to developing countries.

Required Reading

- Healy, ch. 10: Understanding and influencing global policy.
- Estes, R. (2004). Development challenges of the “new Europe.” *Social Indicator Research*. 69(2), p. 123-166.*

Suggested Reading

- Dixon, J. (1999). *Social security in global perspective*. Westport, CT: Praeger.
- Esping-Andersen, G. (Ed.). *Welfare states in transition: National adaptation in global economies*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. (This volume has contributed chapters on social welfare in all regions of the world except Africa.)
- Richard Estes, R. (1995). International social welfare: Comparative systems. In R. Edwards (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of social work*. Washington, DC: NASW Press. Pages 957–969.
- Social Security Administration. (1999). *Social Security programs throughout the world—1999*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office. (This annual publication describes the provision of social welfare for more than 172 countries.)
- Ward, P. M. (1993). Social welfare policy and political opening in Mexico. *Journal of Latin American Studies*, 25(3), 613–628.

Week 5 Social Development **2/19/2007**

This section examines the concept of social development and provides examples of social development activities in India and Bangladesh.

Required Reading

- Healy, ch. 8: International relief and development practice.
- Bruck, C. (2006). Millions for millions. *The New Yorker*. October 30th. 62-73.
- Midgley, J. (1995). *Social development: The developmental perspective in social welfare*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. (Pages 12-36).

Suggested Reading

- Bernstein, J. (1995). Redefining social work’s emphasis on the “social”: The path to development. *International Social Work*, 38, 53–67.
- Estes, R. J. (1993). Toward sustainable development: From theory to praxis. *Social*

Development, 15(3), 1–29.

- Khinduka, S. K. (1997). Development and peace: The complex nexus. *Social Development Issues*, 10(3), 19–30.
- Midgley, J. (1998). *Social development: The developmental perspective in social welfare*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Week 6 Social Exclusion and Human Rights

2/26/2007

The concept of social exclusion is examined and its utility for understanding poverty is assessed, especially in regard to the developing world. Human rights are reviewed as a component of social work practice.

Required Reading

- Grant, E., Blue, I., & Harpham, T. (2000). Social exclusion: A review and assessment of its relevance to developing countries. *Journal of Developing Societies*, 16(2), 201–222.
- Ife, J. (2001). *Human rights and social work*. New York: Cambridge University Press. (chapter 2: The three generations of human rights)

Suggested Reading

- Jones, A., & Smyth, P. (1999, September). *Social exclusion: A new framework for social policy analysis?* Paper presented at the 26th AASW National Conference, Brisbane, Australia.
- Amnesty International: www.amnesty.org
- Human Rights Watch: www.hrw.org
- United Nations Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights: <http://www.unhchr.ch/>
- U.S. State Department—Human Rights: <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/hr/>
- U.S. State Department, Human Rights Country Report: www.state.gov/www/global/human_rights/hrp_reports_mainhp.html

Week 7 Human Rights

3/5/2007

This section focuses on the debate and conflict over human rights. Efforts to ban child labor serve to illustrate the tension between competing human rights agendas.

Required Reading

- Bissell, S. (2001). Young garment workers in Bangladesh: Raising the rights question. *Development*, 44(2), 75–80.*
- Ife, J. (2001). *Human rights and social work*. New York: Cambridge University Press. (chapter 10: Achieving human rights through social work practice)
- Myers, W. (2000). The right rights? Child labor in a globalized world. *Annals*, 575, 38–55.*

Suggested Reading

- George, J. (1999). Conceptual muddle, practical dilemma: Human rights, social development and social work education. *International Social Work*, 43(1), 15–26.

- United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights:
www.unhcr.ch/udhr/lang/eng.htm

Week 8 Women in the Developing World
3/12/2007

This section examines the status of women in the developing world through two problem areas: sexual trafficking and poverty. A human rights perspective is reviewed to address both problems.

Required Reading

- Bertone, A. M. (2000). Sexual trafficking in women: International political economy and the politics of sex. *Gender Issues*, 18(1), 4–22.*
- Wanyeki, L. (2004). Globalization, poverty and women's rights: making the linkages. *Development* 47(1), 94-96.*
- Reichert, E. (1998). Women's rights are human rights: Platform for action. *International Social Work*, 41, 371–384.
- Sen, A. (1999). *Development as Freedom*. New York, Anchor Books. (ch., 8, Women's agency and social change).

Suggested Reading

- Harcourt, W. (2001). Women's health, poverty and globalization. *Development*, 44(1), 85–90.
- Engstrom, D, Minas, S, Espinoza, M & Jones, L (2004). Halting the trafficking of women and children in Thailand for the sex trade: Progress and challenges. *Journal of Social Work Research and Evaluation*. 5(2), 193-206.
- United Nations Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women:
www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/
- U.S. Department of State, Agency for International Development. (n.d.).
Trafficking in persons: USAID's response. Washington, DC: Author.

Week 9 Children
3/19/2007

This section examines street children, child slavery, and child soldiers as problems experienced by children in many countries of the world. Efforts to assist street children are reviewed. The UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child is examined.

Required Reading

- Hernandez, P., & Romero, A. (2003). Adolescent girls in Columbia's guerrilla: An exploration into gender and trauma dynamics. *Journal of Prevention & Intervention in the Community*. 26(1), p. 21-38.
- Hill, K., Langholtz, H. (2003). Rehabilitation programs for African child soldiers. *Peace Review*. 15(3), p. 279-285.*
- Kombarakaran, F. (2004) Street children of Bombay: their stresses and strategies of coping. *Children and Youth Services Review*. 26, p. 853-871.*

Suggested Reading

- Estes, R., & Weiner, N. A. (2001). *The commercial sexual exploitation of children in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico*. Philadelphia, PA: Center for the Study of Youth Policy, University of Pennsylvania. (There is a chapter on children in Tijuana in this report.)
- le Roux, J. (1996). The worldwide phenomenon of street children: Conceptual analysis. *Adolescence*, 31(124), 965–970.
- Mufane, P. (2000). Street youth in Southern Africa. *International Social Science Journal*, 52(164), 233–244.
- Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers: <http://www.child-soldiers.org/>
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF): www.unicef.org
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: www.unicef/org/crc/crc.htm

Week 10 Spring Break
3/26/2007

Week 11 Comprehensive Examination
4/2/2007

Week 12 HIV/AIDS
4/9/2007

The epidemic of HIV/AIDS has affected many developing countries in Africa and Asia. The social and economic costs of the epidemic are reviewed. Efforts to provide anti-retroviral medications are examined, as are community-based projects to assist persons with HIV/AIDS (such as AIDS *wats* in Thailand).

Required Reading

- Dixon, S., McDonald, S., & Roberts, J. (2001). HIV/AIDS and development in Africa. *Journal of International Development*, 13, 381–389.*
- Mancoske, R.J. (1997). The international AIDS crisis. In M.C. Hokenstad & J. Midgley (Eds.), *Issues in international social work*. (pp. 125-145). Washington, DC: NASW Press.
- Cohen, J. (2003) Thailand and Cambodia: Two hard-hit countries offer rare success stories. *Science*, 301(5640), 1658–1662.* (page 6 of online)
- Kubotani, T & Engstrom, D. (2005). The role of Buddhist temples in the treatment of HIV/AIDS in Thailand. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*. 32(4), 5-22.*

Suggested Reading

- Kawewe, S. (2000, July 29). *Globalizing HIV/AIDS treatments: A holistic service*

delivery approach for social justice in Sub-Saharan Africa. Paper presented at the 29th Joint World Conference of the International Schools of Social Work and International Federation of Social Workers, Montreal, Canada.

- McGeary, J. (2001, February 12). Death stalks a continent. *Time*, pp. 36–45.
- McGeary, J. (2001, February 12). Paying for AIDS cocktails. *Time*, p. 54.
- UNAIDS: www.unaids.org

Week 13 Refugees **4/19/2007**

This section reviews refugees and internally displaced persons as vulnerable populations. The refugee experience prior to resettlement is examined and programs to deal with trauma are explored. Human rights documents providing protection to refugees are covered.

Required Reading

- de Jong, K., Ford, N., & Kleber, R. (1999). Mental health care for refugees from Kosovo: The experience of Médecins San Frontières. *The Lancet*, 353, 1616–1617.*
- Kline, P. & Mone, E. (2003). Coping with war: three strategies employed by adolescent citizens of Sierra Leone. *Child and Adolescent Social Work*. 20(5), p. 321-333.*
- Drumm, R., Pittman, S. & Perry, S. (2003). Social work interventions in refugee camps: an ecosystems approach. *Journal of Social Service Research*. 30(2), p. 67-92.*

Suggested Reading

- Crisp, J. (2000). A state of insecurity: The political economy of violence in Kenya's refugee camps. *African Affairs*, 99, 601–632.
- Lobo, M., & Mayadas, N. S. (1997). International social work practice: A refugee perspective. In N. S. Mayadas, T. D. Watts & D. Elliot (Eds.), *International handbook on social work theory and practice* (pp. 411-428). Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.
- State Department—Office of International Migration: <http://usinfo.state.gov/regional/ar/>
- UNHCR: www.unhcr.ch
- United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees: www.unhcr.ch/html/menu3/b/o/_c_ref.htm

Week 14 International Social Work **4/23/2007**

These two sections examine the global profession of social work with special attention to social work in developing countries. The role of the International Federation of Social Workers and the International Association of Schools of Social Work in promoting social work is discussed. Social work in Armenia, Mexico, and Colombia is highlighted.

Required Reading

- Johannesen, T. (1997). Social work as an international profession. In M. C. Hokenstad &

J. Midgley (Eds.), *Issues in international social work* (pp. 146-158) Washington, DC: NASW Press.

- Healy, ch. 4: Social work around the world today.
- Turner, G. (2001, Winter). The puzzling world of international social work careers. *The New Social Worker*, 4–7.
- International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW): <http://www.ifsw.org/>
- International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW): <http://www.iassw.soton.ac.uk/>

Suggested Reading

- Hokenstad, M. C., & Kendall, K. A. (1995). International social work education. In R. Edwards (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of social work* (pp. 1511–1520). Washington, DC: NASW Press.
- Hokenstad, M. C., Khinduka, S. K., & Midgley, J. (Eds.). (1992). *Profiles in international social work*. Washington, DC: NASW Press. (chapters on social work practice in countries throughout the world)
- Hokenstad, M. C., & Midgley, J. (Eds.). (1997). *Issues in international social work*. Washington, DC: NASW Press. (chapters on international issues)
- Mayadas, N. S., Watts, T. D., & Elliot, D. (Eds.). (1997). *International handbook on social work theory and practice*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press. (chapters on social work practice throughout the regions and countries of the world)

Week 15 International Social Work **4/30/2007**

Required Reading

From either the *International Handbook on Social Work Theory and Practice* or *Profiles in International Social Work*, pick one chapter on social work practice in Asia and one on Africa.

- Queiro-Tajalli, I. (1997). Latin America. In N. S. Mayadas, T. D. Watts & D. Elliot (Eds.), *International handbook on social work theory and practice* (pp. 51-59). Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.
- Aguilar, M. (1997). Mexico. In N. S. Mayadas, T. D. Watts & D. Elliot (Eds.), *International handbook on social work theory and practice*. (pp. 60-74).
- Healy, ch., 12, Social work as a force for human global change and development.

Suggested Reading

- Mathiesen, S, Carrilio, T, Rasmussen, L. & Engstrom, D. (2004). “At the border: A university-community partnership between San Diego State University and the Tijuana practice community,” *Professional Development: The International Journal of Continuing Social Work Education*. 7:1 (pp. 42-52).

Week 14 Global Organizational Actors **5/7/2006**

This section reviews the role of global organizations, such as the World Bank, IMF, and assorted UN agencies, in supporting social welfare in the developing world. Competing visions of social

welfare are assessed. It also investigates the role of smaller international and national NGOs in the developing world. Focus is on NGO efforts to promote human rights and to develop anti-poverty programs.

Required Reading

- Healy, *International social work*, ch., 6: International social welfare organizations and their functions.
- Chowdhry, G., & Beeman, M. (2001, May). Challenging child labor: Transnational activism and India's carpet industry. *Annals*, 575, 158–175.
- Salinas-Ardaya, N., & Schachinger, C. (2001). Strengthening the rights of children and women in Bolivia. *Development*, 44(2), 99–103.

Suggested Reading

- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC): www.icrc.org
- International Labour Organization (ILO): www.ilo.org
- International Monetary Fund (IMF): www.imf.org
- United Nations (UN): www.un.org
- United Nations Development Programs (UNDP): <http://www.undp.org/>
- United Nations Social and Economic Development:
<http://uninfo.state.gov/regional/ar/>
- World Bank: www.worldbank.org
- World Health Organization (WHO): www.who.int
- World Trade Organization (WTO): <http://www.wto.org/>
- CARE: www.care.org
- Catholic Relief Services: www.catholicrelief.org
- Oxfam International: <http://www.oxfam.org/>
- Peace Corps: www.peacecorps.gov
- Save the Children: www.savethechildren.org