Social policy
Theory and practice
Paul Spicker, The Robert Gordon University

“A highly informative, readable and authoritative introduction to the study of social issues … It is thoroughly recommended for all those with an interest in the social policy field.” Health and Social Care in the Community

Social Policy: Theory and practice is a fully revised, updated and extended edition of a bestselling social policy textbook, extensively reworked and adapted to meet the needs of its international readership. It aims to provide students and practitioners with a sense of the scope, range and purpose of the subject while developing critical awareness of problems, issues and common fallacies. Written in an accessible and engaging style, the book’s distinctive, path–breaking approach makes it invaluable for students studying social policy at a range of levels, professionals and practitioners in the field of social policy.

EPUB £23.99 US$39.95 ISBN 978 1 4473 1612 1
234 x 156mm 384 pages March 2014

Good times, bad times
The welfare myth of them and us
John Hills, London School of Economics and Political Science

“This book shows how we all receive welfare services and benefits throughout our lives, rich as well as poor: essential reading for policy-makers, politicians and citizens.” Professor Peter Taylor-Gooby, University of Kent

Two-thirds of UK government spending now goes on the welfare state and where the money is spent – healthcare, education, pensions, benefits – is the centre of political and public debate.

This ground-breaking book uses extensive research and survey evidence to challenge the myth that the population divides into those who benefit from the welfare state and those who pay into it. It shows that all of us rely on the welfare state through our lifetimes, not just a small ‘welfare-dependent’ minority.

EPUB £7.99 US$15.00 ISBN 978 1 4473 2005 0
214 x 138mm 336 pages November 2014
Father and Daughter
Patriarchy, gender and social science
Ann Oakley, Director, University of London Institute of Education

Provides an unique ‘insider perspective’ on two key figures in twentieth-century British social science. Ann Oakley, a highly respected sociologist and best-selling writer, draws on her own life and that of her father, Richard Titmuss, a well-known policy analyst and defender of the welfare state, to offer an absorbing view of the connections between private lives and public work. Using an innovative mix of biography, autobiography, intellectual history, archives, and personal interviews, some of which have not been previously available to the public, she provides a compelling narrative about gender, patriarchy, methodology, and the politics of memory and identity.

Understanding Global Social Policy (second edition)
Edited by Nicola Yeates, The Open University

Building on the successes of Understanding Global Social Policy (Yeates ed. 2008) and its companion text, the Global Social Policy Reader (Yeates and Holden ed. 2009), the second edition of this leading textbook in social policy identifies and reviews the key issues, debates and priorities for action in global social policy as a field of academic study and research and as a field of political practice and action. Understanding Global Social Policy is the leading textbook in the field and provides a comprehensive and accessible overview of international actors and social policy formation in global context.

The Global Social Policy Reader
Nicola Yeates, The Open University and Chris Holden, University of York

A comprehensive and accessible guide to the key themes, issues and debates in global social policy. This Reader collects together key papers that cover the emergence of global social policy as a dynamic and expanding field, the transformation of welfare from a predominantly national to a global field of action, and the impact of globalisation on key welfare discourses and governance mechanisms. The global social policy reader will have broad appeal among undergraduate and postgraduate students in a range of social science subjects, including social and public policy, social care and health studies, sociology, politics, economics, international relations and development studies.

Global social policy in the making
The foundations of the social protection floor
Bob Deacon, University of Sheffield

Examines why and how the Social Protection Floor became ILO, UN and G20 policy and how the World Bank and IMF took steps to lay its foundation. Bob Deacon explains this development in terms of four influences: firstly, shifts in the global social structure, secondly, processes inside international institutions, thirdly, global actors - sometimes individuals – using their positions to make change, and fourthly, shifting discourses about social protection. This much-needed contribution to the field of global social policy will be of interest to students of international relations, international organization and development studies and should be read by international civil servants in global agencies.

China and Post-Socialist Development
Andrzej Bolesta, Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Bangkok

The re-emergence of China as an economic superpower during its systemic transition is an astonishing phenomenon. This is the first time to frame China’s advancements within the context of the East Asian developmental miracle, against the background of post-socialist transformation, asking how has it happened and where does China go from here? The author argues that as China transits from central planning to market, it tries to imitate the institutions and policies of Japan and South Korea during their high growth periods of the second half of the twentieth century. China’s approach – broadly in opposition to the neo-liberal doctrine – has brought impressive results, leading the author to make important predictions about the future.
Disputing citizenship

John Clarke, Open University, Kathleen Coll, University of Stanford, Evelina Dagnino, University of Campinas and Catherine Neveu, Institute of contemporary interdisciplinary anthropology

This unique book presents a new perspective on citizenship by treating it as a continuing focus of dispute. The authors dispute the way citizenship is normally conceived and analysed within the social sciences, developing a view of citizenship as always emerging from struggle. This view is advanced through an exploration of the entanglements of politics, culture and power that are both embodied and contested in forms and practices of citizenship. This compelling view of citizenship emerges from the international and interdisciplinary collaboration of the four authors, drawing on the diverse disputes over citizenship in their countries of origin (Brazil, France, the UK and the US).

Social policies and social control

New perspectives on the ‘not-so-big society’

Malcolm Harrison, and Teela Sanders, University of Leeds

Provides an innovative account of social control and behaviourism within welfare systems and social policies, and the implications for disadvantaged groups. This accessible collection reviews the controls, assumptions and persuasions applied to individuals and households and explores broader themes, including how ‘new behaviourism’ was consolidated during the New Labour and Cameron periods. Social policy and social control offers timely engagements with key issues for researchers and policy makers, and is relevant for students in social policy, sociology, socio-legal studies, social work and social care, disability studies, human geography, politics and public policy, and gender, family and life course studies.

Precarious Lives

Forced labour, exploitation and asylum

Hannah Lewis, University of Leeds, Peter Dwyer, University of York, and Stuart Hodkinson and Louise Waite, University of Leeds

This ground breaking book presents the first evidence of forced labour among displaced migrants who seek refuge in the UK. Through a critical engagement with contemporary debates about precarity, unfreedom and socio-legal status, the book explores how asylum and forced labour are linked, and enmeshes in a broader picture of modern slavery produced through globalised working conditions. Drawing on original evidence generated in fieldwork with refugees and asylum seekers, this is important reading for students, academics, and practitioners working to support migrants and tackle forced labour.

Policy change, public attitudes and social citizenship

Does neoliberalism matter?

Louise Humpage, University of Auckland

This unique book traces public views on social citizenship across three decades through attitudinal data from New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Australia. It argues that support for some aspects of social citizenship diminished more significantly under some political regimes than others, and that limited public resistance following the financial crisis of 2008-2009 further suggests the public ‘rolled over’ and accepted these neoliberal values. Yet attitudinal variances across different policy areas challenge the idea of an omnipotent neoliberalism, providing food for thought for academics, students and advocates wishing to galvanise support for social citizenship in the 21st century.

Analysing social policy concepts and language

Comparative and Transnational Perspectives

Daniel Béland, University of Calgary and Klaus Petersen, University of Southern Denmark

Social policy scholars and practitioners work with concepts such as “welfare state” and “social security” but where do these concepts come from and how has their meaning changed over time? This edited collection, written by a cross-disciplinary group of leading social policy researchers, analyses the concepts and language used to make sense of contemporary social policy. The volume focuses on OECD countries located on four different continents: Asia, Australasia, Europe, and North America. Combining detailed chapters on particular countries with broader comparative chapters, the book strikes a rare balance between case studies and transnational perspectives.

Social Policy Review 26

Analysis and debate in social policy, 2014

Edited by Kevin Farnsworth and Zoë Irving, University of Sheffield and Menno Fenger, Erasmus University Rotterdam

This important annual volume examines the economic and political challenges that have confronted governments since 2008, and highlights the diverse ways in which nations have responded. Part One explores the most pressing questions confronting British social policy, from the school-leaving age, employment, in-work benefits to taxation. Part Two examines the political and professional dilemmas involved in the delivery and financing of social policy. Part Three identifies the challenges in integrating social policy with other areas of the welfare state, including social care, health policy and labour market policy.

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LATEST BOOKS FROM POLICY PRESS ON SOCIAL POLICY

The short guide to social policy
John Hudson, Stefan Kuhner and Stuart Lowe, University of York

This introductory text provides a concise introduction to the essentials of social policy, specifically designed for students who are new to the area. It explores the key policy goals, delivery mechanisms and policy dilemmas of the five pillars of welfare and has an international focus, drawing on examples from around the world to illustrate key debates and concepts. It includes a concluding key point summary and detailed guide to further reading in each chapter. Whether studying for a degree in social policy or a single module in the subject area, this guide, written in a clear and accessible style by experienced authors and teachers, is indispensable reading.

EPUB £9.99 US$20.00 ISBN 978 1 4473 0546 0
Available on amazon

Social policy in challenging times
Economic crisis and welfare systems
Edited by Kevin Farnsworth and Zoë Irving, University of Sheffield

There is no precedent to the current economic crisis which looks set to redefine social policy debate throughout the globe. But its effects are not uniform across nations. Bringing together a range of expert contributions, the key lesson to emerge from this book is that ‘the crisis’ is better understood as a variety of crises, each mediated by national context. Consequently, there is an array of potential trajectories for welfare systems, from those where social policy is regarded as incompatible with the post-crisis economy to those where it is considered essential to future economic growth and security.

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Available on amazon

Social workers affecting social policy
An international perspective
John Gal, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Idit Weiss-Gal, Tel Aviv University

Furthering social justice and human rights is a fundamental principle underlying the social work profession. Engaging in social policy formulation processes is a major route through which social workers can realise this goal. This type of social work activity has been termed ‘policy practice’.

The aim of this book is to shed light on policy practice in social work discourse, education and practice in eight liberal democracies. This is the first effort to undertake a cross-national study of social worker engagement in social policy formulation processes.

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Emily Watt, Senior Commissioning Editor, social policy

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Policy & Politics
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Voluntary Sector Review
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The journal is published in association with the Voluntary Sector Studies Network (VSSN) and a print copy of the journal is a membership benefit. Membership details for the Society are available from: http://www.vssn.org.uk/join.

Rethinking policy and politics
Reflections on contemporary debates in policy studies
Edited by Sarah Ayres, University of Bristol
First published as a special issue of Policy & Politics, the book brings together world-leading scholars to offer critical reflections on the recent history and future direction of policy studies. It advances the debate by rethinking the ways in which scholars and students of policy studies can (re)engage with pertinent issues in pursuit of both scholarly excellence and practical solutions to global policy problems.

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