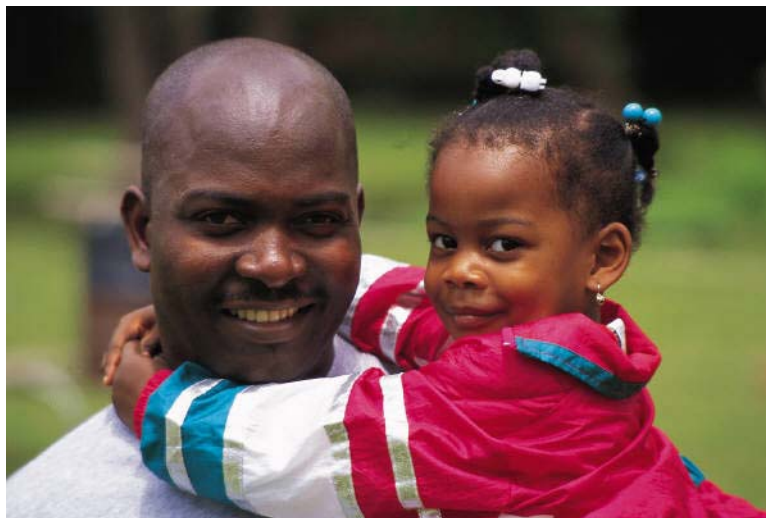


SPRING 2006  
HS 4333/6333  
Families, Legislation, and Public Policy



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES  
SCHOOL OF HUMAN SCIENCES  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
SPRING 2006  
HS 4333/6333, Families, Legislation, and Public Policy  
Instructor: Dr. Lynn Pike

Credit: 3 hours lecture

Office: 339 Lloyd-Ricks

E-Mail: lpike@humansci.msstate.edu

Time of Class: TH 6:00 – 8:50 p.m. (Mandatory-do not schedule work, other classes or other conflicts)

Classroom: Lloyd-Ricks Computer Lab (Basement)

Office Phone: 325-1799

Office Hours: TH 6:00 – 8:50 p.m.

**Catalog Description:**

Three hours lecture. An examination of the impact of legislation and public policy on the well-being of the family with an emphasis on policy and family change.

**Course Objectives:**

The objectives of this course are for the student to be able to:

1. Examine issues and events affecting family's needs and government and economic policy;
2. Become knowledgeable about current economic policy affecting families;
3. Evaluate the consequences of public policy issues related to families needs;
4. Develop knowledge pertinent to professionals working in the area of linkage between families and family policy.
5. Develop skill in the use of WebCT

**Topics to Be Covered:**

Public Policy and

Marriage and Divorce

Parents' Issues

Children's Issues

Adolescents' Issues

Elderly Issues

Family Issues

Health Care

Drug Regulation

Poverty & Income

Welfare Reform

Ethics and Values

### **Student Activities:**

1. Three quizzes (each worth 100 points) will be administered throughout the semester. All quizzes will be given online via WebCT.
2. Chat discussion questions are available under ‘weekly assignments.’ The chats will be worth 100 points each, however, I will only randomly grade 3 of them throughout the semester . Everyone in the group will receive the same grade for a particular chat unless they are late, absent or make no contribution to the discussion.(300 points).
3. Online assignments will be due each week. These assignments are posted under ‘weekly assignments.’ Online assignments will be worth 100 points each, however, the instructor will only randomly grade 3 of them throughout the semester (300 points).

### **Course Policies:**

1. Attendance Policy. In accordance with University policy, the student’s advisor and the Dean of Students will be notified if three or more classes are missed. Since this is a web-based class not participating in chat room discussions and failure to submit assignments by the due date and time, will be considered non-attendance. **Ten points will be deducted from your total grade for each chat that is missed.**
2. It is expected that each student will take the quizzes online during the scheduled exam periods. Make-up quizzes will NOT be given. If a quiz is missed, the following quiz will count double. The final exam time is established by the University and no exceptions to the time for the final exam will be made.
3. Assignments are due by 10:00 a.m. on the scheduled due day of the chat. **ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED LATE.**
4. Add/Drop Policy. Students may: (1) add courses through the 5th class day, (2) drop through 10th class day, (3) withdraw 11th to 30th class day and receive “w” on transcript. There will be no withdrawals from individual courses after 30th class day of semester.
5. Policies and procedures for handling Academic Misconduct (cheating) as outlined under University Policies Relating to Students at Internet Web Address [www.msstate.edu/web/security.html](http://www.msstate.edu/web/security.html) will be followed in this course. It is the responsibility of any student who has special needs (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)) to inform the instructor of this class as soon as possible so reasonable accommodations may be provided. The student must self-identify concerning disability documentation that is as recent as within last three (3) years and request necessary accommodations.
6. I reserve the right to censor or remove any information from the chats or discussions that is considered inappropriate.

7. Students may post messages to the discussion room anytime. However, I will respond to them during the office hours 6:00-8:50 on Thursday.

8. Students need to make back-up copies of all assignments.

**9. Lloyd-Ricks room 14 will be available on Thursdays (6:00-8:50) for your use. HOWEVER, YOU MUST LET ME KNOW BY 10:00 AM on Thursday morning if you will need it that evening.**

### **Methods of Instruction:**

This course will be taught online. Students will be required to use the discussion board, participate in chat room discussions, communicate via e-mail, and utilize other WebCT features over the course of the semester.

### **Lynn's Laws**

- 1. Attendance in YOUR chat room is mandatory, no switching chat rooms**
- 2. Communicate with me via WebCT email—Not GroupWise email**
- 3. Check your WebCT email at least twice a day**
- 4. If you are having (non-technical) problems in the class, the protocol will be:**
  - (1) Contact your chatroom facilitator**
  - (2) Post your questions on the discussion board. If you do not receive a response from other students within a 24-hour period, proceed to step 3.**
  - (3) Ask your question to fellow students during a scheduled chatroom time.**
  - (4) E-mail the instructor.**
  - (5) If all else fails, you may telephone the instructor in her office.**
- 5. For technical computer problems, contact the ITS Help Desk at 325-0631-NOT Your Instructor**
- 6. Be prepared for me to unexpectedly join your chatroom discussions and grade the group according to:**
  - a. Knowledge of textbook readings (50 points)**
  - b. Contribution to the discussion (25 points)**
  - c. Professionalism (25 points)**
- 8. All assignments must be in Word and NOT WordPerfect.**
- 9. When sending weekly assignments as attached files, label them with the assignment number and your last name. (e.g., assign1-T.Jones).**
- 10. Put your name on all of your assignments.**

### **Evaluation of Student Progress:**

Course grades will be earned upon satisfactory completion of the following:

3 Quizzes (100 points each) = 300

3 Chats (Randomly Selected-100 points each) = 300

3 Online Assignments (Randomly Selected-100 points each) = 300

TOTAL: 900

Grades will be given according to the following scale (920 possible points)

A= 900-800 B=799-700 C=699-600 D=599-500 F=499 or lower

\*Additional assignments for graduate students will be given separately.

**Textbook/Websites:**

1) Bogenschneider, K. (2002). Family Policy Matters: How Policymaking Affects Families and What Professionals Can Do. Erlbaum: Mahwah, NJ.

2) Use the library's Psychinfo database to access the research articles on line. The steps are as follows:

1) [www.library.msstate.edu](http://www.library.msstate.edu)

2) [click on search for materials](#)

3) click on databases

4) click on "P"

5) click on Psychinfo

6) enter

a. Author's last name (change default to "author")

b. Article title (change default to "title")

c. Check box for "full text only"

d. click "search"

e. view PDF version of article

3) Use the Internet to access the University of Wisconsin Family Impact Seminar readings. The steps are as follows:

1) <http://cecommerce.uwex.edu>

2) [click on Home and Family](#)

3) click on Human Development and Family Rrelations

4) click on Family Impact Seminar Report Series

5) click on title you need (ignore prices)

6) the report will be downloaded in Acrobat Reader

### Tentative Class Schedule

Date	Topic	Assign.
1/19	Course Introduction Learning WebCT	
1/26	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #1 Overview of Family Public Policy Family Trends	Bogenschneider, Chapters 1 & 2  Zimmerman, S. L. (1992). Family trends: What implications for family policy? <u>Family Relations</u> , 41, 423-429
2/2	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #2 Marriage and Divorce Issues	Felner, R. D. et al. (1985). Child custody: Practices and perspectives of legal professionals. <u>Journal of Clinical Child Psychology</u> , 14, 27-34.  ----- - Bogenschneider, Chapter 13  ----- - Child Support: The Effect of the Current System on Families (Wisconsin Family Impact Seminar-pp. 9-32)
2/9	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #3 Marriage and Divorce Issues	<a href="http://divorcereform.org/cov.html">http://divorcereform.org/cov.html</a>  ----- - Hawkins, A, et al. (2002). Attitudes about covenant marriage and divorce: Policy implications from a three-state comparison. <u>Family Relations</u> , 51, 166-176.
2/16	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #4 Parent Issues	Bogenschneider, Chapter 6  ----- - Can Government Promote Competent Parenting? (Wisconsin Family Impact Seminar-pp. 1-32)
2/23	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #5 Children's Issues <b>Quiz #1 online 8:30 pm</b>	Building Resiliency and Reducing Risk: What Youth Need From Families and Communities to Succeed (Wisconsin Family Impact Seminar-pp. vi-36)

3/2	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #6 Adolescent's Issues	<p>Steinberg, L. &amp; Cauffman, E. (1999). A developmental perspective on serious juvenile crime: When should juveniles be treated as adults? <u>Federal Probation</u>, 63, 52-59.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Bogenschneider, Chapter 14</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Building Resiliency and Reducing Risk: What Youth Need From Families and Communities to Succeed (Wisconsin Family Impact Seminar-pp. 37-58)</p>
3/9	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #7 Elderly Issues	<p>Harlton, S. et al. (1998). Defining eldercare for policy and practice: Perspectives matter. <u>Family Relations</u>, 47, 281-288.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Williams, A. et al. (2003). The influence of income on the experience of informal caregiving: Policy implications. <u>Health Care for Women International</u>, 24, 280-291.</p>
3/16	SPRING BREAK	
3/23	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #8 Health Issues	<p>Bogenschneider, Chapter 7</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Rising Prescription Drug Costs: Reasons, Needs, and Policy Responses (Wisconsin Family Impact Seminar-pp. 1-21)</p>
3/30	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #9 Review of Family Policy in the 1990s	<p>Bogenschneider, Chapters 3-5</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Bogenschneider, K. (2000). Has family policy come of age? A decade review of the state of U.S. Family policy in the 1990s. <u>Journal of Marriage and the Family</u>, 62, 1136-1159.</p>

4/6	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #10 Work and Family Issues  <b>QUIZ 2 –online 8:30 pm</b>	Grover, S. L. & Crooker, K. J. (1995). Who appreciates family-responsive human resource policies: The impact of family friendly policies on the organizational attachment of parents and non-parents. <u>Personnel Psychology</u> , 48, 271-288.  ----- Perry-Jenkins, M. et al. (2000). Work and family in the 1990s. <u>Journal of Marriage and the Family</u> , 62, 981-998.
4/13	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #11 Evaluation of Public Programs	Bogenschneider, Chapters 9-10 Petrosino, A. et al. (2000). Well-meaning programs can have harmful effects! Lessons from experiments of programs such as Scared Straight. <u>Crime &amp; Delinquency</u> , 46, 354-379
4/20	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #12 Financial and Poverty Issues	Moving Families Out of Poverty: Employment, Tax, and Investment Strategies (Wisconsin Family Impact Seminar-pp. 1-32)
4/27	CHAT ROOM DISCUSSION #13 Financial and Poverty Issues	Moving Families Out of Poverty: Employment, Tax, and Investment Strategies (Wisconsin Family Impact Seminar-pp. 32-53).
5/11	<b>FINAL QUIZ – 6:00 pm</b>	