

FAMILY POLICY ANALYSIS

FACS 499

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES

*****A detailed syllabus will be provided to students registered for the course.*****

Instructor: Dr. Adam R. West, Ph.D., LMSW, CFLE
E-mail: adam.west@wku.edu (the best way to contact me)
Office: AC 414
Office Hours*: By appointment (see note below)

***Please request an appointment via e-mail. That e-mail message MUST include at least three hour-long blocks you are available to meet during the week from which I can choose a mutually convenient time. Please also indicate which course (i.e., the course number) you are enrolled in.**

Required texts: Butterfield, A.K., Rocha, C., & Butterfield, W.H. (2010). *The dynamics of family policy*. Chicago, IL: Lyceum Books.

Bogensneider, K. (2014). *Family policy matters: How policymaking affects families and what professionals can do (3rd edition)*. New York: Routledge.

West, A. R. (2021). Readings packet from McGraw Hill.

TO PURCHASE: Go to [McGraw Hill Education](https://create.mheducation.com/shop) (<https://create.mheducation.com/shop>) and search for ISBN: 9781307677850 (this should cost about \$19.00; there may be older copies of readings that cost \$23 to \$33—DO NOT BUY an older, more expensive copy)

Course Web Page: Blackboard (<https://wku.blackboard.com>)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of the place of family and child studies in the context of broader themes, such as public policy and varying social and economic climates. This course is designed to integrate research, theory, and practice, applying former education to a variety of family and child issues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Student that successfully completes the course will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a better understanding of the definitions, approaches, and issues involved in family policy analyses across the life cycle
2. Interpret current societal trends as they relate to the need for public policies addressing the child and family
3. Identify current research and theoretical foundations of various child and family issues
4. Participate in sharing various viewpoints of specific child and family issues
5. Analyze processes for formulating, implementing, and evaluating public policy and the role of family and consumer sciences professionals in these processes
6. Evaluate public policy issues effecting children and families
7. Think critically and improve their ability to develop and express clear logical arguments to policymakers, practitioners and the public
8. Identify and assess programs in governmental and private agencies that are designed to address the needs of families and consumers
9. Explore what roles professionals can play in building family policies that support families across the life cycle

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES **(MORE DETAILS ON BLACKBOARD)**

Students will assignments demonstrating knowledge of family policy concepts and applications (Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9).

ASSIGNMENTS **(MORE DETAILS ON BLACKBOARD)**

See Blackboard course site for detailed syllabus.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS **(MORE DETAILS ON BLACKBOARD)**

See Blackboard course site for detailed grading rubric.

Total Points: 320 points (100%)

A = 288 or above | B = 256 – 287 | C = 224 – 255 | D = 192 – 223 | F = 191 or below

SELECTED COURSE POLICIES **(MORE DETAILS ON BLACKBOARD)**

All student papers will be checked using plagiarism detection software through Blackboard.

Religious Holy Days: A student who needs to miss an online assignment for the observance of a religious holy day may complete the work issued within a reasonable time after the absence, if proper notice has been given. Proper notice in this course is defined as notifying the instructor in writing at least **one week** in advance of the absence for observance of a religious holy day. During this time, you and I will establish new assignment due dates to accommodate your observance of the religious holy day(s). In most cases, I will recommend that you turn in your assignments early, if possible.

Withdrawal from the Course: Withdrawal from the course is governed by the general university policy. Please see the undergraduate catalog for more information.

STUDENT CODE OF HONOR

Do your own work. Academic dishonesty **will not** be tolerated. Your honesty is a crucial part of the learning environment in our class. Honesty is of utmost importance to me and I expect and assume that you will have perfect honesty in all you do in this class. All students who cheat in this class will automatically receive a zero grade on the assignment. Students may also receive a failing grade for the course and be referred to the [Office of the Vice President of Enrollment and Student Experience](https://www.wku.edu/ese) (<https://www.wku.edu/ese>) for disciplinary action and expulsion.

Academic Dishonesty: Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the course work in which the act is detected or a failing grade in a course without possibility of withdrawal. The faculty member may also present the case to the Referral to the Office of the Vice President of Enrollment and Student Experience for disciplinary sanctions. Students who believe they have been dealt with unfairly by a faculty member involving academic dishonesty may seek relief through the Student Complaint Procedure.

Plagiarism: To represent written work taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The academic work of a student must be his/her own. One must give any author credit for source material borrowed from him/her. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage without reference to the source after having changed a few words is also plagiarism. Students who plagiarize on an assignment will automatically receive a failing grade for that assignment and may receive a failing grade for the course. Referral to the Office of the Vice President of Enrollment and Student Experience for disciplinary action and expulsion may also occur.

Cheating: No student shall receive or give assistance not authorized by the instructor in taking an examination or in the preparation of an assignment, essay, or other project which is submitted for purposes of grade determination. Students who give their work to other students, and these other students end up using this work as their own, will be held liable. In other words, if you give your work to a classmate and the classmate copies and steals your work, then you are held responsible too and receive discipline as laid out in the syllabus. **DO YOUR OWN WORK.** Cheating will be prosecuted at the highest degree and students will be referred to the necessary offices at WKU. Cheating will be prosecuted at the highest degree and students will be referred to the necessary offices at WKU.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center (SARC) located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via [email](mailto:sarc@wku.edu) (sarc@wku.edu). Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a Faculty Notification Letter (FNL) from the SARC.

EQUAL TREATMENT OF STUDENTS

“Western Kentucky University is committed to providing truly equal educational opportunities for all students. An important component of that commitment is to insure that all students, regardless of gender, race, religion, or ethnicity, feel welcome on campus, in the classroom, and in their interactions with faculty and staff. The Council of Academic Deans affirms this commitment and reinforces the expectation that all faculty and staff will conduct themselves in such a manner that all students feel they are treated equally and fairly at the university. Students who believe they have experienced any discrimination at Western should feel free to report it to a faculty member, a department head, a dean, or to any administrative official.”

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU’s [Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy](#) (#0.2070) and [Discrimination and Harassment Policy](#) (#0.2040).

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.