Module Title :	SS2767 – Irish Social Policy 1 (10 ECTS)
	 This module, which will run in both Michaelmas and Hilary term, comprises two sections: Critical Analysis & Argument Development Michaelmas Term Housing Policy – Hilary Term
Module Content:	Critical Analysis and Argument Development (5 ECTS) This section of the module aims to develop students' core social policy skills, including critical analysis, argument development and the use of an evidence-informed approach. The module introduces students to key social policy issues including the changing context of work and employment, social security, the gender pay gap and the social determinants of health. Students are challenged to practice and develop the skills they have learnt by engaging critically with these topics. Students are supported to critically appraise how explanations of and solutions to social issues may be influenced by analysis of evidence and competing perspectives
Learning Outcomes:	 On completion of this section of the module students will be able to: Recall definitions of key concepts including critical analysis, academic argument and theoretical framework. Identify competing perspectives on social policy issues Critically evaluate competing explanations using an evidence-informed approach Develop balanced arguments on social policy issues Recall knowledge on key social policy debates including, the changing context of work, social security, the gender pay gap and the social determinants of health.
Key Readings	 ** Cottrell, S. (2011). Critical thinking skills: Developing effective analysis and argument. Basingstoke Palgrave Macmillan. (Available as an e- book). ** This is the key reading for this module. Greetham, B. (2013). How to write better essays. London: Palgrave Macmillan. European Commission (2009). Gender segregation in the labour market: Root causes, implications and policy responses in the EU. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union. Available at: http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&furtherPubs=yes&langId=en &pubId=364 Standing, G. (2011) The Precariat: The New Dangerous Class. London:
	 Bloomsbury. Wilkinson. R. & Pickett, K. (2010) The Spirit Level: Why Equality is Better for Everyone. London: Penguin.

Module Content	Housing Policy (5 ECTS)
	This section of the module will provide a comprehensive introduction to housing and homelessness policy in Ireland.
	 Module content will include the addressing following: What is housing policy? Why do governments intervene in the housing market? What is housing tenure, what are the differences between different tenures, and why does it matter? What theoretical approaches are there to housing policy? Why did house prices rise so quickly, only to fall again? Has the Local Property Tax been a success or a failure? What can be done about mortgage arrears? What is Nama? What is the housing experience of minority ethnic households in Ireland? Have government housing policy objectives been achieved? What theoretical explanations are there for the nature and extent of homelessness? How have homeless services changed during the last 20 years? What are the key current homelessness policy issues?
Learning Outcomes:	 On completion of this module students will: have a clear understanding of why and in what fashion governments intervene in the housing market, and to what effect. have a good understanding of the operation of the housing system and the role played by different housing tenures be equipped to assess the impact of housing policy initiatives. have a comprehensive understanding of a number of topical issues in housing policy.
Lecturer for Poverty & Social Exclusion	 have a thorough understanding of the causes, nature and extent of homelessness. Dr. Louise Caffrey This section of the module will consist of: 2 x 1 hour lecturers per week
Lecturer for Housing Policy:	1 tutorial per week starting in week 3 Mr Simon Brooke
Penalty for late submission	A penalty of 10% will be applied to students who submit essays late without an authorised extension.

Assessment 1:	1500 word essay worth 50% of module
Assessment 2:	Essay = 50% of overall grade