





Contents

Senior F	resh Module Descriptors 2025 / 2026	3
Semester	1 - Michaelmas Term	
1.21	Labour Market Activation Policies, (SSU22161), 5 ECTS	3
1.21	Labour Market Activation Policies, (SSU22171), 10 ECTS	7
1.22	Social Policy in Action (Through Housing and Homelessness),	11
(SSU2	22191), 5 ECTS	11
1.22	Social Policy in Action (Through Housing and Homelessness),	17
(SSU2	22191), 10 ECTS	17
Semester	2 - Hilary Term	
1.23	Policy Issues in Human Services (SSU22172), 5 ECTS	24
1.23	Policy Issues in Human Services (SSU22182), 10 ECTS	28
1.24	Qualitative Methods for Social Policy, (SSU22212) 5 ECTs	32
1.24	Qualitative Methods for Social Policy, (SSU22222), 10 ECTs	38



Senior Fresh Module Descriptors 2025 / 2026

1.21 Labour Market Activation Policies, (SSU22161), 5 ECTS

Module Code	SSU22161
Module Name	Labour Market Policies
ECTS credit weighting	5 ECTS
Semester taught	Senior Fresh, Semester 1, 2025 / 2026
Module Coordinator/s	Dr. Carla Petautschnig
Module Learning Outcomes with	On completion of this module, students should be able to:
embedded Graduate Attributes	LO1 Critically analyse the interconnections between paid work, unemployment and social inclusion, considering historical trajectories and the theoretical approaches and ideological drivers underpinning these relations. LO2 Critically analyse the role of labour market policies with special focus on activation policies and welfare activation reforms in Europe and beyond. LO3 Compare the processes of activation reforms in selected countries and understand the particularities of the Irish case. LO4 Analyse empirical findings discussing labour market inequalities and precarisation in a global perspective. LO5 Reflect on the ethical challenges underlying the debates about the future of work.
Module Content	This module analyses the complex relationship between work/unemployment, social policies, inclusion and rights to understand, for example, why paid employment has been considered the dominant way of citizens contributing to society, how working lives and policies have been organised around these

assumes a comparative perspective,

principles, what unemployment means for individuals and society, and how these notions are challenged by the current transformation of work, among other aspects. The module examines why and how countries have shifted towards activation policies, the related welfare reforms and the adoption of marketisation and digitalisation as policy features. The module focuses on the Irish case and

reviewing cases from different

countries/welfare regimes. Specific dimensions, such as labour market inequalities and the precarization of labour, are discussed in relation to particular groups and demographics.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The module is delivered through weekly lectures. Students are expected to engage in advance with the materials assigned for each lecture/topic and participate in class discussions. Materials and recommended readings are provided to expand on topics of interest after each class. Assignment preparation requires students to conduct independent research and source relevant publications.

Assessment Details Please include the following:

- Assessment Component
- Assessment description
- Learning
 Outcome(s)
 addressed % of
 total

It is recommended that module coordinators consider assessment types used across the year to ensure varied assessment methods.

Assessment	Assessment	LO	% of total
Component	Description	Addressed	
Case analysis	1,300 words analysis	1-3	30%
DUE: WK 9 Thurs	of a policy/country		
23.10.25	case		
Essay	2,300 words	1-5	70%
DUE: WK 16. Mon	excluding references.		
08.12.25			

Re-Assessment Details

Assessment	Assessment	LO	% of total
Component	Description	Addressed	
Case analysis	1,300 words analysis of a policy/country	1,3	30%
	case		
Essay	2,300 words	1-5	70%
	excluding references		



Inclusive Curriculum

	PLEASE	
	TICK	
 Have you reviewed the teaching / assessment methods and materials for possible barriers to learning, e.g. students with English as a second language, disabilities, significant external 	Ø	
responsibilities, students with IT issues / requiring specific accessibility software etc.?		
Have you adapted your resources and teaching materials	Ø	
taking into account Trinity's Accessible Information		
Guidelines (https://www.tcd.ie/disability/teaching-		
info/TIC/materials.php)?	57	
 Does the content of your module address diversity? For example, including a diverse demographic profile of authors, 		
diversity of ideas and perspectives, or representation (e.g.		
pictures of conditions on different skin tones), or by		
acknowledgement of the homogenous context of the discipline/topic?		
Highlight at least two ways which your course/module incorporate incorpor	rates	
principles of inclusivity and accessibility into the curriculum de		
1) The module includes a diverse profile of authors representing	•	
positions, demographics and approaches, with a global perspective.		
2) Module materials consider various means of representation such as		
readings, podcasts and videos. Slides follow accessibility principle:		

Indicative Reading List (approx. 4-5 titles)

Eleveld, A., Kampen, T. and Arts, J. (eds) (2020) Welfare to work in contemporary European welfare states. Bristol: Policy Press.

Dwyer, P. (Ed.) (2019) Dealing with welfare conditionality: implementation and effects. Bristol: University Press.

Lødemel, I. and Heather Trickey (2001) 'An offer you can't refuse': workfare in international perspective. Bristol: Policy Press.

McGann, M. (2023) The marketisation of welfare-to-work in Ireland: governing



activation at the street-level. Bristol: University Press.

Murphy, M. and Dukelow, F. (2016) Irish welfare state in the twenty-first century: challenges and change. Palgrave Macmillan.

Module Pre-requisite

Module Co-requisite

Are other
Schools/Departments
involved in the
delivery of this
module? If yes,
please provide
details.



1.21 Labour Market Activation Policies, (SSU22171), 10 ECTS

SSU22171
Labour Market Policies
10 ECTS
Senior Fresh, Semester 1, 2025 / 2026
Dr. Carla Petautschnig
On completion of this module, students should be able to:
LO1 Critically analyse the interconnections between paid work, unemployment and social inclusion, considering the theoretical approaches and ideological drivers underpinning these relations. LO2 Critically analyse the role of labour market policies with special focus on
activation policies and welfare activation reforms in Europe and beyond. LO3 Compare the processes of activation reforms in selected countries and understand the particularities of the Irish case.
LO4 Analyse empirical findings discussing labour market inequalities and precarisation in a global perspective.
LO5 Reflect on the ethical challenges underlying the debates about the future of work.
This module analyses the complex relationship between work/unemployment, social policies, inclusion and rights to understand, for example, why paid employment has been considered the dominant way of citizens contributing to society, how working lives and policies have been organised around these principles, what unemployment means for individuals and society, and how these notions are challenged by the current transformation of work, among other aspects. The module examines why and how countries have shifted towards activation policies, the related welfare reforms and the adoption of marketisation and digitalisation as policy features. The module focuses on the Irish case and also

assumes a comparative perspective, reviewing cases from different countries/welfare regimes. Specific topics, such as labour market inequalities and the precarization of labour, are discussed in relation to particular groups and



demographics.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The module is delivered through weekly lectures. Students are expected to engage in advance with the materials assigned for each lecture/topic and participate in class discussions. Materials and recommended readings are provided to expand on topics of interest after each class. Assignment preparation requires students to conduct independent research and source relevant publications.

Assessment Details Please include the following:

- Assessment Component
- Assessment description
- Learning
 Outcome(s)
 addressed % of
 total

It is recommended that module coordinators consider assessment types used across the year to ensure varied assessment methods.

Assessment	Assessment	LO	% of total
Component	Description	Addressed	
1. Case analysis	1,500 words analysis	1-3	30%
DUE: WK 9 Thurs	of a policy/country		
23.10.25	case		
2. Essay	2,500 words	1-5	70%
DUE: WK 16. Mon	excluding references		
08.12.25			



	Assessment	Assessment	LO	% of total
	Component	Description	Addressed	
	Case analysis	1,500 words analysis of a policy/country case	1,3	30%
Re-Assessment Details	Essay	2,500 words excluding references	1-5	70%

Inclusive Curriculum

		PLEASE TICK
•	Have you reviewed the teaching / assessment methods and materials for possible barriers to learning, e.g. students with English as a second language, disabilities, significant external responsibilities, students with IT issues / requiring specific accessibility software etc.?	Ø
•	Have you adapted your resources and teaching materials taking into account Trinity's Accessible Information Guidelines (https://www.tcd.ie/disability/teaching-info/TIC/materials.php)?	Ø
•	Does the content of your module address diversity? For example, including a diverse demographic profile of authors, diversity of ideas and perspectives, or representation (e.g. pictures of conditions on different skin tones), or by acknowledgement of the homogenous context of the discipline/topic?	Ø
•	Highlight at least two ways which your course/module incorpor principles of inclusivity and accessibility into the curriculum de	
,	e module includes a diverse profile of authors representing of sitions, demographics and approaches, with a global perspectiv	



4) Module materials consider various means of representation such as readings, podcasts and videos. Slides follow accessibility principles.

Indicative Reading List (approx. 4-5 titles)

Eleveld, A., Kampen, T. and Arts, J. (eds) (2020) Welfare to work in contemporary European welfare states. Bristol: Policy Press.

Dwyer, P. (Ed.) (2019) Dealing with welfare conditionality: implementation and effects. Bristol: University Press.

Lødemel, I. and Heather Trickey (2001) 'An offer you can't refuse': workfare in international perspective. Bristol: Policy Press.

McGann, M. (2023) The marketisation of welfare-to-work in Ireland: governing activation at the street-level. Bristol: University Press.

Murphy, M. and Dukelow, F. (2016) Irish welfare state in the twenty-first century: challenges and change. Palgrave Macmillan.

Module Pre-requisite

Module Co-requisite

Are other
Schools/Departments
involved in the
delivery of this
module? If yes,
please provide
details.



1.22 Social Policy in Action (Through Housing and Homelessness),(SSU22191), 5 ECTS

Module Code	SSU22191		
Module Name	Social Policy In Action Through Lens of Housing and Homelessness Policy		
ECTS credit weighting	5 ECTS		
Semester taught	Senior Fresh, Semester 1, 2025 / 2026		
Module Coordinator/s	Dr Carla Petautschnig, Dr Catherine Conlon and Mr Mike Allen (Focus Ireland)		
	On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:		
Module Learning	1. Delineate the key stages involved in the policy making process		
Outcomes with	2. Apply key models and frameworks to analyse the policy making process/stages.		
embedded <u>Graduate</u>	3. Explain how key stages in the policy making process feature in Housing and		
<u>Attributes</u>	Homeless Policy.		
	4. Independently analyse other specific policy initiatives to identify specific		
	elements involved in each policy making stage featuring within that initiative.		
	5. Assess how adequately frameworks offered within policy science capture		
	policy action through case study on Housing and Homelessness.		
	6. Use the conventions of essay writing to explain the stages model of policy		
	making illustrated with reference to applied policy examples.		
Module Content	This module aims to give students an insight into basic frameworks and models to		
	systematically analyse the process of policy making which they can then apply to		
	specific policy issues as part of a group project and an individual essay. The module		
	uses the case study of Housing and Homeless Policy contributed by Mr Mike Allen		
	of Community Partners, Focus Ireland.		
	This module looks at social policy in action. It considers how social policy is devised		
	and implemented, asking: how do issues come onto the agenda? Who are key		

policy actors? How do principles and ideologies encountered in the first semester feature in policy responses? What are the key national and supra-national institutions framing policy, and how is policy reviewed and evaluated? Students gain an insight into models for analysing the policy making process. They are provided with a case study on housing and homeless policy by a leading policy actor in this area. Policy approaches and instruments in place within the Irish, EU and select international contexts addressing housing and homelessness will be presented to which students can apply the analytical models introduced.

The module focuses specifically on policy on housing and homelessness as an empirical lens through which to understand these frameworks in Action. Adjunct Professor Mike Allen, Director of Advocacy for Focus Ireland joins the module team to teach on understandings, insights and experience of researching and advocating for policy addressing homelessness and delivering housing. This unique insight from Practice will bring the policy science frameworks to life through a policy topic that is highly topical in Ireland and throughout Global North welfare states.

This module will equip students for deeper exploration of further specific policy issues and debates as they progress in their study of social policy

Teaching and Learning Methods¹

Lectures, tutorials, practical classes involving students analysing a policy initiative in groups

Guidelines for student inputs to the module are detailed below and represent the minimum number of hours that students are expected to invest:

Large group lectures attendance and participation: 20 hours

Small group tutorial attendance and participation: 10 hours

Time spent reviewing instructional material (notes & assigned readings): 40 hours

Time spent on further recommended reading: 40 hours

Independent sourcing and reading of relevant supplementary materials to prepare for assessment: 40

Researching current social policy issues to inform class discussion and written

¹ <u>Trinity-INC</u> provides tips and resources on how to make your curriculum more inclusive.



assessment: 30

Preparation of policy blog post for assessment: 10 hours

Drafting and finalising writing of essay for written assessment: 40 hours

TOTAL: 230

Assessment Details ²			
Plea	ase include the		
foll	owing:		
•	Assessment		
	Component		
•	Assessment		
	description		
•	Learning		
	Outcome(s)		
	addressed		
•	% of total		
It is	recommended		
tha	t module co-		
ordinators consider			
assessment types			
used across the year			
to ensure varied			
assessment methods.			

Assessment	Assessment	LO	% of total
Component	Description	Addressed	
Journal Entry	800-word analysis of	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	20%
(Submitted after	a self-selected policy		
reading week).	initiative using		
Due Date:	frameworks from the		
Week 11. Fri	module		
07.11.25, @12 NOON			
End of term Essay	2,500-word essay	1, 2, 3, 4, 5,	80%
Due Date:	analysing and	6	
Week 15. Fri	assessing policy		
05.12.25, @12 NOON	initiatives relating to		
	housing and		
	homelessness		

Re-Assessment
Details

Same As Original Assessment.

² https://www.tcd.ie/academicpractice/resources/assessment/



Inclusive Curriculum

			PLEASE
			TICK
	1.	Have you reviewed the teaching / assessment methods and	
		materials for possible barriers to learning, e.g. students with	Ø
		English as a second language, disabilities, significant external	
		responsibilities, students with IT issues / requiring specific	
		accessibility software etc.?	
	2.	Have you adapted your resources and teaching materials	Ø
		taking into account Trinity's Accessible Information	
		Guidelines (https://www.tcd.ie/disability/teaching-	
		info/TIC/materials.php)?	
	3.	Does the content of your module address diversity? For	Ø
		example, including a diverse demographic profile of authors,	
		diversity of ideas and perspectives, or representation (e.g.	
		pictures of conditions on different skin tones), or by	
		acknowledgement of the homogenous context of the	
		discipline/topic?	
H			

4. Highlight at least two ways which your course/module incorporates principles of inclusivity and accessibility into the curriculum design

(i.e. supports engagement and representation of **all** Trinity students, presents information and content in a variety of ways, and offers variety and options of assessment type. See: Universal Design for Learning - AHEAD for more information and guidance, and Inclusive Curriculum - Equality - Trinity College Dublin (tcd.ie) for insights from Trinity students)

 Power point presentations, videos and other materials that are shared with students will be reviewed for accessibility with reference to <u>Accessibility Tips - Equality, Diversity and Inclusion | Trinity College</u> <u>Dublin</u>.



- BlackBoard Ally will be used to assess how accessible all course materials are.
- Lecture notes in the form of Power point presentations will be posted on Blackboard up to one hour before lectures.
- Mentimeter will be used to allow student post questions in an
 accessible way during lectures and to make suggestions e.g. 'Please
 Slow Down'; 'Please Revise topic X from last week'. We will ensure
 that all students are familiar with the Platform at the outset of the
 module by having a demonstration session in Lecture 1.
- Students will be invited to provide feedback on how the module is delivered through a mid-module survey.

Indicative Reading List

(approx. 4-5 titles)

- Alcock, P., Haux, T., May, M. and Wright, S. (2016) The Students Companion to Social Policy. Chichester: Wiley.
- Boaz, H. Davies, A. Fraser, and S. Nutley (2019) What Works Now?: Evidence-Informed Policy and Practice. Bristol: Policy Press.
- Considine, M., and Dukelow, F., (2017) Irish Social Policy. A Critical Introduction. 2nd Edition. Bristol: Policy Press.
- Dean, H. (2012) Social Policy (2nd Edition). Cambridge: Polity.
- Dwyer, P., and Shaw, S. (2014) An Introduction to Social Policy. London: Sage.
- Howlett, M. and Ramesh, M. (2003) Studying Public Policy. Policy Cycles and Policy Subsystems (2nd Edition). Oxford University Press.
- Kennedy, P. (2013) Key Themes in Social Policy. London: Routledge.
- McCashin, A (2019) Continuity and Change in the Welfare State. Cham:
 Palgrave Macmillan.
- O'Sullivan, E. (2020). Reimagining homelessness. Bristol: Policy Press

Module Pre-requisite

None

Module Co-requisite

None



Are other
Schools/Departments
involved in the
delivery of this
module? If yes,
please provide
details.

No



1.22 Social Policy in Action (Through Housing and Homelessness), (SSU22191). 10 ECTS

(SSU22191), 10 ECTS		
Module Code	SSU22291	
Module Name	Social Policy In Action Through Lens of Housing and Homelessness Policy	
ECTS credit weighting	10 ECTS	
Semester taught	Senior Fresh, Semester 1, 2025 / 2026	
Module Coordinator/s	Dr Carla Petautschnig, Dr Catherine Conlon and Mr Mike Allen (Focus Ireland)	
	On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:	
Module Learning	Delineate the key stages involved in the policy making process.	
Outcomes with	Apply key models and frameworks to analyse the policy making process/stages.	
embedded <u>Graduate</u>	Explain how key stages in the policy making process feature in Housing and	
<u>Attributes</u>	Homeless Policy.	
	• Independently analyse other specific policy initiatives to identify specific	
	elements involved in each policy making stage featuring within that initiative.	
	Assess how adequately frameworks offered within policy science capture	
	policy action through case study on Housing and Homelessness.	
	Work as part of a group to develop an integrated, coherent presentation and	
	contribute to oral delivery in class	
	Use the conventions of essay writing to explain the stages model of policy	
	making illustrated with reference to applied policy examples.	
Module Content	This module aims to give students an insight into basic frameworks and models to	
	systematically analyse the process of policy making which they can then apply to	
	specific policy issues as part of a group project and an individual essay. The module	
	uses the case study of Housing and Homeless Policy contributed by Mr Mike Allen	
	of Community Partners, Focus Ireland.	
	This module looks at social policy in action. It considers how social policy is devised	
	and implemented, asking: how do issues come onto the agenda? Who are key	

policy actors? How do principles and ideologies encountered in the first semester



feature in policy responses? What are the key national and supra-national institutions framing policy, and how is policy reviewed and evaluated? Students gain an insight into models for analysing the policy making process. They are introduced to a range of current social policy issues and instruments in place within the Irish, EU or international context to which they can apply these analytical frameworks in lectures, tutorials and readings.

The module focuses specifically on policy on housing and homelessness as an empirical lens through which to understand these frameworks in Action. Adjunct Professor Mike Allen, Director of Advocacy for Focus Ireland joins the module team to teach on understandings, insights and experience of researching and advocating for policy addressing homelessness and delivering housing. This unique insight from Practice will bring the policy science frameworks to life through a policy topic that is highly topical in Ireland and throughout Global North welfare states.

Alongside two lecture hours per week, students will participate in a one-hour tutorials where students will discuss and think with the materials in lectures. Students will come together in a group project to analyse a policy initiative or instrument of their choice through frameworks introduced in the module. Students will present their analysis in the tutorial classroom prompting peer discussion and learning. This work will be assessed for 20% of assessment of the module.

This module will equip students for deeper exploration of specific policy issues and debates as they progress in their study of social policy and experience of applying a framework for policy analysis to a policy area of their choice.

The final component of assessment (80%) will involve students writing an individual essay where they apply the framework for analysis introduced in the module, or a component of it, to a policy area to do their own independent analysis of social policy in action.



Teaching and Learning Methods³

For this module, the guidelines for student inputs are as follows - these represent the advised number of hours that students are expected to invest:

Class (lecture & tutorial) attendance and participation: 32 hours

Time spent reviewing instructional material (notes & assigned readings): 30 hours

Time spent on further recommended reading: 60 hours

Independent sourcing and reading of relevant supplementary materials to

prepare for assessment: 60 hours

Researching current social policy issues to inform class presentation and written

assessment: 40 hours

Drafting and finalising writing of semester long project for written assessment: 50

hours

TOTAL: 272 hours

Assessment Details⁴ Please include the following:

- AssessmentComponent
- Assessment description
- LearningOutcome(s)addressed
- % of total

It is recommended

that module coordinators consider assessment types used across the year

Assessment	LO	% of total
Description	Addressed	
Students will come	1, 2, 3, 5	20%
ogether in tutorials		
o undertake a group		
project analysing a		
policy initiative or		
nstrument of their		
choice through		
rameworks		
ntroduced in the		
module. Students		
will present their		
analysis in the		
classroom prompting		
peer discussion and		
	tudents will come ogether in tutorials of undertake a group roject analysing a colicy initiative or astrument of their choice through cameworks atroduced in the module. Students will present their malysis in the classroom prompting	tudents will come 1, 2, 3, 5 ogether in tutorials o undertake a group roject analysing a olicy initiative or estrument of their hoice through rameworks etroduced in the module. Students vill present their nalysis in the lassroom prompting

³ <u>Trinity-INC</u> provides tips and resources on how to make your curriculum more inclusive.

⁴ https://www.tcd.ie/academicpractice/resources/assessment/



to ensure varied
assessment methods.

	learning.		
End of term Essay	3,500-word essay	1, 2, 3, 4, 6,	80%
Due Date:	analysing and	7	
Week 15. Fri	assessing policy		
05.12.25 @12 NOON	initiatives relating to		
	housing and		
	homelessness		

Re-Assessment

Details

Assessment	Assessment	LO	% of total
Component	Description	Addressed	
Individual	Individual	1, 2, 3, 5	20%
Presentation / video	Presentation / video		
to be submitted.	to be submitted.		
Essay	3,500-word essay	1, 2, 3, 4, 6,	80%
	analysing and	7	
	assessing policy		
	initiatives relating to		
	housing and		
	homelessness		

		PLEASE
		TICK
• Ha	ave you reviewed the teaching / assessment methods and	
m	aterials for possible barriers to learning, e.g. students with	Ø
Er	nglish as a second language, disabilities, significant external	
re	sponsibilities, students with IT issues / requiring specific	
ac	ccessibility software etc.?	
• Ha	ave you adapted your resources and teaching materials	Ø
ta	king into account Trinity's Accessible Information	
Gı	uidelines (https://www.tcd.ie/disability/teaching-	
<u>in</u>	fo/TIC/materials.php)?	
• Do	oes the content of your module address diversity? For	Ø
ex	cample, including a diverse demographic profile of authors,	
di	versity of ideas and perspectives, or representation (e.g.	
pi	ctures of conditions on different skin tones), or by	
ac	cknowledgement of the homogenous context of the	
di	scipline/topic?	

Inclusive Curriculum

Highlight at least two ways which your course/module incorporates
 principles of inclusivity and accessibility into the curriculum design

(i.e. supports engagement and representation of **all** Trinity students, presents information and content in a variety of ways, and offers variety and options of assessment type. See: Universal Design for Learning - AHEAD for more information and guidance, and Inclusive Curriculum - Equality - Trinity College Dublin (tcd.ie) for insights from Trinity students)

- Power point presentations, videos and other materials that are shared
 with students will be reviewed for accessibility with reference to
 Accessibility Tips Equality, Diversity and Inclusion | Trinity College
 Dublin.
- BlackBoard Ally will be used to assess how accessible all course materials are.
- Lecture notes in the form of Power point presentations will be posted on Blackboard up to one hour before lectures.
- Mentimeter will be used to allow student post questions in an
 accessible way during lectures and to make suggestions e.g. 'Please
 Slow Down'; 'Please Revise topic X from last week'. We will ensure
 that all students are familiar with the Platform at the outset of the
 module by having a demonstration session in Lecture 1.
- Students will be invited to provide feedback on how the module is delivered through a mid-module survey

Indicative Reading
List

 Alcock, P., Haux, T., May, M. and Wright, S. (2016) The Students Companion to Social Policy. Chichester: Wiley.



(approx. 4-5 titles)

- Boaz, H. Davies, A. Fraser, and S. Nutley (2019) What Works Now?: Evidence-Informed Policy and Practice. Bristol: Policy Press.
- Considine, M., and Dukelow, F., (2017) Irish Social Policy. A Critical Introduction. 2nd Edition. Bristol: Policy Press.
- Dean, H. (2012) Social Policy (2nd Edition). Cambridge: Polity.
- Dwyer, P., and Shaw, S. (2014) An Introduction to Social Policy. London: Sage.
- Howlett, M. and Ramesh, M. (2003) Studying Public Policy. Policy Cycles and Policy Subsystems (2nd Edition). Oxford University Press.
- Kennedy, P. (2013) Key Themes in Social Policy. London: Routledge.
- McCashin, A (2019) Continuity and Change in the Welfare State. Cham:
 Palgrave Macmillan.
- O'Sullivan, E. (2020). Reimagining homelessness. Bristol: Policy Press

•

Module Pre-requisite

None

Module Co-requisite

None

Are other
Schools/Departments
involved in the
delivery of this
module? If yes,

No

please provide

•

details.



1.23 Policy Issues in Human Services (SSU22172), 5 ECTS

Module Code	SSU22172
Module Name	Policy Issues in Human Services
ECTS credit weighting	5 ECTS
Semester taught	Senior Fresh, Semester 2, 2025 / 2026
Module Coordinator/s	Dr Julie Byrne
Module Learning Outcomes with embedded Graduate Attributes	 On successful completion of this module, students should be able to: Analyse the distinctive features of human services and human service organisations, their contexts and the role of human services in social policy. Recognise the interplay between public policy and social policy using the human service setting to explore policy relationships. Critically evaluate the impact of a public policy on human services and the potential impact on social policy goal achievement. Contribute to a research informed, citizen assembly style discussion on policy.
Module Content	 Features of human services, human service organisations and contexts Role of human services in social policy implementation The two policies –public policy and social policy Remit, goals and nature Relationship and interplay in human services setting Analysing public policy impact on human services –two examples Digitalisation and use of technology in human services Regulation in human services Identifying policy impact Research and the role of GenAl tools Voice and the role of citizen assemblies Note: While this module has no pre-requisites, it builds on students' foundational knowledge of the remit and goals of social policy. Where students do not have this grounding in social policy, they will be signposted to resources to help them orient themselves to the foundational knowledge associated with this field of study.



Teaching and Learning Methods⁵

Weekly lectures with supporting readings will be used to understand and evaluate concepts, theory, empirical research and for large group discussion of key policy issues and interconnections central to LO1, LO2, LO3. The *Case Analysis* assessment will assess these learning outcomes and provide input for the assessment of LO4. Towards the end of the term, we use part of the lecture time for research informed, *Interactive Presentation* assessments of LO4. These are group based, citizen assembly style discussions on policy designed to enhance group work skills and enhance understanding of policy issues through exploration of diverse perspectives.

Assessment				
Deta	ils ⁶			
Plea	se include			
the f	following:			
•	Assessment			
	Component			
•	Assessment			
	description			
•	Learning			
	Outcome(s)			
	addressed			
•	% of total			
It is				
reco	mmended			
that	module co-			
ordi	nators			
cons	ider			
asse	ssment			
type	s used			
acro	ss the year			

to ensure varied

assessment methods.

Assessment	Assessment Description	LO	% of
Component		Addressed	total
Case Analysis	Analyse the features of a specific	LO1 – LO3	70%
[Individual]	human service organisation and its role		
DUE: WK 29.	in social policy implementation.		
Mon 09.03.26	Research and critically evaluate the		
@12.00 Noon	impact of a public policy on		
	stakeholders of this type of HSO.		
Interactive	Contribute to a research informed	LO4	30%
Presentation	policy discussion in citizen assembly		
[Group]	format.		
In class w/c			
March 23, 30			
April 6			
Slide upload			
DUE: by WK 33.			
Fri 10.04.26 @			
12 Noon			

⁵ <u>Trinity-INC</u> provides tips and resources on how to make your curriculum more inclusive.

⁶ https://www.tcd.ie/academicpractice/resources/assessment/



Re-Assessment Details

Assessment	Assessment Description	LO	% of
Component		Addressed	total
Case Analysis	As for annual session.	LO1 – LO3	70%
Recorded	As for annual session, with individual	LO4	30%
Presentation	recorded presentation and uploaded		
	slides		

Inclusive Curriculum

		PLEASE
		TICK
•	Have you reviewed the teaching / assessment methods and	
	materials for possible barriers to learning, e.g. students with	\boxtimes
	English as a second language, disabilities, significant external	
	responsibilities, students with IT issues / requiring specific accessibility software etc.?	
•	Have you adapted your resources and teaching materials	Ø
	taking into account Trinity's Accessible Information	
	Guidelines (https://www.tcd.ie/disability/teaching-	
	info/TIC/materials.php)?	
•	Does the content of your module address diversity? For	Ø
	example, including a diverse demographic profile of authors,	
	diversity of ideas and perspectives, or representation (e.g.	
	pictures of conditions on different skin tones), or by	
	acknowledgement of the homogenous context of the	
	discipline/topic?	
•	Highlight at least two ways which your course/module incorpo	rates
	principles of inclusivity and accessibility into the curriculum de	sign
	o Learning outcomes are discussed at the start of the module	e and
	connected explicitly to each section of the curriculum and	
	assessment to support the direction and organisation of st	udent
	learning.	
	o The module utilises a clear Blackboard structure with distir	nct
	sections for module information, slides by week, learning	
resources by week, seminar questions etc along with detailed		
	assessment information including a discussion forum Q&A.	This
	facilitates student navigation and orientation across the te	rm.



- Announcements are used throughout the term to alert students to important tasks and deadlines and to signpost relevant information or support services.
- To facilitate active learners, the module uses the setting of familiar human service organisations such as schools, hospitals, and universities for the application of policy concepts and theory.
 Diverse examples of human service organisations, across different countries are used in examples.
- Online 'drop-in' meetings are available to students to facilitate those with caring responsibilities, those who need to study from home or whose work or commuting schedules would clash with in person office hours.
- Student feedback on the delivery of the modules is sought after a few weeks rather than at the end so that adjustments to learning methods and content can be made in response to student needs and preferences.

Indicative Reading List (approx. 4-5 titles)

Cairney, P. (2020) <u>Understanding public policy: theories and issues</u>, 2nd edition, e-book, London: Red Globe Press.

Ellison, N. and Haux, T. (editors) (2020) <u>Handbook on Society and Social Policy</u>, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing.

Bochel, C. and Bochel, H. (2018) <u>Making and Implementing Public Policy: Key Concepts and Issues</u>, New York: Springer Nature, Palgrave Macmillan Education. Brody, R. & Nair, M. (2014) <u>Effectively Managing and Leading Human Service</u> Organizations, 4th edition, Los Angeles: Sage.

Alcock, P., Haux, T., May, M. and Wright, S. (2016) <u>The Students Companion to Social Policy</u>. Chichester: Wiley.

Module Pre-requisite

N/A

Module Co-requisite

N/A

Are other
Schools/Departments
involved in the
delivery of this
module? If yes,
please provide
details.

No



1.23 Policy Issues in Human Services (SSU22182), 10 ECTS

Module Code	SSU22182
Module Name	Policy Issues in Human Services
ECTS credit weighting	10 ECTS
Semester taught	Senior Fresh, Semester 2, 2025 / 2026
Module Coordinator/s	Dr Julie Byrne
Module Learning Outcomes with embedded Graduate Attributes	 On successful completion of this module, students should be able to: Analyse the distinctive features of human services and human service organisations, their contexts and the role of human services in social policy. Recognise the interplay between public policy and social policy using the human service setting to explore policy relationships. Critically evaluate the impact of a public policy on human services and the potential impact on social policy goal achievement. Contribute to a research informed, citizen assembly style discussion on policy. Apply use of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) tools to policy research. Critically reflect on the role of GenAI tools in policy research.
Module Content	 Features of human services, human service organisations and contexts Role of human services in social policy implementation The two policies –public policy and social policy Remit, goals and nature Relationship and interplay in human services setting Analysing public policy impact on human services –two examples Digitalisation and use of technology in human services Regulation in human services Identifying policy impact Research and the role of GenAl tools Voice and the role of citizen assemblies
	Note: While this module has no pre-requisites, it builds on students' foundational knowledge of the remit and goals of social policy. Where students do not have this grounding in social policy, they will be signposted to resources to help them orient

themselves to the foundational knowledge associated with this field of study.



Teaching and Learning Methods⁷

Weekly lectures with supporting readings will be used to understand and evaluate concepts, theory, empirical research and for large group discussion of key policy issues and interconnections central to LO1, LO2, LO3. The *Case Analysis* assessment will assess these learning outcomes and provide input for the assessment of LO4. Towards the end of the term, we use part of the lecture time for research informed, *Interactive Presentation* assessments of LO4. These are group based, citizen assembly style discussions on policy designed to enhance group work skills and enhance understanding of policy issues through exploration of diverse perspectives. Students taking module SSU22182 will undertake research for seminars throughout the term drawing on the use and evaluation of a new tool for policy research — Generative Artificial Intelligence. Students in this module will undertake research for seminars using GenAI tools, keeping a Journal to record their use of these tools and reflections on their role in policy research. This *Journal* is the final assessment for students on SSU22182 and assesses LO5 and LO6.

Assessment Details⁸ Please include the following:

- Assessment Component
- Assessment description
- Learning
 Outcome(s)
 addressed
- % of total

It is recommended that module coordinators consider assessment types used across the year to ensure varied assessment methods.

Assessment	Assessment Description	LO	% of
Component		Addressed	total
Case Analysis	Analyse the features of a specific	LO1 – LO3	35%
[Individual]	human service organisation and its role		
DUE: WK 29.	in social policy implementation.		
Mon 09.03.26	Research and critically evaluate the		
@12.00 Noon	impact of a public policy on		
	stakeholders of this type of HSO.		
Interactive	Contribute to a research informed	LO4	15%
Presentation	policy discussion in citizen assembly		
[Group]	format.		
DUE: by WK 33.			
Fri 10.04.26 @			
12.00 Noon			
Journal	Record and critically reflect on GenAl	LO5, LO6	50%
[Individual]	use in policy impact research, analysis		
Due: Wk. 35.	and decision making, supporting		
Thurs 23.04.25	weekly seminar engagement		
@ 12.00 Noon.			

⁷ Trinity-INC provides tips and resources on how to make your curriculum more inclusive.

⁸ https://www.tcd.ie/academicpractice/resources/assessment/



Re-Assessment
Details

Assessment	Assessment Description	LO	% of
Component		Addressed	total
Case Analysis	As for annual session.	LO1 – LO3	35%
Recorded Presentation	As for annual session, with individual recorded presentation and uploaded slides	LO4	15%
Journal	As for annual session	LO5, LO6	50%

Inclusive Curriculum

	PLEASE
	TICK
 Have you reviewed the teaching / assessment methods and 	
materials for possible barriers to learning, e.g. students with	\boxtimes
English as a second language, disabilities, significant external	
responsibilities, students with IT issues / requiring specific	
accessibility software etc.?	
 Have you adapted your resources and teaching materials 	Ø
taking into account Trinity's Accessible Information	
Guidelines (https://www.tcd.ie/disability/teaching-	
info/TIC/materials.php)?	
 Does the content of your module address diversity? For 	Ø
example, including a diverse demographic profile of authors,	
diversity of ideas and perspectives, or representation (e.g.	
pictures of conditions on different skin tones), or by	
acknowledgement of the homogenous context of the	
discipline/topic?	
 Highlight at least two ways which your course/module incorpo 	rates
principles of inclusivity and accessibility into the curriculum de	sign
 Learning outcomes are discussed at the start of the modul 	e and
connected explicitly to each section of the curriculum and	
assessment to support the direction and organisation of st	udent
learning.	
 The module utilises a clear Blackboard structure with distil 	nct
sections for module information, slides by week, learning	
resources by week, seminar questions etc along with detail	led

assessment information including a discussion forum Q&A. This facilitates student navigation and orientation across the term.



- Announcements are used throughout the term to alert students to important tasks and deadlines and to signpost relevant information or support services.
- To facilitate active learners, the module uses the setting of familiar human service organisations such as schools, hospitals, and universities for the application of policy concepts and theory.
 Diverse examples of human service organisations, across different countries are used in examples.
- Online 'drop-in' meetings are available to students to facilitate those with caring responsibilities, those who need to study from home or whose work or commuting schedules would clash with in person office hours.
- Student feedback on the delivery of the modules is sought after a few weeks rather than at the end so that adjustments to learning methods and content can be made in response to student needs and preferences.

Indicative Reading List (approx. 4-5 titles)

Cairney, P. (2020) <u>Understanding public policy: theories and issues</u>, 2nd edition, e-book, London: Red Globe Press.

Ellison, N. and Haux, T. (editors) (2020) <u>Handbook on Society and Social Policy</u>, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing.

Bochel, C. and Bochel, H. (2018) <u>Making and Implementing Public Policy: Key Concepts and Issues</u>, New York: Springer Nature, Palgrave Macmillan Education.

Brody, R. & Nair, M. (2014) <u>Effectively Managing and Leading Human Service</u> Organizations, 4th edition, Los Angeles: Sage.

Alcock, P., Haux, T., May, M. and Wright, S. (2016) <u>The Students Companion to Social Policy</u>, Chichester: Wiley

Module Pre-requisite

N/A

Module Co-requisite

N/A

Are other
Schools/Departments
involved in the
delivery of this
module? If yes,
please provide
details.

No



1.24 Qualitative Methods for Social Policy, (SSU22212) 5 ECTs

Module Code	SSU22212
Module Name	Qualitative Research Methods for Social Policy
ECTS credit weighting	5 ECTS
Semester taught	Senior Fresh, Semester 2, 2025 / 2026
Jemester taught	Selliof (1esil, Selliester 2, 2023 / 2020
Module Coordinator/s	Dr Kasia Wodniak
	On completion of the <i>Qualitative Research Methods for Social Policy</i> module
Module Learning	students will be able to:
Outcomes with	LO1: Assess how adequately frameworks offered within policy science capture
embedded <u>Graduate</u>	policy action through selected national and international qualitative policy
<u>Attributes</u>	research case studies.
	LO2: Think critically and analytically about what it means for research to be
	policy-engaged
	LO3: Demonstrate entry level skills in qualitative research methods for policy
	research, including primary, secondary and applied research.
	LO4: Develop the core skills required to undertake basic design of qualitative
	research for policy relevance and how to use research to address policy-relevant
	questions and problems.
Module Content	This module is concerned with qualitative research methods that are commonly
	applied to social policy research. Policy-engaged enquiry is both linear and non-
	linear reflecting the complexity of the policy making process. Qualitative
	empirical research as well as mixed-method research and systematic reviews of
	the international evidence are frequently employed by social policy researchers
	to support the development of new policy or to attempt to solve a policy
	problem. The module will provide entry level skills in qualitative methods
	drawing on case study examples demonstrating these methods in policy

research.

Module aims:

- Introduce social policy students to qualitative research practice in policy studies.
- Relate theories of social policy formulation, implementation and evaluation to applied policy research designs.
- Familiarise students with existing data-sets and repositories holding qualitative data relevant to policy research.
- To develop entry level skills in qualitative research and evidence synthesis methods.
- Equip students with skills to attend to ethical issues arising in qualitative research for policy.

Teaching and Learning Methods⁹

Didactic teaching inputs from a range of academics in the SWSP with interactive methods and self-directed learning complemented by practice-based tutorial supports.

Teaching strategies

Assessment design

⁹ <u>Trinity-INC</u> provides tips and resources on how to make your curriculum more inclusive.



Assessment Details¹⁰ Please include the following:

- AssessmentComponent
- Assessment description
- LearningOutcome(s)addressed
- % of total

 It is recommended that module coordinators consider assessment types used across the year to ensure varied

assessment methods.

Assessment	Assessment	LO	% of total
Component	Description	Addressed	
Research for policy	1500-word written	1-4	60%
engagement	assignment		
assignment			
Due:			
Week 35. Mon Apr			
20th			
Policy process journal	500-word written	1	30%
Due:	assignment		
Week 26. Thurs Feb			
19th			
Research exercise	Mock interview	2, 3, 4	10%
Due:			
Week 30. Thurs Mar			
19th			

¹⁰ https://www.tcd.ie/academicpractice/resources/assessment/



Re-Assessment Details

Assessment	Assessment	LO	% of total
Component	Description	Addressed	
Research for policy			
engagement	1500-word written		
assignment	assignment	1-4	60%
Policy process journal	500-word written	1	30%
	assignment		
Research exercise	Mock interview	2, 3, 4	10%

Inclusive Curriculum

	PLEASE
	TICK
Have you reviewed the teaching / assessment methods and	
materials for possible barriers to learning, e.g. students with	Ø
English as a second language, disabilities, significant external	
responsibilities, students with IT issues / requiring specific	
accessibility software etc.?	
Have you adapted your resources and teaching materials	Ø
taking into account Trinity's Accessible Information	
Guidelines (https://www.tcd.ie/disability/teaching-	
info/TIC/materials.php)?	
Does the content of your module address diversity? For	Ø
example, including a diverse demographic profile of authors,	
diversity of ideas and perspectives, or representation (e.g.	
pictures of conditions on different skin tones), or by	



acknowledgement of the homogenous context of the discipline/topic?

Highlight at least two ways which your course/module incorporates
 principles of inclusivity and accessibility into the curriculum design

This module provides a variety of assessment methods, namely essays, blogs and practical exercises.

This module uses a variety of teaching formats that include lectures, group discussions and multimedia presentations.

The module's teaching materials are made available on Blackboard in formats that are accessible before a class.

Indicative Reading List

(approx. 4-5 titles)

- Alcock, P., Haux, T., May, M. and Wright, S. (2016) *The Students Companion to Social Policy*. Chichester: Wiley.
- Eszter Hargittai (2021) Research Exposed: How Empirical Social Science Gets
 Done in the Digital Age. New York: Columbia University Press. Available at:
 https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=2458751
 (Accessed: 23 January 2024).
- Creswell, J., Creswell, D. (2023). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and
 Mixed Methods Approaches. Sage Publications, 6th Edition.
- Bardach E. (2005). A practical guide for policy analysis: The eightfold path to more effective problem solving (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: CQ Press.
- Einbinder, S. (2010). Policy analysis. In The Handbook of Social Work Research
 Methods (Second Edition ed., pp. 527-546). SAGE Publications, Inc.,



https://doi.org/10.4135/9781544364902

Jennifer Browne, Brian Coffey, Kay Cook, Sarah Meiklejohn, Claire Palermo, A guide to policy analysis as a research method, *Health Promotion International*, Volume 34, Issue 5, October 2019, Pages 1032–1044, https://doi.org/10.1093/heapro/day052

Module Pre-requisite

Module Co-requisite

Are other
Schools/Departments
involved in the
delivery of this
module? If yes,
please provide
details.



1.24 Qualitative Methods for Social Policy, (SSU22222), 10 ECTs

Module Code	SSU22222
Module Name	Qualitative Research Methods for Social Policy
ECTS credit weighting	10 ECTS
Semester taught	Senior Fresh, Semester 2, 2025 / 2026
Module Coordinator/s	Dr Kasia Wodniak
Module Learning Outcomes with embedded Graduate Attributes	On completion of the <i>Qualitative Research Methods for Social Policy</i> module students will be able to: LO1: Assess how adequately frameworks offered within policy science capture policy action through selected national and international qualitative policy research case studies. LO2: Think critically and analytically about what it means for research to be policy-engaged. LO3: Demonstrate entry level skills in qualitative research methods for policy research, including primary, secondary and applied research. LO4: Develop the core skills required to undertake basic design of qualitative research for policy relevance and how to use research to address policy-relevant questions and problems.
Module Content	This module is concerned with qualitative research methods that are commonly applied to social policy research. Policy-engaged enquiry is both linear and sometimes non-linear reflecting the complexity of the policy making process. Qualitative empirical research as well as mixed-method research and systematic reviews of the international evidence are frequently employed by social policy researchers to support the development of new policy or to attempt to solve a policy problem. The module will provide entry level skills in qualitative methods drawing on case study examples demonstrating these methods in policy research.



Module aims:

- Introduce social policy students to qualitative research practice in policy studies.
- Relate theories of social policy formulation, implementation and evaluation to applied policy research designs.
- Familiarise students with existing data-sets and repositories holding qualitative data relevant to policy research.
- To develop entry level skills in qualitative research and evidence synthesis methods.
- Equip students with skills to attend to ethical issues arising in qualitative research for policy.

Teaching and Learning Methods¹¹

Didactic teaching inputs from a range of academics in the SWSP with interactive methods and self-directed learning complemented by practice-based tutorial supports.

Teaching strategies

Assessment design

٠

¹¹ Trinity-INC provides tips and resources on how to make your curriculum more inclusive.



Assessment Details¹² Please include the following:

- AssessmentComponent
- Assessment description
- LearningOutcome(s)addressed
- % of total

 It is recommended that module coordinators consider assessment types used across the year to ensure varied

assessment methods.

Assessment	Assessment	LO	% of total
Component	Description	Addressed	
Research for policy	2000-word written	1-4	60%
engagement	assignment		
assignment.			
Due:			
Week 35. Mon Apr			
20th			
Policy process journal	700-word written	1	30%
Due:	assignment		
Week 26. Thurs Feb			
19th			
Research exercise	Mock interview	2, 3, 4	10%
Due:			
Week 30. Thurs Mar			
19th			
	1	1	

¹² https://www.tcd.ie/academicpractice/resources/assessment/



Ass	sessment	Assessment	LO	% of total
Cor	mponent	Description	Addressed	
Res	search for policy	2000-word written	1-4	60%
eng	gagement	assignment		
assi	ignment			
Pol	icy process journal	700-word written	1	30%
		assignment		
Res	search exercise	Mock interview	2, 3, 4	10%

Re-Assessment Details

Inclusive Curriculum

	PLEASE
	TICK
Have you reviewed the teaching / assessment methods and	
materials for possible barriers to learning, e.g. students with	Ø
English as a second language, disabilities, significant external	
responsibilities, students with IT issues / requiring specific	
accessibility software etc.?	
Have you adapted your resources and teaching materials	Ø
taking into account Trinity's Accessible Information	
Guidelines (https://www.tcd.ie/disability/teaching-	
info/TIC/materials.php)?	
Does the content of your module address diversity? For	Ø
example, including a diverse demographic profile of authors,	
diversity of ideas and perspectives, or representation (e.g.	
pictures of conditions on different skin tones), or by	
acknowledgement of the homogenous context of the	
discipline/topic?	
Highlight at least two ways which your course/module incorpo	rates
principles of inclusivity and accessibility into the curriculum design	



This module provides a variety of assessment methods, namely essays, blogs and practical exercises.

This module uses a variety of teaching formats that include lectures, group discussions and multimedia presentations.

The module's teaching materials are made available on Blackboard in formats that are accessible before a class.

Indicative Reading List

(approx. 4-5 titles)

- Alcock, P., Haux, T., May, M. and Wright, S. (2016) The Students Companion to Social Policy. Chichester: Wiley.
- Eszter Hargittai (2021) Research Exposed: How Empirical Social Science Gets
 Done in the Digital Age. New York: Columbia University Press. Available at:
 https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=2458751
 (Accessed: 23 January 2024).
- Creswell, J., Creswell, D. (2023). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and
 Mixed Methods Approaches. Sage Publications, 6th Edition.
- Bardach E. (2005). A practical guide for policy analysis: The eightfold path to more effective problem solving (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: CQ Press.
- Einbinder, S. (2010). Policy analysis. In *The Handbook of Social Work Research Methods* (Second Edition ed., pp. 527-546). SAGE Publications, Inc., https://doi.org/10.4135/9781544364902
- Jennifer Browne, Brian Coffey, Kay Cook, Sarah Meiklejohn, Claire Palermo, A guide to policy analysis as a research method, *Health Promotion International*, Volume 34, Issue 5, October 2019, Pages 1032–1044, https://doi.org/10.1093/heapro/day052



Module Pre-requisite

Module Co-requisite

Are other
Schools/Departments
involved in the
delivery of this
module? If yes,
please provide

details.