

**Course Description:**

This is an interdisciplinary course that will introduce students to basic concepts in economics, political science, and sociology relevant to the study of social problems and the programs designed to remedy them. We will address issues of national policy importance, as well as concerns specifically relevant to Baltimore City and the metropolitan region. Students will be introduced to some of the key methodologies social scientists employ, and will learn to critically evaluate the theoretical and empirical literature in the field. Introduction to Social Policy is open to all freshmen, sophomores and juniors and there are no prerequisites. The course is required for the new Social Policy minor and counts towards the required courses needed for majoring in Sociology and Political Science. The course is also writing-intensive and counts towards general distribution requirements.