Land & Labor Acknowledgment

We are gathering in virtual space, and in the context of a university built on stolen lands of the Coast Salish peoples. We recognize the Indigenous peoples who have been stewards of this land for millenia, and pledge to do our part to care for the land and waterways.

We recognize the unpaid and underpaid labor of enslaved Africans, the incarcerated, migrant farmers, and many others upon whose work our country was founded, and pledge to support the fight for reparations and fair labor practices around the world.

Morgan Wells
Workshop Guidelines

- Interact through the chat box or unmute yourself
- We will be recording the first part of this workshop for those who could not attend
- The presentation will be followed by a Q & A session
- Please share your full name, program (Day, EDP Weekend, EDP Evening, etc.), and year (1, 2, 3, etc.) in the chat box for us to complete or cross-reference with your registration information
  - You can also rename yourself to include your pronouns
- For closed captioning: Click “Live transcript” → “Show subtitle”
Disclaimer

- Always refer to your instructor for final say in structure, expectations, and due dates.
- These slides are meant to supplement recorded workshop materials. Please review the corresponding recording linked on our website for additional context.
Agenda

- Structure and Overview
- Policy Solution
- Research Strategies
- Examples
- Putting It All Together
- Writing Resources
- Q & A
Structure & Overview
Final Paper Structure

A1. Demographic Briefing (There is a disparity)
   - Introduce and contextualize data
   - Present the data visually and describe it with words

A2. Bring together Demographic Briefing & Policy Solution (What should be done about it?)
   - Propose one policy solution to address the social problem
   - Amend introduction & add conclusion
Understanding the Inequality

- Consider your data from the Demographic Briefing
- What are the data saying?
  - In other words, what disparity have you identified? And how much difference exists between the two groups in your data?
- Take a moment to consider these questions with your own topic
Policy Solution
**Policy Solution**

- **Policy Solution**: A policy response is a policy enacted to help solve or alleviate the social problem you are exploring
  - There are many ways to solve a single problem. Your job is to pick ONE.
  - The solution should be specific:
    - What are the policy mechanisms?
    - How does it work?
    - Who is involved?
    - How will it impact the social condition?
What Constitutes a Solution?

- A new proposed legislative (law) policy
- A new proposed administrative (program) policy
- A tweak or change to an existing policy that is effective
- An expansion of an existing policy that is effective
- The replication of a policy that is being used somewhere else that you believe can be applied to your geographic/issue scope
- Expanded funding for a policy that is already in place, but not well funded
- *Variation (ask your instructor): Arguing that a policy should be dismantled to address an inequity
Getting Started

- Look for what has already been done
  - Are there states/regions/counties that are addressing this problem well?
    - **Example**: WA mental health system ranks pretty low compared to other states. Minnesota’s system has a high national ranking in terms of access to care. Is there a policy implemented in MN that we can apply to WA?
    - **Example**: If you are addressing homelessness in a large city, look to solutions enacted in a comparable city
Research Strategies
Think Tanks

Include evidence/scholarly support for your solution

● Include “policy solution” in your search terms

● Check out Grey Literature or Policy “Think Tanks” like Brookings Institution, Brennan Center for Justice, Pew Research Center, etc.

● Think Tanks offer more recent policy analysis/solutions than scholarly articles

● BUT are not always peer reviewed. Think Tanks offer more current research, but you may need to look at their references to find the associated scholarly articles
Using UW Libraries

- Go to University of Washington Libraries Website: lib.washington.edu
- Click on “Start your Search” (upper left corner)
- In the drop down menu, click “Research Guides”
- The list of disciplines is alphabetical. Scroll down to Social Work. Click “Social Work”
- Scroll down to “Related Links and Guides”, click “Research Guides”, then click “Public Health Tool Kit”
- Under the third column titled “Textbooks, Grey Literature” click on “Think Tank Search”
- Search terms can include: [topic] + policy solutions
Examples
Sample Policy Solution #1

Restored Voting Rights Act

According to policy analysts Jonathan Lancelot and Dennis Mema, “the best long-term solution to Black voter oppression is to enhance accountability in the election administration” (2020, p. 12). One policy solution to address the impact of voter ID laws on decreasing Black voter turnout is for the federal government to pass a restored Voting Rights Act (VRA) that reinstates the power of the federal government in blocking racist state voting legislation... Within this act, there are protections similar to Section 5 of the 1964 VRA which require “pre-clearance” for states that have a bad track record for discriminatory voting policies. In addition, it would require more transparency to the public around voting changes and grant the Attorney General permission to request federal observation at any polling location in the counties where there is a serious threat to voting participation (Leahy, 2020). The reasoning behind this piece of legislation is that state officials are incentivized to behave in their best interest rather than the interest of their constituency. Federal oversight of voting policies serves to hold states accountable to all citizens regardless of their voting preferences.
Sample Policy Solution #2

Expanding the Affordable Care Act

This paper amplifies the voices of Ortega et al. (2015) in advocating for the expansion of Affordable Care Act (ACA) coverage to undocumented individuals and immigrants, as well as to increase the limited ACA coverage in cities that have a new growth of the Latino/Hispanic population. Ensuring undocumented individuals and immigrants have immediate, protected access to mental health services (MHS) will ensure we reduce the ethnic/racial disparities present in MHS utilization. As a short-term solution, this paper supports Bridges et al.’s (2012) call to ensure that specialty services (such as MHS) utilize a sliding scale for anything not covered by healthcare. This will allow for people that have overcome sociocultural barriers to seek out support to obtain services at a low cost.
Putting It All Together
Introduction & Conclusion

● Revise your introduction from the demographic briefing to include the policy solution in your roadmap

● Add a conclusion to the end of the whole paper. Summarize the following items:
  ○ Thesis statement
  ○ Significance of topic
  ○ Policy solution
  ○ Future implications
This analysis will discuss the racialized discourse that underscores Voter ID laws through a look at the history of voting legislation...and an exploration of a policy solution aimed at regulating State officials who take advantage of concentrated state power to maintain party leadership. The goal of this policy is to decrease voting disparities between White and Black voters. The scope of this paper includes... This paper hypothesizes that...
Sample Conclusion

A two-pronged approach of using a public mental health awareness campaign and expanding ACA coverage can reduce the MHS access disparity present in the Latino/Hispanic community by effectively addressing the sociocultural and economic barriers to accessing mental health services in this community. Both of these policies work to solve the condition, but on different levels. The public health campaign engages the Latino/Hispanic community on micro and mezzo levels to create awareness from within this population to best serve the whole. The expansion of ACA works on a macro level to combat the discriminatory effects of capitalism. ...Ensuring barriers to accessing mental health services are eliminated for Latino/Hispanics will allow for increased utilization and decreased psychological distress.
Revision

● Use headers to organize your paper

● Follow traditional paragraph structure:
  ○ Introductory sentence
  ○ Supporting evidence and details
    ▪ Be sure to use in-text citations
  ○ Transition sentence to link paragraphs together
    ▪ *We can help you with flow!*

● APA-formatted title page and reference page
  ○ Review our APA workshop
  ○ Schedule a 1:1 session for support
Resources
Writing Support at UW

School of Social Work Writing Center

- Check out the Writing Center website to make an appointment, get Zoom links, and find helpful resources like workshop slides/recordings: socialwork.uw.edu/students/services/writing-support
- Email sswwrite@uw.edu for any questions!
- Upcoming Events:
  - Weekend Writing Circle: Sunday 3/6 and 3/13 from 12-1:30 pm
  - Don’t forget to schedule your end-of-quarter 1:1 sessions!
  - Check Canvas announcements for weekly updates
The Writing Team

Kylie Brief (she/they)
Booking Calendar: go.oncehub.com/KylieBrief
Services:
- Virtual 1:1 sessions
- Virtual drop-in advising (Thursdays from 5-6 pm)

Erin Bernardy (she/her)
Booking Calendar: go.oncehub.com/ErinBernardy
Services:
- Virtual 1:1 sessions
- Virtual drop-in advising (Saturdays from 2-3 pm)

Marissa Rodriguez (they/she)
Booking Calendar: go.oncehub.com/MarissaRodriguez
Services:
- Virtual 1:1 sessions
- Virtual drop-in advising (Fridays from 11 am-12 pm)

The Writing Team
SSW Subject Librarian

Lynly Beard (she/her) can help with:

- Course-specific guides
- Focusing a research topic
- Identifying and evaluating sources
- Searching library databases effectively
- Using citation management tools
- Creating data visualizations
- [guides.lib.uw.edu/hsl/lynly](guides.lib.uw.edu/hsl/lynly)
- lynly@uw.edu
## Writing Center Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ways the Writing Center Can Help with This Paper</th>
<th>Moments for Other Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● Helping you understand the big picture</td>
<td>● Specific policy identification (comes from class readings &amp; discussions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Brainstorming, outlining, mind mapping</td>
<td>● Approving your topic/content (we can’t speak for your instructors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Structuring the assignment</td>
<td>● Clarifying individual instructor’s expectations (we go off the syllabus and 501 team info)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● APA format</td>
<td>● Be sure to bookmark Lynly’s <a href="#">501 research guide</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Flow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Approaching writing the assignment</td>
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Q & A

Anonymous feedback link:
https://forms.gle/ga7aJbCqqfkm8cuUA