

Studying in the Department of Social Policy at LSE



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

Dr Amanda Sheely

Departmental Tutor, BSc ISPP
programmes

Teaching and research about
mothers and government
supervision; poverty and
employment; research methods



Dr Tania Burchardt

BSc Programme Director

Teaching and research about
health and social care policy;
poverty and inequality; research
methods



Dr. Sunil Kumar

Chair, BSc ISPP Exam Sub-board

Teaching and research about urbanisation, internal migration, urban poverty, informal labour markets, and social policy and development



Overview



What is Social
Policy?

Why Social
Policy at LSE?

Spotlight on
Research
(Case Study)

Teaching and
assessment

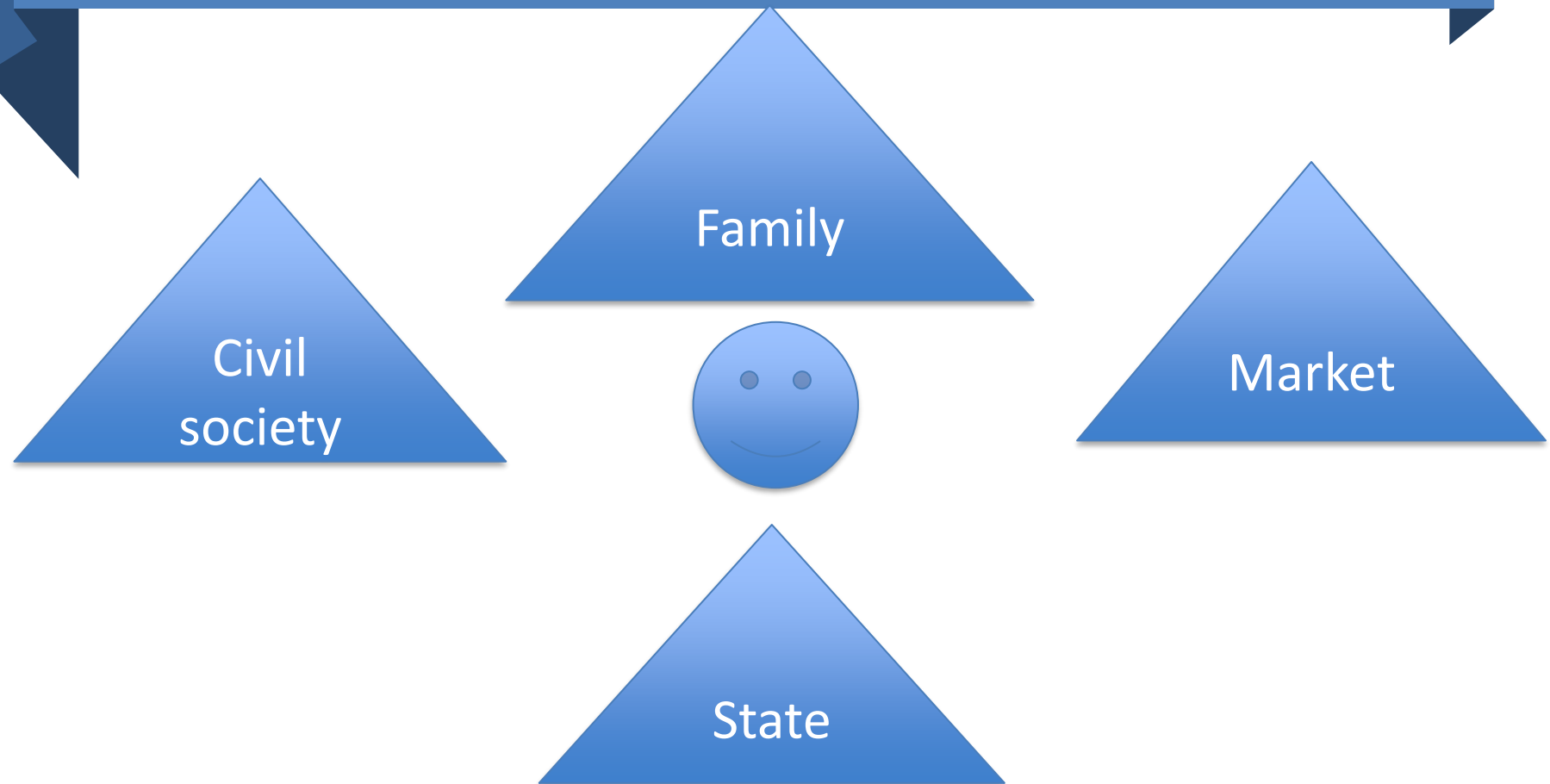
Career
destinations

Q & A

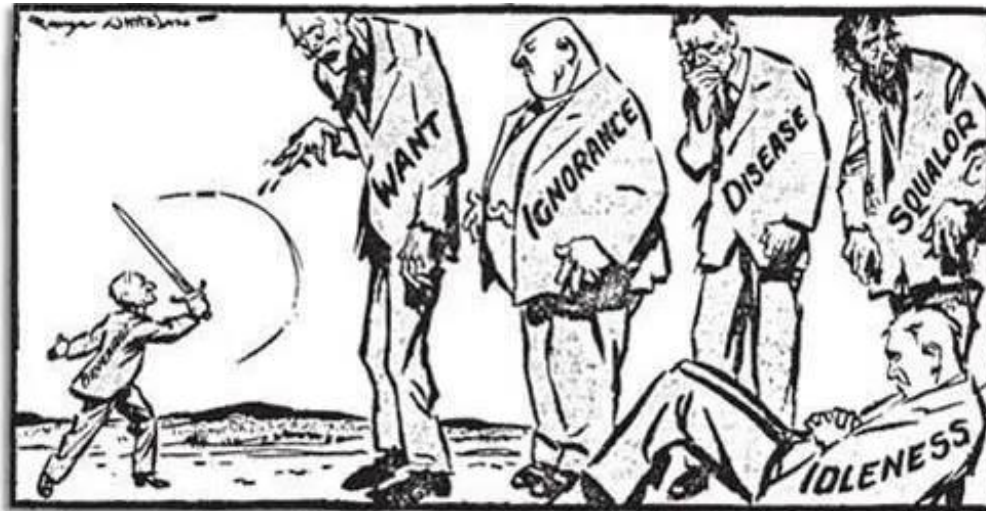
What is Social Policy?

“The study of the social systems needed for human wellbeing.”

'Social systems' – not just the state



‘Human wellbeing’ – more than just income



William Beveridge's 'Five Giants'

Want → an adequate income

Ignorance → education

Disease → health

Squalor → housing

Idleness → employment

New giants?

Environmental degradation → sustainability

Discrimination → dignity and equality

Violence → protection from harm

Insecurity → citizenship rights

What we focus on: (1) 'five giants' (some previous student dissertation titles...)



Income: *How do attitudes towards debts vary between students?*

Health: *A bigger brother? Emergence and socio-political implications of increased surveillance in China during and post COVID-19*

Education: *The relationship between education policy and socio-economic development in Ghana*

Housing: *Are rent controls effective in improving housing quality and affordability? The case of Berlin*

Employment: *'Employment empowers women'. Exploring the extent to which the ready-made garment industry has empowered Bangladeshi women*

What we focus on (2) 'new giants' (more dissertation titles...)



Environment: *Pollution and child health in Mexico*

Discrimination: *Investigating the market failure of services and care for LGBT Elders*

Violence: *Criminality Pure and Simple? An Analysis of The Narratives Used to Frame the 2011 England Riots*

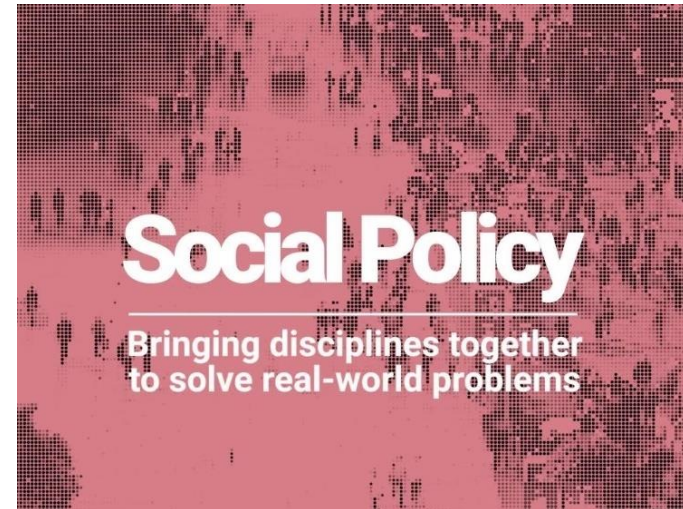
Insecurity: *The refugee crisis in Germany: A qualitative study on perceptions of immigrants in Neumarkt*

A multi-disciplinary approach

- ✓ **Economics**
- ✓ **Politics**
- ✓ **Sociology**
- ✓ Criminology
- ✓ Psychology
- ✓ Demography
- ✓ Philosophy
- ✓ History
- ✓ Geography
- ✓ Anthropology

Why Social Policy at LSE?

- **Ranked #1** in UK for Social Policy
- Staff actively involved in real-world **policy influence**
- Staff actively involved in **research**
- Bring all this to their **teaching!**
- **First** social policy department established in the UK, 70+ years ago
- **Beveridge** ('five giants') was LSE Director 1919-1937

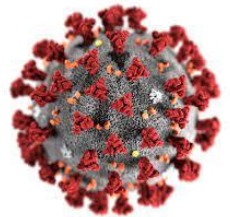


Why Social Policy at LSE?

A policy active department

For example -

- Prof Platt was a member of the UK government's advisory body on the pandemic (SAGE sub-group on ethnicity)
- Dr Exley engaged with the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology on higher education reform
- Dr Oliver was an expert witness in a legal case in Canada on public and private healthcare
- Dr Stewart's interventions helped to secure the future of measures to hold the UK government to account on child poverty
- Dr Shiner's research influenced operational practices reducing discriminatory use of the Metropolitan Police's Gang Matrix

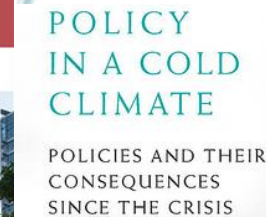
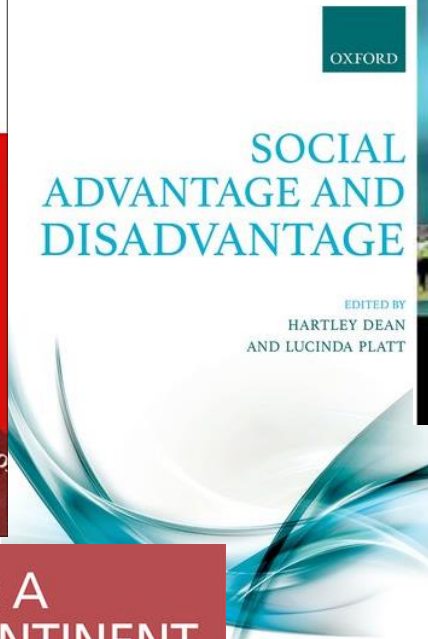
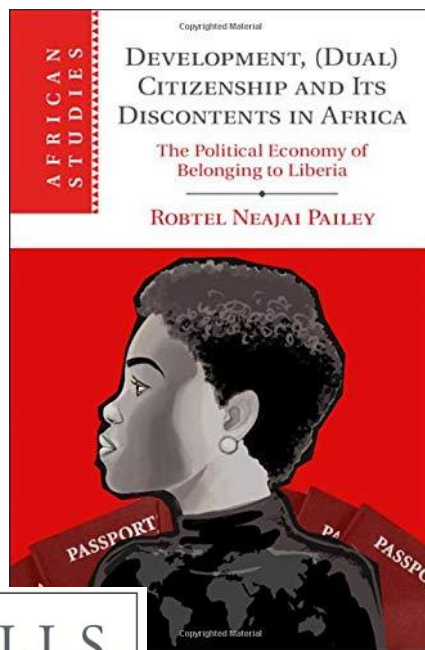


Why Social Policy at LSE?

Exposure to external speakers and LSE-wide events



Some recent books by members of the department



EDITORS:
RUTH LUPTON, TANIA BURCHARDT, JOHN HILLS,
KITTY STEWART AND POLLY VIZARD

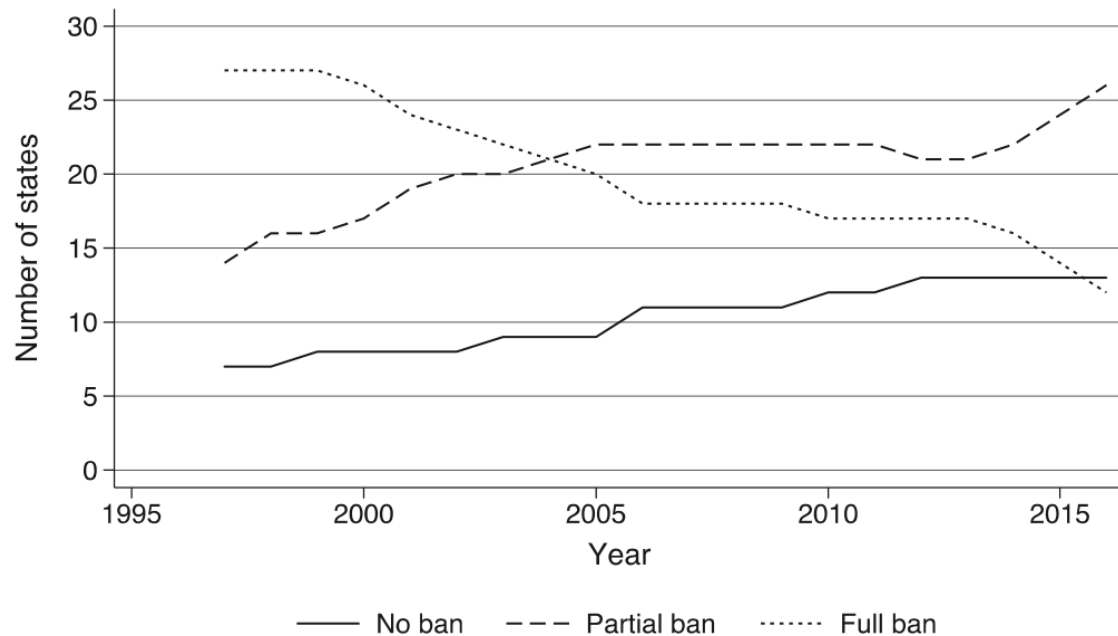


Spotlight on research

Case Study – Dr Amanda Sheely

Government Supervision of Poor Mothers

- My main research focus is on government supervision of poor women and mothers.
- Poor mothers face the potential for supervision in social assistance, criminal justice and child welfare systems.
- All combine coercion with care.
- Interested in the extent to which supervision leads to improved economic outcomes.



BSc International Social and Public Policy

First year

- Understanding International Social and Public Policy
- Foundations of Social Policy Research
- Plus two courses from:
 - Social Economics and Policy
 - Sociology and Social Policy
 - Politics of Social Policy Making

Does social media use affect young people's mental health?

Second year

- Comparative and International Social and Public Policy
- Research Methods for Social Policy
- Two optional courses

Education policy; Health policy; Poverty and inequality; Psychology of crime; Sexuality and social policy; Migration; Riots and urban disorder

Third year

- Dissertation
- Three optional courses

Your own project!

BSc ISPP and Economics

1st year ISPP core
plus micro- and
macro economics,
maths and stats

2nd year ISPP core
plus micro- and
macro economics,
econometrics

Dissertation,
public economics,
two options

If carbon is taxed,
how will energy
consumption by firms
and households
change?

BSc ISPP with Politics

1st year ISPP core
plus political
science, political
theory

2nd year ISPP core
plus two options
(1 in Govt dept)

Dissertation,
three options
(≥ 1 in Govt
dept)

Do elections matter?
Is democracy in
crisis?

Teaching, assessment and well-being

Lectures plus Q & A with lecturer – usually 1 to 2 hours per course per week

Classes – usually 1 to 1.5 hours per course per week: max 15 students, student-led, teacher-facilitated

Study groups and group projects

**Quizzes, posters, blogs, videos, book reviews
essays, problem sets, group presentations...**

Academic mentor – one-to-one at least twice a term

Lots of feedback and support - with study skills, life, mental health and well-being




Student opportunities

- ❖ **Student Events Committee:** plan inclusive social and academic events for your fellow students
- ❖ **Social Policy Research Blog:** act as Student Editors or add your posts
- ❖ **Student Academic Representation:** represent your community's views by being part of one of the most important bodies in the School: SSLC
- ❖ **SAM: Student Academic Mentorship Scheme:** receive a 2nd year Social Policy student mentor, to help you figure out LSE and the Department
- ❖ **Changemakers Research Projects:** get paid to investigate, innovate, and lead on the enhancement of student education and experience across LSE
- ❖ More information can be found [here](#)



A blue rectangular banner with folded corners, giving it a 3D effect. The text is centered within the banner.

Let's hear from some current students!



After LSE, what might you go on to do?

Practitioner in public services in the UK or other countries:

- teachers, social workers, housing officers, youth workers...

International, national or local civil service or government:

- World Bank, United Nations, researcher for an MP, Home Office, Department of Energy and Climate Change...

Further academic study:

- MSc, PhD, Law...

Think tanks, charities, campaign groups:

- Howard League, Child Poverty Action Group, Oxfam...

Other graduate destinations

- journalism, finance, accountancy ...

What an Admissions Tutor looks for on your UCAS application

✓ **Meets standard offer requirements:**

- AAB
- (For BSc ISPP and Economics must include A in A-Level Maths)
- GCSE English Language and Maths, Grade B or above
- Or: International Baccalaureate: Diploma with 37 points including 6 6 6 at Higher level
- Other qualifications including AS levels considered
- 'Contextual offer' (for students who have experienced educational disadvantage): ABB

✓ **Convincing personal statement:**

- demonstrates some knowledge of social policy
- indicates passion for understanding social problems or how to organise welfare locally, nationally or globally

✓ **Relevant extra-curricula activities:**

- projects, reading, volunteering...

Questions???

Please feel free to get in touch!

If you have any questions after the session please submit them at www.lse.ac.uk/ask-lse or

contact Student Marketing and Recruitment via [Live Chat](#) instead

You can contact the Department via socialpolicy.ug@lse.ac.uk

We hope you enjoyed the session and we look forward to welcoming you to the Department in September!