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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- The Student's Companion to Social Policy, Fourth Edition -- Contents -- Notes on Contributors -- Acknowledgements -- Introduction -- PART I: Concepts and Approaches -- 1: The Subject of Social Policy -- 2: Approaches and Methods -- 3: Social Needs, Social Problems, and Social Welfare and Well-being -- 4: Equality, Rights, and Social Justice -- 5: Equalities and Human Rights -- 6: Efficiency, Equity, and Choice -- 7: Altruism, Reciprocity, and Obligation -- PART II: Key Perspectives -- 8: Neo-liberalism -- 9: The Conservative Tradition -- 10: Social Democracy -- 11: Socialist Perspectives -- 12: Feminist Perspectives -- 13: Green Perspectives -- 14: Postmodernist Perspectives -- PART III: Historical Context -- 15: History and Social Policy -- 16: Nineteenth-Century Beginnings -- 17: The Liberal Era and the Growth of State Welfare -- 18: The Post-war Welfare State -- 19: Crisis, Retrenchment, and the Impact of Neo-liberalism (1976-1997) -- 20: Modernization and the Third Way -- PART IV: Contemporary Context -- 21: Demography -- 22: Economic Policy and Social Policy -- 23: Religion -- 24: Family Policy -- 25: Divisions and Difference -- 26: Poverty and Social Exclusion -- 27: The Distribution of Welfare -- 28: The Policy Process -- 29: Evaluation and Evidence-based Social Policy

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### Sommario/riassunto

The fourth edition of *The Student's Companion to Social Policy* maintains the text's inimitable and best-selling approach. Written by a wide range of experts in the field, it has been extensively updated and revised to take account of recent developments and debates and changing political and economic configurations. Includes an additional five chapter section on the key themes and issues in the development of social policy in the UK since the nineteenth century. New to this edition are chapters addressing emergent areas in the discipline, new illustrative material, problem-centred review questions, and a dedicated website. Provides students with a 'Companion' which is so comprehensive that it can be used throughout their undergraduate and/or postgraduate studies. Meets the needs both of those specializing in social policy or policy-related occupations and the wide range of students studying it as part of other programmes. Enhanced by a website available at [www.wiley.com/go/alcock4e](http://www.wiley.com/go/alcock4e), featuring student resources including chapter overviews, study questions, videos, resource guides, and more.

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