PADM530

Course Summary

Course : PADM530 **Title :** Public Policy
Length of Course : 8
Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This course examines the way government policies emerge from the political process and are implemented through participating institutions. In this class students will investigate how good analysis can contribute to informed policy-making and review the factors that go into developing effective implementation strategies. In addition, today's need for enhanced public accountability and the challenging problems of measuring program performance are examined.

Course Scope:

The course will introduce students to the policy making and analysis processes. It will examine how choices are made among competing policies, factors affecting the actual implementation of policy and the role of policy evaluation in shaping and reshaping policy choices. We will look closely at several current policies and proposed policies, and evaluate them in terms of effectiveness, efficiency, equity, liberty, and feasibility. Students will develop tools to evaluate policy problems, implementation, and outcomes and apply them to real world cases.

As a graduate student, you should expect to spend **18 hours per week** completing coursework. This includes participation in forums, completing required readings, performing independent research, and providing written projects. For this eight-week period, you have approximately 1,200 pages of reading (approximately 150 pages per week). This course has a significant workload which, when combined with personal and work schedules, requires diligence and self-discipline.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course students will be able to meet the following course objectives:

1. Evaluate the theoretical basis of policymaking process.
2. Assess the history of various domestic and foreign policies.
3. Appraise the relationship of public policy to politics.
4. Evaluate the policymaking process
5. Critique the processes of implementation and regulation.
6. Assess the role of citizens in policy making and implementation.

Outline

Week 1: Public policy and politics

Course Objective(s)

Appraise the relationship of public policy to politics.

Assignments

Read: Your readings for the week can be found in the materials section below.

Discuss: Forum 1.1 (Introduction) & 1.2

Week 2: Public policymaking

Course Objective(s)

Evaluate the policymaking process

Critique processes of implementation and regulation.

Evaluate the theoretical basis of the policymaking process.

Assignments

Read: Your readings for the week can be found in the materials section below.

Discuss: Forum 2

Assignment: Current Event Analysis

Week 3: Policy analysis

Course Objective(s)

Evaluate the policymaking process

Critique processes of implementation and regulation

Evaluate the theoretical basis of the policymaking process.

Assignments

Read: Your readings for the week can be found in the materials section below.

Discuss: Forum 3

Week 4: Policy alternatives

Course Objective(s)

Evaluate the policymaking process

Critique processes of implementation and regulation.

Assignments

Read: Your readings for the week can be found in the materials section below.

Discuss: Forum 4

Assignment: Policy Analysis

Week 5: Economic and health care policy

Course Objective(s)

Assess the history of various domestic and foreign policies.

Assignments

Read: Your readings for the week can be found in the materials section below.

Discuss: Forum 5

Assignment: Issue Brief

Week 6: Welfare, social security and education policy

Course Objective(s)

Assess the history of various domestic and foreign policies.

Assignments

Read: Your readings for the week can be found in the materials section below.

Discuss: Forum 6

Week 7: Environmental, energy, homeland security and foreign policy

Course Objective(s)

Assess the history of various domestic and foreign policies.

Assignments

Read: Your readings for the week can be found in the materials section below.

Discuss: Forum 7

Assignment: Final Project

Week 8: Policy impact and civic engagement

Course Objective(s)

Appraise the relationship of public policy to politics.

Evaluate the policymaking process

Critique the processes of implementation and regulation.

Evaluate the theoretical basis of the policymaking process.

Assess the role of citizens in policy making and implementation.

Assignments

Read: Your readings for the week can be found in the materials section below.

Discuss: Forum 8

Forum: Final Project Presentation

Evaluation

Self Introduction: The first forum includes a self-introduction, which should include your name, where you are located (country, state, or city), what your current job title is, where you received your undergraduate degree and in what field, any information you care to share about your family and hobbies, and what you hope to get out of the class.

This introduction needs to be at least 250 words and posted by 11:55 pm ET SUNDAY during the first week of the class. Do not attach your posting to the forum, type it into the comments box. Failure to complete this forum by the end of the first week of class will result in you being dropped from the class.

Forum Questions: You will have eight forum assignments. For our forum discussions, we will be analyzing concepts raised in the text, related readings, or current events. Students must provide a critical review of these articles and reply substantively to the contributions of at least two classmates. Individual postings should include an evaluation of the content of the article, and explain how it relates to the concepts in the text and other external resources. The postings should be analytic in nature, and include comparisons/contrasts and examples that can bolster your argument. Postings should be between 500-750words and replies to classmate posts should be around 250 words in length, and free of any spelling or grammar errors. The forum rubric can be found in the forum section of the classroom.

Current Event Analysis: You will be asked to evaluate trends in a policy issues during week 2. In this approximately **3-5 page essay**, you should evaluate the history of the event, review what the policy literature says about the issue, and place your analysis in a social and political context. Draw connections to our text and other relevant readings. Multimedia tools are encouraged.

Policy Analysis Case Study: You will be expected to perform a systematic policy analysis in week 4. Based on the framework laid out in your text, critically review an individually selected state or local policy. In this **5-7 page analysis**, you should identify the major policy concepts, identify the stakeholders, and review the development and implementation of the policy. If possible, evaluate the effectiveness of the policy and its ability to meet stated goals. Provide an analysis with recommendations for improving or modifying the policy. Situate your analysis in the contemporary policy literature. Multimedia tools are encouraged.

Issue Brief: You will be asked to develop **a 3-5 page issue brief** for a policy you find most interesting. It should be something that you perceive as a problem or issue that can be addressed through policy/political action. The framework for your brief will be provided in the assignment folder and will ask you to consider and review the background of the issue, actors/driving forces, options, recommendations and the potential policymaking process. You will need to draw connections to our course learnings and utilize scholarly sources.

Final Project: Identify a policy issue that impacts or interests you. This policy issue can be at the local, state, or federal level. Research the policy context, implementation, effectiveness, and evaluate it using the criteria laid out in your text (and practiced in the writing assignments). Analyze the policy, and then draw conclusions

and make recommendations about the policy's future and effectiveness. Present your findings to the class by uploading an animated **PowerPoint briefing** in Adobe Connect in the classroom.

Remember that this is a <u>major research component of your course and worth 20% of your final grade.</u>

None of these assignments should be on the same topic.

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Forums	40.00 %
Forum 1	5.00 %
Forum 2	5.00 %
Forum 3	5.00 %
Forum 4	5.00 %
Forum 5	5.00 %
Forum 6	5.00 %
Forum 7	5.00 %
Forum 8	5.00 %
Assignments	40.00 %
Current Event Analysis (week 2)	13.33 %
Policy Analysis (week4)	13.33 %
Issue Brief (week 5)	13.33 %
Final Project	20.00 %
Final Project (week 7)	20.00 %

Materials

Book Title: The New Public Service: Serving, Not Steering, 4th ed. (this title will be required in PADM500, PADM505, PADM520, PADM530, PADM610, PADM612, PADM697 and PADM699. Only one purchase required)

Author: J. Denhardt and R. Denhardt

Publication Info: Routledge

ISBN: 9781138891258

Book Title: Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives, 5th ed.

Author: Kraft and Furlong

Publication Info: CQ Press

ISBN: 9781483345789

Book Title: Course Materials will change for September registrations & beyond. Please email booklist@apus.edu for the updated book list.

Author:

Publication Info: Open Web Sources

ISBN: APUPOTI4

Additional readings are listed below. You can find them by searching the APUS library by pasting the title in the search box on the first page when you are logged in. Once you find the article click on the full text version. We are in the process of placing them in the lesson section but until that time, please access them through a library search or link provided.

Week One - Public Policy and Politics

Howlett, M. (2014). From the 'old' to the 'new' policy design: Design thinking beyond markets and collaborative governance. *Policy Sciences, 47*(3), 187-207. doi:http://dx.doi.org.ezproxy2.apus.edu/10.1007/s11077-014-9199-0

Howlett, M., Ramesh, M., & Wu, X. (2015). Understanding the persistence of policy failures: The role of politics, governance and uncertainty. *Public Policy and Administration*, 30(3-4), 209-220. doi:10.1177/0952076715593139

Head, B. W. (2016). Toward More 'Evidence-Informed' Policy Making?. *Public Administration Review*, 76(3), 472-484. doi:10.1111/puar.12475

Petridou, E., Avdelningen för samhällsvetenskap, Fakulteten för humanvetenskap, & Mittuniversitetet. (2014). Theories of the policy process: Contemporary scholarship and future directions. Policy Studies Journal, 42(S1), S12-S32. doi:10.1111/psj.12054

Siddiki, S., & Goel, S. (2017). Assessing collaborative policymaking outcomes: An analysis of U.S. marine aquaculture partnerships. The American Review of Public Administration, 47(2), 253-271. doi:10.1177/0275074015599603

Congress.gov: Legislative Process Overview. Retrieved from https://www.congress.gov/legislative-process

US Senate: Senate Legislative Process. Retrieved from https://www.senate.gov/legislative/common/briefing/Senate_legislative_process.htm

US House: Legislative Process. Retrieved from https://www.house.gov/content/learn/legislative_process/

US Department of State: Policy Issues. Retrieved from https://www.state.gov/policy/

Center for Disease Control and Prevention: Public Health Policy. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/Policy/

National Conference of State Legislatures. Health. Retrieved from http://www.ncsl.org/research/health.aspx

Week Two - Public Policy Making

Arinder, M. K. (2016). Bridging the divide between evidence and policy in public sector decision making: A practitioner's perspective. *Public Administration Review*, 76(3), 394-398. doi:10.1111/puar.12572

Considine, M., Alexander, D., & Lewis, J. M. (2014). Policy design as craft: Teasing out policy design expertise using a semi-experimental approach. *Policy Sciences, 47*(3), 209-225. doi:http://dx.doi.org.ezproxy2.apus.edu/10.1007/s11077-013-9191-0

Tholen, B. (2016). The value of the issue context approach for scientific policy advice. *Science and Public Policy*, 43(2), 184-191. doi:10.1093/scipol/scv029

Trautman, R. R. (2016). SmallᵀTown policy makers. Public Administration Review, 76(2), 221-224. doi:10.1111/puar.12526

Cairney, P., Oliver, K., & Wellstead, A. (2016). To bridge the divide between evidence and policy: Reduce ambiguity as much as uncertainty. Public Administration Review, 76(3), 399-402. doi:10.1111/puar.12555

Dzigbede, K. D. (2016). Whither are we bound? new insights on american economic policymaking: American economic policymaking. *Policy Studies Journal*, 44(S1), S14-S27. doi:10.1111/psj.12158

US Environmental Protection Agency: US Trade and Investment Policy Making Process. Retrieved from https://www.epa.gov/international-cooperation/us-trade-and-investment-policy-making-process

Foreign Policy Association: How US Foreign Policy is Made. Retrieved from http://fpa.org/features/index.cfm?act=feature&announcement_id=45&show_sidebar=0

Palfrey, Quentin. (2017) 5 Strategies for Evidence-Based Policymaking. *Governing*. Retrieved from http://www.governing.com/gov-institute/voices/col-5-strategies-evidence-based-policymaking.html

Please note this is an excellent source for current issues for all your courses.

Week Three - Policy Analysis

CDC Policy Analysis Framework https://www.cdc.gov/policy/analysis/process/analysis.html and framework at https://www.cdc.gov/policy/analysis/process/docs/table1.pdf .

De Marchi, G., Lucertini, G., & Tsoukiàs, A. (2016). From evidence-based policy making to policy analytics. *Annals of Operations Research*, 236(1), 15-38. doi:10.1007/s10479-014-1578-6

Daniell, K. A., Morton, A., & Ríos Insua, D. (2016). Policy analysis and policy analytics. *Annals of Operations Research, 236*(1), 1-13. doi:http://dx.doi.org.ezproxy2.apus.edu/10.1007/s10479-015-1902-9

Gopalan, M., & Pirog, M. A. (2017). Applying behavioral insights in policy analysis: Recent trends in the united states. *Policy Studies Journal*, 45(S1), S82-S114. doi:10.1111/psj.12202

Jarmin, R. S., & O'Hara, A. B. (2016). Big data and the transformation of public policy analysis. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 35(3), 715-721. doi:10.1002/pam.21925

Week Four - Policy Alternatives

Viscusi, W. K., & Gayer, T. (2015). Behavioral public choice: The behavioral paradox of government policy. Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy, 38(3), 973 - 1007.

Erchull, C. (2015). An alternative food policy. Western New England Law Review, 37(1), 1-25.

Nalau, J., & Handmer, J. (2015). When is transformation a viable policy alternative? *Environmental Science & Policy*, 54, 349-356. doi:10.1016/j.envsci.2015.07.022

Menon, B. G., & Mahanty, B. (2015). Assessing the effectiveness of alternative policies in conjunction with energy efficiency improvement policy in india. *Environmental Modeling & Assessment, 20*(6), 609-624. doi:http://dx.doi.org.ezproxy1.apus.edu/10.1007/s10666-015-9448-4

Ruiz, R. R. (2017). School-to-prison pipeline: An evaluation of zero tolerance policies and their alternatives. Houston Law Review, 54(3), 803 - 837.

Week Five - Economic and Health Care Policy

Hyde, J. K., Mackie, T. I., Palinkas, L. A., Niemi, E., & Leslie, L. K. (2016). Evidence use in mental health policy making for children in foster care. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health*

Services Research, 43(1), 52-66. doi:10.1007/s10488-015-0633-1

Myers, N. (2016). policy making to build relationships: A grounded theory analysis of interviews and documents relating to h1n1, ebola, and the u.s. public health preparedness network. *Journal of Health and Human Services Administration*, 39(3), 313 - 356.

Ruckert, A., & Labonté, R. (2014). Public-private partnerships (ppps) in global health: The good, the bad and the ugly. *Third World Quarterly*, 35(9), 1598-1614. doi:10.1080/01436597.2014.970870

Carey, G., & Friel, S. (2015). Understanding the role of public administration in implementing action on the social determinants of health and health inequities. *International Journal of Health Policy and Management*, 4(12), 795-798. doi:10.15171/ijhpm.2015.185

Cairney, P., & Oliver, K. (2017). Evidence-based policymaking is not like evidence-based medicine, so how far should you go to bridge the divide between evidence and policy? *Health Research Policy and Systems, 15 – 26.* doi:http://dx.doi.org.ezproxy2.apus.edu/10.1186/s12961-017-0192-x

Week Six - Welfare, Social Security and Education Policy

Carrier, S. (2016). From paper to electronic: Food stamps, social security, and the changing functionality of government benefits. Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law & Policy, 24(1), 139 - 159.

Deslatte, A. (2015). Reassessing "City limits" in urban public policy. *Policy Studies Journal,* 43(S1), S56-S77. doi:10.1111/psj.12102

Stott, T. C., MacEachron, A., & Gustavsson, N. (2016). Social media and child welfare: Policy, training, and the risks and benefits from the administrator's perspective. Advances in Social Work, 17(2), 221 - 234.

Rogers, R. (2015). Making public policy: The new philanthropists and american education. *American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, 74(4), 743-774. doi:10.1111/ajes.12113

Deming, D. J., & Figlio, D. (2016). Accountability in US education: Applying lessons from K-12 experience to higher education. The Journal of Economic Perspectives, 30(3), 33-55. doi:10.1257/jep.30.3.33

Jochim, A., & McGuinn, P. (2016). The politics of the common core assessments: Why states are quitting the PARCC and smarter balanced testing consortia.(partnership for assessment of readiness for college and careers). Education Next, 16(4), 44 - 52.

Week Seven - Environmental, Energy, Homeland Security and Foreign Policy

Scientific basis for environmental regulation: Public disclosure and federal rulemaking and advisory activities. (2015) pp.6-32. *Congressional Digest*

Vasseur, M. (2016). Incentives or mandates? determinants of the renewable energy policies of U.S. states, 1970-2012. Social Problems, 63(2), 284-301. doi:10.1093/socpro/spw007

Tomain, J. P. (2016). A perspective on clean power and the future of US energy politics and policy. Utilities Policy, 39, 5-12. doi:10.1016/j.jup.2016.01.007

Peters, J. C. (2017). Natural gas and spillover from the US clean power plan into the paris agreement. Energy Policy, 106, 41 - 47.

Popescu, I. C. (2017). Grand strategy vs. emergent strategy in the conduct of foreign policy. *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 1-23. doi:10.1080/01402390.2017.1288109

O'Sullivan, T. M. (2015). Environmental security is homeland security: Climate disruption as the ultimate disaster risk multiplier: Environmental security is homeland security. *Risk, Hazards & Crisis in Public Policy,*

6(2), 183-222. doi:10.1002/rhc3.12084

Coulthart, S. (2017). What's the problem? frameworks and methods from policy analysis for analyzing complex problems. Intelligence and National Security, 32(5), 636 - 648. doi:10.1080/02684527.2017.1310983

Week Eight - Policy Impact and Civic Engagement

Lukensmeyer, C. J. (2017). Civic tech and public policy decision making. *PS, Political Science & Politics, 50*(3), 764-771. doi:http://dx.doi.org.ezproxy2.apus.edu/10.1017/S1049096517000567

Daviter, F. (2015). The political use of knowledge in the policy process. *Policy Sciences, 48*(4), 491-505. doi:http://dx.doi.org.ezproxy1.apus.edu/10.1007/s11077-015-9232-y

Maor, M. (2016). Emotion-driven negative policy bubbles. *Policy Sciences*, 49(2), 191-210. doi:10.1007/s11077-015-9228-7

Popa, F. (2015). Motivations to contribute to public goods: Beyond rational choice economics. *Environmental Policy and Governance*, 25(4), 230-242. doi:10.1002/eet.1684

McKay, S., Murray, M., MacIntyre, S., & Kashyap, A. (2015). Evidence-based policymaking and the public interest: Lessons in legitimacy. Town Planning Review, 86(2), 133-154. doi:10.3828/tpr.2015.9

Trousset, S., Gupta, K., Jenkins‖Smith, H., Silva, C. L., & Herron, K. (2015). Degrees of engagement: Using cultural worldviews to explain variations in public preferences for engagement in the policy process. Policy Studies Journal, 43(1), 44-69. doi:10.1111/psj.12083

Reforgiato Recupero, D., Castronovo, M., Consoli, S., Costanzo, T., Gangemi, A., Grasso, L., . . . Spampinato, E. (2016). An innovative, open, interoperable citizen engagement cloud platform for smart government and users' interaction. Journal of the Knowledge Economy, 7(2), 388-412. doi:10.1007/s13132-016-0361-0

Schooler, Larry. How Citizens can have a voice in Policymaking. *Governing*. Retrieved from http://www.governing.com/gov-institute/voices/col-public-participation-policymaking-process.html

---

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Attention Please: Students will follow the APA Format as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the APA Format.

Tutoring

- Tutor.com offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours* of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

- Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. The due date for each assignment is listed under each Assignment.

- Generally speaking, late work may result in a deduction up to 20% of the grade for each day late, not to exceed 5 days.
- As a working adult I know your time is limited and often out of your control. Faculty may be more flexible if they know ahead of time of any potential late assignments.

Turn It In

- Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. In some cases professors may require students to use Turnitin.com. This is automatically processed through the Assignments area of the course.

Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc) See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.

Disclaimer Statement

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Communicating on the Forum

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting time after which the instructor will grade comments, it is not sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
- "Substantive" means comments that contribute something new and hopefully important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree" is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.

University Policies

Student Handbook

- Drop/Withdrawal policy
- Extension Requests
- Academic Probation

- Appeals

- Disability Accommodations

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.