

POSC 265 Public Policy and Global Capitalism

Location: Remote Class on Zoom

Zoom Info: Greg Marfleet's Personal Meeting Room

Time: M,W 10:00 - 11:10, F 9:50-10:50

Instructor: Greg Marfleet gmarfleet@carleton.edu

Office: Willis 406 ph x4116

Office Hours on Zoom: M, W 11:30am - 1:00pm, Friday 7:30-9pm (appointment sign-up page)

Course Description

This course is designed to familiarize students with the study of public policy. We will explore how public policy issues are identified, considered, analyzed, implemented and assessed through an examination of relevant cases studies, speakers and student presentations. Because public policy occurs in the context of a changing global economic and political environment we will also discuss major developments that impact policy making, governance, oversight, forecasting and evaluation.

Winter 2021 Remote Course Plan

For this winter term I will be dividing the class into Monday and Wednesday sections. Each section will include about 15 students. I've found this number (which when you include the instructor becomes 16) is the optimal size for creating small discussion groups and for fitting everyone on a single Zoom screen for larger group exchanges and short presentations. You will be asked to attend either Monday or Wednesday

All students will be expected to join our Friday sessions which will be devoted to hosting a Zoom Guest Speaker on some policy topic or, if a speaker isn't scheduled either a special topic lecture/reading or a video policy case study and related discussion.

Text: George M. Guess and Paul G. Farnham. 2011. Cases in Public Policy Analysis, 3rd ed.

Georgetown UP. [CPPA]

Assignments and Grade Components

Participation 15

Case Update Paper x 2 20 (10 each)

Final Paper Proposal 10

Group Policy Presentation 25

Final Policy Analysis Paper 30

3 January - 9 January

Monday & Wednesday Sessions

Introduction & Course Logistics

Discussion: What is Public Policy?

Reading: CPPA Chapter 1

Democracy, Populism, Governance (a.k.a Trump may be gone but Trumpism lives on)

Steve Bannon v. David Frum (Munk Debates: The Rise of Populism, Nov. 2, 2018) (video)

Can Democracy Cure Capitalism?

Jeffrey Frieden International Cooperation in the Age of Populism

10 January - 16 January

Monday and Wednesday

Problem Identification and Structuring

Reading CPPA Chapter 2

Case Study Fighting Crime: The Case for Empty Prison

CSUP Roundtable

Friday - Zoom Guest Speaker Dan Feehan: Politics and Public Policy

17 January - 23 January

Monday and Wednesday

Institutional Impacts on Policy Options

Reading CPPA Chapter 3

Case Study Washington DC School Reform

CSUP Roundtable

Friday - Special Topic

Globalization, Coordination and Leadership

Readings and Video

Peter S. Goodman, "The Post-World War II Order is Under Assault from the Powers that Built It" (NY Times, March 26, 2018)

Brookings Institution panel, "World Order without America?" (November 2018) (video)

Sean Ehrlich, "The Collapse of Embedded Liberalism in a Time of Populist Nationalism?" Duck of Minerva (blog) (Dec. 23, 2016) URL

Ian Bremmer, "The Era of American Global Leadership Is Over. Here's What Comes Next," Time (Dec. 19, 2016)

24 January - 30 January
Monday & Wednesday

Forecasting Policy Options

Reading CPPA Chapter 4

Case Study Transit Options for Metro's Purple Line

CSUP Roundtable

Friday Zoom Guest Speaker : Stu Lourey, Minnesota Farmers Union, Ag Policy

31 January - 6 February
Monday & Wednesday

Pricing and Public Policy

Reading CPPA Chapter 5

Case Study Cigarette Tax Clouds Boosts among States

CSUP Roundtable

Friday: Zoom Guest Speaker, Sondra Samuels, Northside Achievement Zone - Urban development, Social Justice and Equality

7 February - 13 February
Monday (Break, no class). All students should attend the Wednesday All-Class Final Paper workshop meeting

Final Paper Proposal Due by Midnight Tuesday - Be prepared to talk about your project with your peers

Wednesday Final Paper Workshop

Friday: Guest Speaker, Danial Sullivan, Higher Education Policy and Free Tuition

Readings

Green et al. 2020. Student Loan Cancellation Sets Up Clash Between Biden and the Left. New York Times (link)

Baum, S., 2017. Student debt: Good, bad, and misunderstood. Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning, 49(3), pp.60-70.(link)

Archibald, R.B. and Feldman, D.H., 2012. The anatomy of college tuition. Washington, DC: American Council on Education. (link)

Winston, G.C., 1997. Why can't a college be more like a firm. Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning, 29(5), pp.32-38.(link)

Optional Article but a great example of Cost-Benefit analysis in education:

Avery, C., Howell, J., Pender, M. and Sacerdote, B., 2019. Policies and Payoffs to Addressing America's College Graduation Deficit. Brookings Papers on Economic Activity, 2019(2), pp.93-172. (link)

14 February - 20 February
Monday & Wednesday

Cost Effectiveness Analysis

Reading CPPA Chapter 6

Case Study Fighting HIV a Community at a Time.

CSUP Roundtable

Friday: Zoom Guest Speaker, Ambassador Jimmy Kolker - Global Public Health

21 February - 27 February
Monday & Wednesday

Cost-Benefit Analysis

Reading CPPA Chapter 7

Case Study The Debate over Ambient Air Quality Standards

CSUP Roundtable

Friday: Zoom Guest Speaker, Professor James Densely - Police and Criminal Justice Reform

28 February - 6 March
Monday, Wednesday & Friday

Group Presentations (all students are expected to join the Zoom session for each day this week during peer presentation. Attendance will be noted)

Monday Groups 1 & 2

Wednesday Groups 3 & 4

Friday Groups 5 & 6

7 March - 13 March
Monday & Wednesday

Last Classes: Policy Simulation (Wik Wak Valley River Restoration)

Reading CPPA Chapter 8

Final Policy Analysis Paper is due by the last day of the exam period by 9:30 PM. By College Policy Late Papers cannot be accepted.