

GSPP 806 Public Policy Analysis

University of Regina Campus	
Instructor:	Kathleen McNutt
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Office Hours:	By appointment only
Office Location:	110 – 2 Research Drive
Term:	Winter 2010
Room:	CL 435
Time:	Tuesdays, 7:00 – 9:45 p.m.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Analysis of the processes whereby public policies arise and are enacted in Canada. Compares theories and models of policy-making and decision-making to illustrate the special requirements of the Canadian environment; examines the roles of various participants in the policy process: legislators, political parties, interest groups, administrators and administrative structures, citizens and the judiciary.

COURSE CONTENT AND APPROACH

- *REQUIRED READINGS* Howlett, Michael, M. Ramesh and Anthony Perl. 2009. *Studying Public Policy: Policy Cycles and Policy Subsystems* 3rd ed.. Toronto: Oxford University Press.
- Bardach, E. 2000. *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis: The Eightfold Path to More Effective Problem Solving*. New York: Chatham House Publishers.

Other required readings available on UR Courses.

SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

- Dobuzinskis, L., M. Howlett and D. Laycock eds. 2007. *Policy Analysis in Canada: The State of the Art*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Patton, C. and D. Sawicki. 1993. *Basic Methods of Policy Analysis and Planning*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.
- Radin, Beryl A. 2000. *Beyond Machiavelli: Policy Analysis Comes of Age*. Washington DC: Georgetown University Press.
- Spicker, P. 2006. *Policy Analysis for Practice*. Bristol: The Policy Press.
- Yanow, D. 1999. *Conducting Interpretive Policy Analysis*. Thousand Oaks, Sage.

EVALUATION

Written requirements for this course include a policy analysis project 10-12 pages including references, one briefing note, a summary of one week readings and a group project.

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Percentage of final grade</i>
Individual Assignments	
Briefing Note	15%
Policy Analysis	40%
Participation	10%
Group Work	
Group Project	25%
Summary and Presentation	10%

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late penalties will be in operation except for documented medical reasons. There are no exceptions. Please note that late proposals will be similarly penalized with the marks coming off the paper grade.

Penalties:	1 day	5 per cent
	2-4 days	15 per cent
	5-7 days	25 per cent

Assignments are not accepted after 7 days except for documented medical reasons.

All rules outlined in the University Calendar apply concerning plagiarism and respect.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Students in this course, who, because of a disability, may have a need for accommodations, are encouraged to come and discuss accommodations with the instructor and to contact the Coordinator of Special Needs Services at 585-4631.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

Ensuring that you understand and follow the principles of academic integrity and conduct as laid out in the University of Regina's Graduate Calendar and the University of Saskatchewan's Guidelines for Academic Conduct is vital to your success in graduate school. Ensuring that your work is your own and reflects both your own ideas and those of others incorporated in your work is important: ensuring that you acknowledge the ideas, words, and phrases of others that you use is a vital part of the scholarly endeavour. If you have any questions at all about academic integrity in general or about specific issues, contact your course instructor and to discuss your questions.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 INTRODUCTION

Date: January 12

Lecture: Policy Cycle and Applied Analysis

REQUIRED READING

- Howlett, Ramesh and Perl. 'Introduction: Why Study Public Policy' *Studying Public Policy*.
- Howlett, Ramesh and Perl. 'Understanding Public Policy: Theoretical Approaches' *Studying Public Policy*.

WEEK 2 POLICY CYCLE I

Date: January 19

Lecture: Agenda-Setting and Formulation

REQUIRED READINGS

- Bardach, E. 2000. *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis*. Chapter 1.
- Howlett, Ramesh and Perl. 'Agenda-Setting' *Studying Public Policy*.
- Howlett, Ramesh and Perl., 'Policy Formulation' *Studying Public Policy*
- Stone, D. 1989. 'Causal Stories and the Formation of Policy Agendas.' *Political Science Quarterly*. 104 (2): 281-300.

WEEK 3 POLICY TOOL 1

Date: January 26

Lecture: Contextual Analysis, Environmental Scanning & Systematic Reviews

REQUIRED READINGS

- Albright, K. S. 2004. Environmental Scanning: Radar for Success. *Information Management Journal*. 38(3): 38-45.
- Fahey, L., W. King and V. Narayanan. 1981. 'Environmental Scanning and Forecasting in Strategic Planning—The State of the Art.' *Long Range Planning*. 14(1): 32-39.
- Hannes, K. and L. Claes. 2007. 'Learn to Read and Write Systematic Reviews: The Belgian Campbell Group.' *Research on Social Work Practice*. 11(17): 748-753
- Howlett, Ramesh and Perl. 'The Policy Context' *Studying Public Policy*.
- Meeker, Heidi. 1993. 'Hands-on Futurism: How to Run a Scanning Project.' *The Futurist*. 27(3): 22-27.
- Meltzer, A. 1972. 'Political Feasibility and Policy Analysis.' *Public Administration Review*. 32(6).

WEEK 4 POLICY CYCLE II

Date: February 2

Lecture: Decision Making and Implementation

REQUIRED READINGS

- Barrett, S. M. 2004. 'Implementation Studies: Time for a Revival? Personal Reflections on 20 Years of Implementation Studies.' *Public Administration*. 82(2): 249-62.
- Howlett, Ramesh and Perl. 'Public Policy Decision-Making' *Studying Public Policy*
- Howlett, Ramesh and Perl. 'Policy Implementation' *Studying Public Policy*

WEEK 5 POLICY CYCLE III

Date: February 9

Lecture: Program Evaluation

REQUIRED READINGS

- Dobell, R. and D Zussman. 1981. 'An Evaluation System for Government: If Politics is Theatre, then Evaluation is (mostly) Art.' *Canadian Public Administration*. 24(3): 404-427.
- Geva-May, Iris and Leslie A. Pal. 1999. 'Good Fences Make Good Neighbours: Policy Evaluation and Policy Analysis - Exploring the Differences.' *Evaluation*. 5(3): 259-277.
- Howlett, Ramesh and Perl. 'Policy Evaluation' *Studying Public Policy*.

WEEK 6 APPLIED POLICY ANALYSIS

Date: February 16

Lecture: Steps in Applied Policy Analysis

REQUIRED READINGS

- Bardach, E. 2000. *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis*. Chapter 2-6.

WEEK 7 INSTRUMENT SELECTION

Date: February 23

- Christopher C. Hood and Helen Z. Margetts. 2007. *The Tools of Government In The Digital Age*. Chapter 1.
- Linder, Stephen H. and B. Guy Peters. 1989. Instruments of Government: Perceptions and Contexts. *Journal of Public Policy*. 9(1): 35-58.
- Peters, G. 2005. "The Problem of Policy Problems" *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis: Research and Practice* 7(4): 349-370.

WEEK 8 NETWORK ANALYSIS

► POLICY BRIEF DUE

Date: March 2

Lecture: Analyzing Policy Communities and Networks

- McGregor, S. 2004. Modeling the Evolution of a Policy Network Using Network Analysis *Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal* 32(4): 382-407.
- Mikkelsen, Margaret. 2006. Policy Network Analysis as a Strategic Tool for the Voluntary Sector. *Policy Studies* 27(1): 17-26.
- Montpetit, Éric. 2002. Policy Networks, Federal Arrangements, and the Development of Environmental Regulations: A Comparison of the Canadian and American Agricultural Sectors. *Governances*. 15(1): 1-20

WEEK 9 COMPARATIVE POLICY ANALYSIS

Date: March 9

Lecture: Large and Small N Comparative Analysis

REQUIRED READINGS

- Anderson, C. 1971. 'Comparative Policy Analysis: The Design of Measures.' *Comparative Politics* 4(1): 117-131.
- DeLeon, P. and P. Resnick-Terry. 1998. 'Comparative Policy Analysis: Déjà vu All Over Again?' *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis* 11: 9-22.
- Vining, A and D. Weimer. 1998. 'Informing Institutional Design: Strategies for Comparative Cumulation.' *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis*. 1(1): 39-60

WEEK 10 GENDER-BASED ANALYSIS

Date: March 16

Lecture: Gender-Based Analysis

REQUIRED READINGS

- C. Bacchi, J. Eveline, J. Binns, C. Mackenzie and Susan Harwood. (2005). 'Gender Analysis and Social Change: Testing the Water' *Policy and Society* 24(4): 45-68.
- New Brunswick Women's Issues Branch, Executive Council Office. 2003. *Gender Based Analysis Guide*. Government of New Brunswick.
- Olena Hankivsky. (2008). 'Gender Mainstreaming in Canada and Australia: A Comparative Analysis' *Policy and Society* 27(1): 69-81.

WEEK 11 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

➤ POLICY ANALYSIS DUE

Date: March 23

REQUIRED READINGS

- Cramer, J., T. Dietz and R. Johnston. 1980. 'Social Impact Assessment of Regional Plans: A Review of Methods and Issues and a Recommended Process.' *Policy Sciences*. 12(1).
- Dunn, W, A Hegedus and B. Holzner. 1988. 'Science Impact Assessment and Public Policy.' *Review of Policy Research*. 8(1).
- Ratner, P. et al. 1997. 'Setting the Stage for Health Impact Assessment.' *Journal of Public Health Policy*. 18(1): 67-79.

WEEK 12 RISK ASSESSMENT & NEEDS ASSESSMENT

➤ POLICY ANALYSIS DUE

Date: March 30

Lecture: Using Policy Tools Risk and Needs Assessment

- Gaber, J. 2000. 'Meta-needs Assessment.' *Evaluation and Program Planning*. 23(2): 139-147.
- TBA

WEEK 13 COLLABORATIVE POLICY MAKING

Date: April 6

Lecture: Consultation and Collaboration

REQUIRED READINGS

- Government of Saskatchewan. 2008. *Government of Saskatchewan Interim Guide for Consultation with First Nations and Métis People*. Regina, SK: Government of Saskatchewan.
- Innes, Judith and David Booher. 2004. Reframing public participation: strategies for the 21st century. *Planning Theory & Practice* 5 (4), 419-436.
- Pratchett, Lawrence. 1999. New Fashions in public participation: Towards greater democracy? *Parliamentary Affairs* 52(4):616:33.

WEEK 14 WRAP UP

➤ GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Date: April 15