

SYLLABUS

Semester: Fall, 2001

Course Number and Name POLI 442-01
Public Policy Analysis

Number of Semester Hours of Credit 3

Time Class Meets TR: 12:30 PM - 1:50 PM

Building and Room Number JKSA 204

Instructor's Name Dr. Hsiaofen Hemstock

Office Location: TS 207C

Office Telephone: 672-1125 (hhemstock@uncfsu.edu)

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday: 7:30-8:00; 2:00-2:30
Tuesday & Thursday: 11:00-12:30
Friday: 7:30-8:00; 11:30-2:00

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a study of the methods and techniques used determining the effectiveness of public programs, with emphasis on development of appropriate systems for conducting evaluations and the use of case studies for practical exercises in policy analysis.

Throughout the course, many important public policies in America will be examined. In examining each public policy, we will pay special attention to the determinants of public policy, theories of public choice, and the implementation, impact, and evaluation of public decisions.

TEXTBOOK

Dye, Thomas R., Understanding Public Policy, 9th edition, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1998.

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVES

Part I: Public Policy and Models for its Analysis

As a result of study and activities in this section, the student will be able to:

- a. understand selected analytical models and how these are used in the analysis of public policy;
- b. differentiate between policy analysis and policy advocacy;
- c. appreciate the capabilities and limitations of policy analysis in dealing with problems in American society.

Part II: Policy Arenas

As a result of study and activity in this section, the student will be able to:

- a. describe past and present government programs in the areas of education, health, poverty and welfare, civil rights, taxation and spending, and national defense and suggest alternate approaches to policies in these areas.

Part III: Policy-Making

As a result of study and activity in this section, the student will be able to:

- a. demonstrate an understanding of how different government branches contribute to the making of policy;
- b. describe the various steps in the policy process at the national level;
- c. analyze the factors facilitating and the factors hindering the development of appropriate public policy.

Part IV: Policy Evaluation

As a result of study and activity in this section, the student will be able to:

- a. identify traditional methods for evaluation of public policy;
- b. apply several more modern techniques in evaluating public policy;
- c. understand the various dimensions of policy outcome and policy impact analysis.

STUDENT EVALUATION AND GRADING

a. Exams: There will be three exams. These exams will consist of essay questions. Make-up exams need the prior approval of the instructor. Questions for make-up exams may be more difficult than regular ones.

b. Two group projects: In addition to exams, there will be two group projects. The class will be divided into several groups. Each group will choose two public policies from the textbook for study.

First, group projects need to present the characteristics of the public policy and both sides of the issue: pros and cons. Then, the projects need to show the side of the issue that group members have chosen. Students cite evidence and arguments to support the position. Students are encouraged to discuss with the instructor the topics of their projects. Each group is required to use charts, diagrams, graphics, and/or other types of visual materials to present their projects to the whole class.

The student's final grade will be determined in the following proportion.

	<u>% of</u>
A. 1 st Group Project and Presentation	
B. 2 nd Group Project and Presentation	
C. 1 st Exam	
D. 2 nd Exam	
E. 3 rd Exam	
F. Individual Class attendance	

The Grading scale is as follows

90 - 100	.....	A
80 - 89	.....	B
70 - 79	.....	C
60 - 69	.....	D
below 60	.....	F

COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Aug 23	Introduction
Aug 28/Aug 30	What is Policy Analysis? ** readings: Ch. 1
Sept 4/Sept 6/Sept 11/Sept 13	Models for the Analysis of Public Policy ** readings: Ch. 2
Sept 18	1 st exam

Sept 20/Sept 25	Criminal Justice ** readings: Ch. 4
Sept 27/Oct 2	Health and Welfare ** readings: Ch. 5
Oct 9/Oct 11	Working on 1 st group project
Oct 16	1 st Group Project Presentatio
Oct 18/Oct 23	Education ** readings: Ch. 6
Oct 25/Oct 30	Environmental Policy ** Ch. 7
Nov 1	2 nd exam
Nov 6/Nov 8/Nov 13	American Federalism ** Ch. 11
Nov 15/Nov 20	Tax Policy ** Ch. 10
Nov 27/Nov 29	Defense Policy ** Ch. 8
Dec 4/Dec 6	Working on 2 nd Group Project
Dec 11	2 nd Group Project Presentations
Dec 13	3 rd exam

