

Spring 2020 Course Offerings

PUBL 601

Political and Social Context of the Policy Process

Tuesdays 7:10-9:40pm

Lauren Edwards

This course is designed to introduce students to the processes by which policy is made in the United States. It introduces students to the policymaking system, including the institutional, structural and political contexts, as well as the policymaking environment. The various stages of the policymaking process from problem definition and agenda-setting to implementation are examined and discussed, and important theories and models of policymaking are presented. Significant concepts relating to the political analysis of public policy are discussed, such as the social construction of problems, group demands, political influence and resources, motivations and incentive for political behavior and political feasibility.

PUBL 603

Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis

Thursdays 7:10-9:40pm

Nick Kelly

An overview of the basic principles and elements of policy analysis. The course focuses on the activities and elements of policy analysts. In addition, the relationship between policy analysis and policymaking, along with emerging professional and ethical issues, are addressed.

PUBL 604

Statistical Analysis

Mondays 7:10-9:40pm

Zoe McLaren

An introduction to the concepts and methods of descriptive and inferential statistical techniques. Bi-variate and multi-variate statistical techniques are discussed. Note: Also listed as SOCY 604. Prerequisites: PUBL 600 or SOCY 600 or its equivalent, college algebra and consent of instructor.

PUBL 607**Statistical Applications in Evaluation Research****Tuesdays 4:30-7:00pm****Zoe McLaren**

Advanced course in analyzing and evaluating data. Focuses on interpreting statistical procedures for assessing the impact of programs and policies based on a variety of experimental and quasi-experimental designs, including true experiments, non-equivalent control group designs and interrupted time-series designs.

PUBL 609**Social Science Approaches to Policy Analysis****Mondays 7:10-9:40pm****Jane Lincove**

This course provides an overview of philosophical and theoretical foundations of academic policy analysis and research to help students understand modern perspectives on social science research, academic policy research, and the role of policy analysis in a democratic society.

PUBL 610-001**Race, Segregation and Social Inequality****Thursdays 4:30-7:00pm****Pamela Bennett**

This course provides an in-depth study of racial residential segregation and its role in the production and perpetuation of social inequality. Through various theoretical perspectives, students will explore the history of segregation in the United States, as well as its patterns and causes. In doing so, students will gain insight into racial inequality across several social, economic, and demographic domains, and come to understand why segregation is widely described as the “structural linchpin of racial stratification.”

PUBL 610-002**Conducting Systematic Reviews****Tuesdays 7:10-9:40pm****Nancy Miller**

The purpose of this course is to develop students' skills in conducting a systematic review, including skills in searching the literature, evaluating the literature, and organizing and presenting the literature. Students will read and discuss systematic reviews from the Campbell Collaborative, as well as selected reviews from peer reviewed journals such as Medical Care Research and Review. Students will develop and present a publishable systematic review on a topic of their choosing.

PUBL 610-006**Social Movements****Mondays 7:10-9:40pm****Fernando Tormos-Aponte**

Social movements are shaping politics across the globe, pressuring politicians, governments, and corporations to change their policies and practices through a wide range of strategies including protest, shaming tactics, advocacy, civil disobedience, and even violence. This course focuses on the politics of social movements. Students will learn about how social movements emerge, evolve, survive, die, and shape and are shaped by politics. The objectives of this course are: 1) to acquaint students with social movement theories, research methods, and practices; 2) to develop students' critical thinking and analysis skills; 3) to train students to conduct social movement research. After completing this course, students will be able to discuss literature on social movements and apply research methods to the study of social movements. Students are not expected to have prior knowledge of social movements to take this course.

PUBL 612**Law and Public Policy****Wednesdays 7:10-9:40pm****Susan Sterett**

Around the world, courts participate in governing, and both interest groups and individuals look to them to hold governments and others accountable. Both constitutional issues of political accountability and questions under statutes about regulation show up in court. This course is an opportunity to learn about structures and opportunities, and how and where people bring the law and legal frameworks to bear on significant public issues. The course will offer students the opportunity to analyze courts and the politics of legal processes from the trial court level to the supranational.

PUBL 613**Managing Public Organizations****Thursdays 4:30-7:00pm****Lauren Edwards**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the world of public management. More specifically, it focuses on who public managers are, what they do, the environments within which they operate, the tasks they perform and the roles they play in their organizations. In addition to the assigned textbook and readings, the course is case-based. That is, principles elucidated in readings are expanded from the 'real world' of public management. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

PUBL 618
Issues in Health Care Finance and Service Delivery
Wednesdays 4:30-7:00pm
Nancy Miller

The purpose of this course is threefold: (1) to provide an overview of the concepts, principles and practices in healthcare finance and service delivery in the United States; (2) to understand the relationship between public and private-sector finance and service delivery of healthcare; and (3) to examine recent trends in healthcare payment and service delivery, including healthcare reform efforts.

PUBL 623
GOVERNMENTAL BUDGETING
Wednesdays 4:30-7:00pm
Roy Meyers

The budget as a means of financial control, management and policymaking. The politics of the budgetary process.

PUBL 644
URBAN THEORY
Tuesdays 7:10-9:40pm
JR Short

This course reviews the main debates in urban theory. Topics include regime theory, economic theories of the city and social theories of urbanization.

PUBL 645
THE US CITY
Tuesdays 4:30-7:00pm
JR Short

This course examines the issues currently affecting metropolitan US and evaluates current urban policies.

ECON 600

Policy Consequences of Economic Analysis

Mondays 4:30-7:00pm

Tim Brennan

A course in political economy dealing with the implications and consequences for policy outcomes of different models of economic analysis, including an introduction to microeconomic theory. Note: May not be counted toward the concentration in economics.