

Introduction to Public Policy Making

POLI 2070 Spring 2020

Course Description

This course is designed to teach you about public policy and the study of public policy. We will learn to use broad analytic frameworks to examine the challenges that arise in the formation and implementation of public policy and apply them to specific policy areas such as social welfare, health care, and immigration.

Course Requirements

The textbook for this course is *Public Policy: A Concise Introduction* by Rinfret, Scheberle, and Pautz. In addition to the textbook, pdfs of readings and links to readings and videos can be located on the class Moodle page.

Because the public policy climate in the United States is constantly changing, newspaper articles, additional readings, and videos will be placed on the class Moodle page that are not listed on the syllabus. These articles, readings, and videos will be chosen to illustrate the contemporary nature of the day's readings. On Monday at noon, the upcoming week's assignments will be opened on Moodle. You have until the following Sunday at 11pm to finish that week's assignments.

All students must abide by the Student Academic Honor Code. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. A three hour course is associated with 9 total hours of work per week. If you need to see me in person, I have office hours from 9:30 to 11 on Tuesday and Thursday. If those times do not work for you, you may email me to schedule an appointment.

Exams

There are two exams in the course. Each exam is worth 100 points and will consist of 50 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each. Exams are not cumulative. Make up exams may be taken in emergency situations (illness, death in the family, etc.). If an exam is missed, I should be notified via email within 24 hours (unless you are locked up or in a coma) of the exam's scheduled close time in order to discuss the makeup exam.

Quizzes

Each chapter has a corresponding 10 point quiz. The quizzes are multiple choice questions that assess your knowledge of key concepts from the readings. The quizzes are opened on Thursday at 12:00 pm and available until Sunday at 11 pm. The quizzes are timed. You have 5 minutes (subject to change based on class performance) to take each quiz. You may take each quiz as often as you like and the highest grade will be counted.

Activities

Every third week is dedicated to practical applications of the concepts covered in the previous two chapters. These assignments will be turned in on Moodle. The week's activities will total 30 points. Generally, there will be two to three assignments during the activities week.

Grading Scale

390-400 A+
370-389 A
358-369 A-
346-357 B+
330-345 B
318-329 B-
306-317 C+
290-305 C
278-289 C-
266-277 D+
250-265 D
238-249 D-
237 and below F

If you are not achieving your desired grade in the course after Exam One, **DO NOT** wait to come and discuss the situation. If you wait until finals week to talk to me, it is too late to turn your grade around.

Class Schedule

Week One (January 13 – January 19)

Review of American Government Basics
Celebrate National Championship Win

Week Two (January 20 – January 26)

Chapter One
Quiz One

Week Three (January 27 – February 2)

Chapter Two
Quiz Two

Week Four (February 3 – February 9)

Activities for Chapters One and Two

Week Five (February 10 – February 16)

Chapter Three
Quiz Three

Week Six (February 17 – February 23)

Chapter Four
Quiz Four

Week Seven (February 24 – March 1)

Activities for Chapters Three and Four

Week Eight (March 2- March 8)

Exam One

Week Nine (March 9 – March 15)

Chapter Six

Quiz Five

Week Ten (March 15 – March 22)

Chapter Seven

Quiz Six

Week Eleven (March 23 – March 29)

Spring Break

Week Twelve (March 30 – April 5)

Activities for Chapters Six and Seven

Week Thirteen (April 6 – April 12)

Chapter Eight

Quiz Seven

Week Fourteen (April 13 – April 19)

Chapter Nine

Quiz Eight

Week Fifteen (April 20 – April 26)

Activities for Chapters Eight and Nine

Week Sixteen (April 27 – May 3)

Chapter Ten

No Quiz Due to Concentrated Study Period

Week Seventeen (May 4 – May 9)

Final Exam (May be taken on May 7, 8, or 9)