

George Mason University

School of Public Policy

PUBP 502: Governance and Policy Processes

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Class meets Tuesday 4:30 – 7:00 pm, ARL 253

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, ARL office suite, 2:30-4:30 and by appointment

Purpose of course:

The purpose of this course is to take a broad view of governance in a U.S., comparative, and international context. First, democratic governance in the U.S. is examined and compared with other democracies. Second, focusing on the U.S. as a case study, important changes in the execution of public policy are examined as increasing portions of public policy in democratic, market-based nations are carried out by private sector and non-profit organizations. Third, the course will analyze the comparative development of the modern democratic nation state, the emergence of the European Union, and the politics of interest group influence on international organizations. Students will learn about the governance and permeability of various international organizations and the interaction between non-governmental organizations and the International Monetary Fund, World Bank and World Trade Organization. Finally, students will participate in a state-of-the-art institutional-building simulation, Governance and Market Economy, and in a case study on the formation of an entirely new global organization, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers.

Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to identify and assess the impact of a variety of governmental structures, be familiar with contemporary issues of governance, understand the varieties and implications of intersector cooperation, be aware of the changing dynamics of national and sub-national governance, and be conversant with the international dimensions of governance. The analytic techniques that students will be able to use include case study analysis, nontechnical cost-benefit analysis, organizational analysis, and comparative methods.

Required texts

Ralph W. Conant & Daniel J. Myers, *Toward a More Perfect Union: The Governance of Metropolitan America* (Novato, CA: Chandler and Sharp, 2006). 2nd Edition ISBN: 978-0-88316-577-5 Paperback

Francis Fukuyama, *State-Building: Governance and World Order in the 21st Century* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2004). Hardcover

Jack A. Goldstone, *States, Parties, and Social Movements*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003). Paperback

William Gormley and Steven Balla, *Bureaucracy and Democracy* (Washington: CQ

Press, 2004)
John Kingdon, *America the Unusual* (NY: St. Martins, 1999).
Elliott D. Sclar, *You Don't Always Get What you Pay For: The Economics of Privatization* (Ithaca New York: Cornell University Press, 2000).
Michael T. Snarr and D. Neil Snarr, eds. *Introducing Global Issues* (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner).

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED:

Diana Hacker, *A Pocket Manual of Style*, 3rd ed. (NY: Bedford-St. Martin's Press).

This book gives the style you will be expected to follow for citations and footnotes in all written assignments.

In addition, a number of articles and chapters will be assigned, as specified below or announced in class.

Weekly Topics:

1. January 23 -- Introduction to the Course and Overview of the Semester
2. January 30 -- The United States Constitutional Structure Separation of Powers, Federalism
Assignment:

The Constitution of the United States of America

James Madison, *Federalist No. 10*

James Madison, *Federalist No. 51*

[I will distribute a copy of the Constitution by Email. The Federalist papers are easily found on the net. Merely type the terms into Google, and it will take you to a number of sites with the documents which can be downloaded.]

John P. Roche, "The Founding Fathers: A Reform Caucus in Action" (*American Political Science Review*, 1961)

Martin Diamond, "Democracy and *The Federalist*: A Reconsideration of the Framers' Intent" (*American Political Science Review*, 1959)

[The Roche and Diamond articles can be found in the GMU Library's JSTOR data base, and they will also be placed on electronic reserve.]

3. February 6 -- American Exceptionalism
Assignment:

John Kingdon, *America the Unusual*, Chapters 1-5, pp. 1-101.

James Pfiffner, "The Paradox of Governmental Power," in Moorhead Kennedy, et. al, *The Moral Authority of Government* (New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 2000), pp. 183-188. (via email)

4. February 13 -- The Traditional Governance Model in the United States compared with Europe
Assignment:
Gabriel Almond, et al, *Comparative Politics*, 4th Edition (NY: Longman, 2004), Chaps. 1-3
James Pfiffner, "The National Performance Review in Perspective," *International Journal of Public Administration*, Vol 20, No. 1 (1997), pp. 41-70. (via email)
 5. February 20 – Government in Society: Organizational Environments and Effectiveness
Gormley and Balla, *Bureaucracy and Democracy*, Chaps. 1-7
 6. February 27 -- Governing Markets : Neo-classical economics and the market model
Assignment:
Elliott D. Sclar, *You Don't Always Get What you Pay For: The Economics of Privatization*, Chapters 1-4, pp. 1-93.
James Pfiffner, "Government Legitimacy and the Role of the Civil Service," in James P. Pfiffner and Douglas A. Brook, eds. *The Future of Merit Twenty Years after the Civil Service Reform Act*. (Washington: Woodrow Wilson Press, 2000), pp. 15-38. (via email)
 7. March 6 -- Markets and Government: state and local cases and federalism issues
Assignment:
Elliott D. Sclar, *You Don't Always Get What you Pay For*, Ch. 5-7, pp. 94-168.
James P. Pfiffner, "The Public Service Ethic in the New Public Personnel Systems," *Public Personnel Management*, Vol. 28, No. 4 (Winter 1999), pp. 541-555. (via email)
- MARCH 13 -- NO CLASS, SPRING BREAK
8. March 20 -- Local Governance: The Strange State of Urban Politics
Assignment:
Conant and Myers, *Toward A More Perfect Union*, Chaps. 1-4
 9. March 27 -- Local Governance: Policy Issues and Policy Pressures
Assignment:
Conant and Myers, *Toward A More Perfect Union*, Chaps. 6, 7, 9, 10
 10. April 3 -- Pressure Politics: Social Movements and Policy
Assignment:
Jack A. Goldstone, *States, Parties, and Social Movements*, Introduction, Chapters 1, 3, 7.
 11. April 10 -- The Development of Democracy and the Nation State
(Models of democracy, emergence of sovereignty, the nation state, globalism.)
Assignment:
Jack A. Goldstone, *States, Parties, and Social Movements*, Chapters 4,5
Francis Fukuyama, *State-Building*

12. April 17 -- Markets, Trade, and Globalization
Assignment:
Snarr and Snarr, Chapters 1, 6-10
13. April 24 -- The case of the European Union: Guest seminar with Desmond Dinan
Assignment:
Desmond Dinan, "Reconstituting Europe" (via email).
14. May 1 – International Governance and Human Rights
Assignment: TBA

Analytic Techniques to be used in the course:
Legislative/Juridical Analysis
Organizational Analysis
Cost-Benefit Analysis (non-technical)
Case study analysis

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:

February 20: 5 page paper on American governance
April 3: Team project on Policy Analysis – memo/presentation
May 8: Individual Case Study Analysis

You will receive more details on the written assignments during the quarter. **WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GUIDELINES.**

GMU SPECIAL REGULATIONS

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the DRC.

SPP Policy on Plagiarism, as follows:

The profession of scholarship and the intellectual life of a university as well as the field of public policy inquiry depend fundamentally on a foundation of trust. Thus any act of plagiarism strikes at the heart of the meaning of the university and the purpose of the School of Public Policy. It constitutes a serious breach of professional ethics and it is unacceptable.

Plagiarism is the use of another's words or ideas presented as one's own. It includes, among other things, the use of

specific words, ideas, or frameworks that are the product of another's work. Honesty and thoroughness in citing sources is essential to professional accountability and personal responsibility. Appropriate citation is necessary so that arguments, evidence, and claims can be critically examined.

Plagiarism is wrong because of the injustice it does to the person whose ideas are stolen. But it is also wrong because it constitutes lying to one's professional colleagues. From a prudential perspective, it is shortsighted and self-defeating, and it can ruin a professional career.

The faculty of the School of Public Policy takes plagiarism seriously and has adopted a zero tolerance policy. Any plagiarized assignment will receive an automatic grade of "F." This may lead to failure for the course, resulting in dismissal from the University. This dismissal will be noted on the student's transcript. For foreign students who are on a university-sponsored visa (eg. F-1, J-1 or J-2), dismissal also results in the revocation of their visa.

To help enforce the SPP policy on plagiarism, all written work submitted in partial fulfillment of course or degree requirements must be available in electronic form so that it can be compared with electronic databases, as well as submitted to commercial services to which the School subscribes. Faculty may at any time submit student's work without prior permission from the student. Individual instructors may require that written work be submitted in electronic as well as printed form. The SPP policy on plagiarism is supplementary to the George Mason University Honor Code; it is not intended to replace it or substitute for it. (<http://www.gmu.edu/facstaff/handbook/aD.html>)

HELPFUL HINTS ON WRITING AND CITATION BY JAMES PFIFFNER:

Analytic Writing

For purposes of scholarly writing it is important to write analytically. Analytic writing is more than merely describing what others have said or describing institutions of government or public policy making (though description is often an essential aspect of analysis). Analysis involves more.

In analysis you are asking and answering questions about the causes and consequences of whatever you are examining.

You are seeking explanations for behavior.

You are developing categories and frameworks that will help us understand political behavior and generalize insights from one case to other cases.

Ask the question: Of what is this an instance?

When analyzing scholarly writing:

Engage different ideas.

Show how they differ and where they agree.

Compare and contrast.

Contrast different methods of understanding a phenomenon.

What different types of evidence are adduced to make a point?

Contrast different perspectives or approaches to a topic.

Judge whether the reasoning is valid.

Does the author's evidence support the conclusion of the article?

In Writing an Essay, Remember:

The introduction should say what the paper is about and how you will approach the topic.

The paper should address one central question and have a thesis.

The paper should be organized logically, with an evident structure.

The reader should be told how each part of the paper is related to the other parts..

Use subheadings to label different sections.

Outline your paper after it is written to see if it flows logically.

Proofread your paper for spelling and syntax.

Be sure to cite all of your sources and use quotation marks when you use another's words. Plagiarism is using another's words or ideas without giving proper credit. Plagiarism is a major scholarly sin; it is unethical, dishonest, and deceptive, and it has ended some people's careers. It can easily be avoided by giving credit where credit is due.

Hints

The singular possessive is formed by adding an 's (e.g. one president's term was cut short, the plural by s' (e.g. both presidents' terms were cut short); its = possessive, it's = it is.

Lead is in your pencil, but led is the past tense of the verb to lead.

Effect is a noun and affect is a verb, almost always - if you do not know the exceptions, do not violate this rule of thumb.

Cite is short for citation, site is a place (or web location), sight refers to eyes.

Horses have reins, monarchs reign over countries, rain falls from the sky: e.g. The Queen reigns; the Prime Minister holds the reins of power in Parliament. In London it rains often.

From William Strunk and E.B. White's classic, *The Elements of Style* (NY: Macmillan, 1979).

"Place a comma before a conjunction introducing an independent clause."

"Do not join independent clauses by a comma" (use a semicolon or a period).

"The number of the subject determines the number of the verb."

"Use the active voice."

"Omit needless words."

"Make the paragraph the unit of composition."

"Revise and rewrite."

Citations for Research Papers

The purposes of scholarly citations are several:

- 1) To show the source for a direct quote or fact not commonly known.
- 2) To give credit for an idea to the author of a work
- 3) To show the reader that you are familiar with other scholarship on your topic or to indicate where further information or analysis can be found.
- 4) You may also use endnotes to explain something in the text or comment on the source.
The intention is to give the reader enough information to find the source you are using so that he or she can see if you have quoted it correctly, interpreted it soundly, done justice to the author cited, or do further research on the topic in question themselves.

Format: use the standard *Chicago Manual of Style* format, also known as "Turabian" OR Diana Hacker, op. cit.

EXAMPLES:

Books:

author, title (place of publication: publisher, date), page number(s).

[Titles of books should be in italics or underlined.]

Example:

1. John Kingdon, *Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policies*, 2nd ed. (New York: HarperCollins, 1995).

After the first full citation, you may use a shortened version:

e.g. 2. Kingdon, *Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policies*, page number(s).

Articles:

author, title, name of journal (volume, number), page number(s).

[Titles of articles should be enclosed in quotation marks, names of journals underlined or in italics.]

Example:

1. Theodore J. Lowi, "The State in Political Science: How We Become What We Study," *American Political Science Review* Vol. 86 (1992), pp. 1-7.

After first full citation, you may use a shortened version:

2. Lowi, "The State in Political Science," p. 3.

Chapters in edited Books:

author of article, title of article, "in" editor of book, title of book (place and date of publication), page numbers.

Example:

Hugh Hecllo, "The Changing Presidential Office," in James P. Pfiffner, *The Managerial Presidency* (College Station, TX: Texas A&M University Press, 1999), pp. 23-36

Web Site Citations:

In addition to author, title, etc, include the following information:

Who put up the site, full URL, date of access.

Number the notes consecutively for the whole paper, with each note referring to the number in the text with the number in superscript or parentheses. Endnote numbers should be placed at the end of the sentence containing the information being cited. A bibliography of all the sources used in the paper along with other useful sources may be useful or required.