

# **Governance and Policy Processes**

PUBP 502-009

Spring 2008

**Professor David M. Hart**

School of Public Policy

George Mason University

Office: Arlington 292, 703-993-2279

Email (preferred): dhart@gmu.edu

Class meetings: Wednesdays, 7:20-10:00 p.m., Arlington 335

Office hours: Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m., Arlington 292

## **Purpose**

This course provides an overview of governance at the domestic and international levels. The course pays particular attention to the U.S., exploring how public policy is made here and contrasting the U.S. system of governance with those elsewhere. The course then considers – again, focusing primarily on the U.S. -- important changes in the implementation of public policy in recent years as the private sector and non-profit organizations have come to play increasingly important roles. The course concludes with an inquiry into the changes in governance wrought by globalization, examining the evolving interactions among nations, international organizations, and an emergent global civil society.

## **Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students will be:

- familiar with critical issues of contemporary domestic and international governance,
- able to assess the impact of diverse governance structures,
- savvy about managing cooperation among the public, private, and non-profit sectors, and
- aware of the changing dynamics across levels of governance, from local to global.

## **Course Texts and Materials**

The following books are required and will be available for purchase at the GMU bookstore:

- Alberto Alesina and Edward L. Glaeser, *Fighting Poverty in the U.S. and Europe* (Oxford University Press, 2004).
- Francis Fukuyama, *State-Building: Governance and World Order in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Cornell University Press, 2004).
- John Kingdon, *America the Unusual* (St. Martins Press, 1999).
- Elliott D. Sclar, *You Don't Always Get What You Pay For: The Economics of Privatization* (Cornell University Press, 2000).

Other required readings will be made available through GMU library's e-reserves system or through links on the course's webCT page.

## **Format**

The course will be conducted primarily as a seminar. Each week's assignment must be read, and participation in class discussion is mandatory. This format is intended to enhance your professional communication skills as well as your substantive knowledge. The course will also include less formal discussions of professional development issues and brief lectures.

## **Evaluation and Grading**

Policy memo (due February 27)	25%
Op-ed article (due April 2)	25%
Final paper (due April 30)	30%
Class participation (throughout)	20%

The grade of **A** is reserved for sustained excellence and outstanding performance on all aspects of the course. **A-** denotes mastery of the material and solid professional-grade work. **B+** and **B** signify good and satisfactory overall performance, respectively. The grade of **B-** denotes marginal quality work that is below graduate level standards. The grade of **C** denotes completion of the assignments at such a poor level of quality that the student's standing at the school is put at risk. The grade of **F** signifies failure to complete the assignments acceptably. Late papers will be penalized one grade level (for instance, from A+ to A) for each calendar day or part thereof, up to a full grade (A+ to B+) each week.

*New Voices in Public Policy*: I will consider nominating the very best papers in this course for publication in *New Voices in Public Policy*. *New Voices* is a student- and faculty-reviewed journal that shares SPP's finest student work with the rest of the world.

## **Class Participation**

Students need to attend regularly to participate effectively. A student who misses more than three classes will be penalized one full grade on the participation component for each additional class missed.

## **Written Assignments**

Detailed instructions will be distributed and discussed well in advance of each of the assignment due dates. Each assignment must be submitted in hard copy in class; blind grading procedures (in which the student's identity is hidden from the instructor) will be used whenever possible. In addition, an electronic copy of each assignment must be submitted to the School's computerized plagiarism detection service within 24 hours of the due date. To avoid plagiarism, a simple rule of thumb may be of help: when in doubt, include a citation. Citations, including those to web sources, should include sufficient information to allow a reader to verify the source. Further details on when and how to cite sources will be discussed in class. ***The School's policy on plagiarism and my addendum to it are attached. You should become familiar with them.***

## **Students with Special Needs**

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

## Course outline

Class 1 (January 23): Introduction

Class 2 (January 30): Why Government? Origins and Development of the Nation-State

- Hendrik Spruyt, “The Origins, Development, and Possible Decline of the Modern State,” *Annual Review of Political Science* 5:127-149 (2002).
- Fukuyama, chapter 1.

### **Submit personal statement and resume.**

Class 3 (February 6): Political Institutions: The U.S. in Comparative Perspective

- Kingdon, chapters 1 and 2.
- Alesina and Glaeser, skim chapters 2-3, read chapters 4-5 & 7.

Class 4 (February 13): Political Culture: The U.S. in Comparative Perspective

- Kingdon, chapters 3-5.
- Alesina and Glaeser, chapter 6.

Class 5 (February 20): Public Policy: The U.S. in Comparative Perspective

- Alesina and Glaeser, chapters 2 and 8.
- Clem Brooks and Jeff Manza, “Why Do Welfare States Persist?” *Journal of Politics* 68:816-827 (2006).

Class 6 (February 27): Guest Speaker - TBA

- Readings TBA

### **Policy memo due.**

Class 7 (March 5): Policy Implementation: Bureaucracy and Beyond

- James Pfiffner, “Traditional Public Administration Versus the New Public Management: Accountability Versus Efficiency,” in A. Benz, H. Siedentopf, and K.P. Sommermann, eds., *Institutionenbildung in Regierung und Verwaltung: Festschrift für Klaus König* (Berlin, Germany: Duncker & Humboldt, 2004), 443-454.
- Sclar, chapter 5.
- Fukuyama, chapter 2.

**March 12 - Spring Break – No Class**

Class 8 (March 19): Policy Implementation: Contracting Out

- Sclar, chapters 1-4

Class 9 (March 26): Policy Implementation: Norm-Based Governance

- Sclar, chapters 6-7
- “Parks and Partnership in New York City: Adrian Benepe's Challenge,” Kennedy School of Government case 1743.0 (2004).

Class 10 (April 2): Guest Speaker - TBA

- Readings TBA

**Op-ed article due.**

Class 11 (April 9): Globalization: Challenges to the Nation-State

- Stephen D. Krasner, “Sovereignty,” *Foreign Policy*, January-February, 2002, 20-29.
- Robert O. Keohane and Joseph S. Nye, Jr., “Globalization: What’s New? What’s Not? (And So What?),” *Foreign Policy*, Spring, 2000, 104-119.
- Stephen J. Kobrin, “Back to the Future: Neomedievalism and the Postmodern Digital World Economy” *Journal of International Affairs* 361-386 (1998).

Class 12 (April 16): Global Governance: Institutionalism

- Three articles from *Daedalus*, vol. 132, no. 1 (Winter, 2003)
  - Anne-Marie Slaughter, “Everyday Global Governance” (pp. 83-90).
  - Stanley Hoffman, “World Governance: Beyond Utopia” (pp. 27-35).
  - Carl Kaysen and George Rathjens, “The Case for a Volunteer UN Military Force” (pp. 91-103).

Class 13 (April 23): Global Governance: New Formations

- John G. Ruggie, “Reconstituting the Global Public Domain: Issues, Actors, and Practices,” Kennedy School of Government, Working paper RWP04-031, 2004, pp. 17-36 only (section on “World Civic Politics...”)
- Dara O’Rourke, “Outsourcing Regulation: Analyzing Nongovernmental Systems of Labor Standards and Monitoring,” *Policy Studies Journal* 31:1-29 (2003).

Class 14 (April 30): State-Building

- Fukuyama, chapters 3-4.

**Final paper due.**

## **SPP Policy on Plagiarism**

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>)

### **Professor Hart's Addendum**

I believe deeply that intellectual integrity is a fundamental element of learning. I firmly support the School's zero tolerance policy on plagiarism and will enforce it stringently. Ignorance is not an excuse. To avoid plagiarism, a simple rule of thumb may be of help: when in doubt, include a citation. Citations, including those to web sources, should include sufficient information to allow a reader to verify the source. Further details on when and how to cite sources will be discussed in class. However, providing a citation to a block of text taken with minimal change from a source is not sufficient to avoid plagiarism. You must put the block in quotation marks, thereby acknowledging the source's contribution of specific words as well as ideas in the block.