New Course Request

Indiana University

South Bend Campus

Check Appropriate Boxes:

Undergraduate credit [X]
Graduate credit [ ]
Professional credit [ ]

1. School/Division: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

2. Academic Subject Code: POLS

3. Course Number: V430 (must be cleared with University Enrollment Services)

4. Instructor: Candler

5. Course Title: Introduction to Public Policy

Recommended Abbreviation (Optional):

(Limited to 32 Characters including spaces)

6. First time this course is to be offered (Semester/Year): Fall 2008

7. Credit Hours: Fixed at [ ] or Variable from [ ] to [ ]

8. Is this course to be graded S-F (only)? Yes [ ] No [X]

9. Is variable title approval being requested? Yes [ ] No [X]

10. Course description (not to exceed 50 words) for Bulletin publication:
The theory and practice of the formulation and the implementation of public policy. Topics include the factors of public demand on the political system; decision making in the public sector; tools and techniques for implementation and evaluation; and the import for future planning.

11. Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at [ ] or Variable from [ ] to [ ]

12. Non-Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at [ ] or Variable from [ ] to [ ]

13. Estimated enrollment: [ ] of which [ ] percent are expected to be graduate students.

14. Frequency of scheduling: every other year

15. Will this course be required for majors? Yes [ ] No [ ]

16. Justification for new course: Replaces existing V472 in the BSPA. Changes due to IUSB SPEA restructuring.

17. Are the necessary reading materials currently available in the appropriate library? Yes [ ]

18. If this course overlaps with existing courses, please explain with which courses it overlaps and whether this overlap is necessary, desirable, or unimportant.

19. A copy of every new course proposal must be submitted to departments, schools, or divisions in which there may be an overlap of the new course with existing courses or areas of strong concern, with instructions that they send comments directly to the originating Curriculum Committee. Please append a list of departments, schools, or divisions thus consulted.

Submitted by:

[Signature] Linda Chen
Department Chairman/Division Director

Date: 12/21/08

Approved by:

[Signature] John M. White
Dean

Date: 1/8/09

Assoc Dean CLAS

Date:

Chancellor/Vice-President

Date:

University Enrollment Services

Date:

After School/Division approval, forward the last copy (without attachments) to University Enrollment Services for initial processing, and the remaining four copies and attachments to the Campus Chancellor or Vice-President.

UPS 724 University Enrollment Services Final—White; Chancellor/Vice-President—Blue; School/Division—Yellow; Department/Division—Pink; University Enrollment Services Advance—White
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
COURSE SYLLABUS
POLS – Introduction to Public Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>George Candler</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day/time</td>
<td>Tues/Thurs 10:50-12:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Kelley 120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>Summer Street House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office phone</td>
<td>508-531-2442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gcandler@bridgew.edu">gcandler@bridgew.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Objective:

The Campus Bulletin describes this course as follows: “The theory and practice of the formulation and the implementation of public policy. Topics include the factors of public demand on the political system; decision making in the public sector; tools and techniques for implementation and evaluation; and the import for future planning.”

This course is about the process of public policy. At its simplest, public policy can be thought of as a mechanistic process, using rigorous analytical techniques to weigh up alternatives and measure which will maximize social utility. Unfortunately, the social sciences are not that easy. Innumerable factors get in the way, making it difficult to identify, address, and analyze social phenomena; as well as to select, implement and evaluate policies most likely to alleviate social problems. I argue that anyone can learn the mechanistic analytical techniques, yet few people appreciate this difficult nature of the social sciences, and it is this latter factor which accounts for the largest share of policy failures. As a result, this course is about the wild, fuzzy complexity that surrounds public policy, more than about simple analytical methods.

As with any social science course, a strong emphasis will be placed on developing the student's ability to conduct research, organize and interpret information, and to present findings in a professional manner.

Course structure:

There will be three complimentary means of instruction: readings, a web page, and class lecture sessions. The web page will both broadly discuss the week's material, and link you to other information relevant to the weekly subjects. The web page will also include a Web Discussion Board. I use a single forum for all of my classes, and have set this up under the designation VC-255-01 Public Administration.

Required text:
To contain student costs, there are only two required texts:


The two books differ considerably, in a way that I hope will prove complementary in this course. The book by Larry Gerston should provide some structure to this course, as a conventional description of the concept of public policy. *Lament for an Ocean*, on the other hand, will allow us to see the policy process in action. The book describes the collapse of the Northwest Atlantic cod fishery, and especially the policy failures that failed to prevent this. The course will also make use of lecture notes posted online every week, linked from the 'structure' link above; as well as journal materials available on line, through Extended Academic ASAP, on the UVM Sage system. To see if you can access these, try to click on the following. You may need to reconfigure your browser:


**Class readings - Course structure**

**Date -- Topic (Readings)**

4 Sep -- **Introduction**

- The stages model
- Why policy

9-11 Sep -- **Ethics**

- ...conceptually
- ...and social responsibility

- Harris, chapter 1-2.

16-18 Sep -- **Some context**

- The policy process
- The context of public policy
  - Gerston, chapter 1
- Harris, chapter 3
23-25 Sep -- The public agenda

- The public agenda
  - Gerston, chapter 3
- Fish!
  - Harris, chapter 4

30 Sep - 2 Oct -- Policy makers

- The policy makers
  - Gerston, chapter 4
- Marriage
  - Baker v. Vermont
    - Pro: Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force
    - Con: For the Children
  - Harris, chapter 5

7 - 9 Oct -- Formulation and the limits of policy analysis

- The limits of analysis
- Science and human society
- Harris, chapter 6- 7

14 Oct -- Formulation and establishing criteria

- Establish criteria
- Identifying alternatives
- Harris, chapter 8

16 Oct -- class cancelled. I'm representing the BSC-MPA program at the annual conference of the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, in Pittsburgh.

21 - 23 Oct -- Formulation and policy selection

Paper introduction due (21 Oct)

- The politics/policy nexus
  - The Innocence Project
- Policy analysts as Plato's 'philosopher kings'?
- Plato (360 B.C.), *The Republic*, especially Book V.
- Harris, chapter 9

28 - 30 Oct -- *Implementation*

- Converting policy commitments into practice
  - Gerston, chapter 5
- Inventing Australia I
  - Captain Cook’s First Voyage
  - Harris, chapter 10

4 - 6 Nov -- *Implementation II*

- ...as muddling through
  - Dunn, Cathy and Marion McCreadie. *The founders of a nation."
  - Dunn, Cathy. *Botany Bay as penal colony."
- ...as process
- Harris, chapter 11

12 - 13 Nov -- *Evaluation*

Note: Tuesday class rescheduled to Wednesday, due to Armistice Day

- Evaluation in theory
- Public opinion
  - Gerston, chapter 6
  - Harris, chapter 12

18 - 20 Nov -- *Goals...*

- Liberty
  - Brill, Steven (2002). "The Biggest Hole in the Net: ONE DAY SOON, America may be rocked by a suicide bomber. We have no system to deal with that eventuality. Why the debate over a national ID card is long overdue." *Newsweek*, Dec 30, p. 48.
  - American Civil Liberties Union. *National Security."
- Security
- Harris, chapter 13

25 Nov -- *goals... (cond.)*

Semester paper due

Note: Thursday class cancelled, due to Thanksgiving holiday

- Efficiency
- Harris, chapter 14
2 - 4 Dec -- ...and more goals (cond.)

- Equity
- Harris, chapter 15

9 - 11 Dec -- The evolutionary context

Rewritten semester paper due

- Gerston, chapter 7

18 Dec -- Final exam 11:00 - 1:00