New Course Request

1. School/Division: College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
2. Academic Subject Code: POLS
3. Course Number: V513 (must be cleared with University Enrollment Services)
4. Instructor: Candler, others
5. Course Title: 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 3 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 dynamics of public policy, with an emphasis on actors, stages, analytical challenges, politics, and reconciling often contradictory goals.

11. Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at 3 or Variable from __________ to __________
12. Non-Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at 0 or Variable from __________ to __________
13. Estimated enrollment: 25 of which 100 percent are expected to be graduate students.
14. Frequency of scheduling: annual __ Will this course be required for majors? No
15. Justification for new course: This replaces V512 in the existing MPA program. Changes due to IUSB SPEA restructuring.
16. Are the necessary reading materials currently available in the appropriate library? Yes
17. Please append a complete outline of the proposed course, and indicate instructor (if known), textbooks, and other materials.
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 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:
Linda Chen
Department Chairman/Division Director
Date 1/23/08

Approved by:
Dean
Date 2/13/08

Dean of Graduate School (when required)
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.
MPA PROGRAM
COURSE SYLLABUS
POLS Y 513-- Public policy
Sample Syllabus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>George Candler</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day/time</td>
<td>online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>online (Weikamp 1250)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>Weikamp 2229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office hours</td>
<td>periodic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office phone</td>
<td>574-520-4136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gcandler@iusb.edu">gcandler@iusb.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Objective:
Greetings, and welcome to POLS Public policy. The description for this course reads as follows:
"The dynamics of public policy, with an emphasis on actors, stages, analytical challenges, politics, and reconciling often contradictory goals." More broadly, 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, rather than about simple analytical methods.

Consistent with the mission of the IUSB MPA program, the objectives of this course include the following:

- to enhance competence in organizational management; by developing an appreciation for and an ability to use theoretical knowledge about management and public policy;
- to enhance competence in governance; by developing expertise in policy and management, developing an awareness of the economic and legal constraints within which leaders and managers operate, and developing the ability to understand and adapt to the ethical, social, economic, and political context of public policy;
- to enhance competence in coping with globalization and its ramifications; by developing an appreciation for the changing scope of governance and the impact of global action on public institutions from the local to the international;
• to enhance competence in professionalization; by developing an ethical consciousness and improving communication skills.

Course structure:

There will be three complimentary means of instruction: readings, online content, and class lecture sessions. Readings will include those listed on the syllabus and drawn from the course texts, as well as various articles available electronically.

Online content includes the course web page, which links students to assignments, as well as weekly readings and 'lecture notes'. The course also uses Oncourse, especially the Discussion forums in the Message Center, for weekly interaction. The course is largely online, and 'asynchronous', meaning you can participate when and where you like. I expect to be in Brazil for part of this class, so will be doing the same!

There are three class lecture sessions, scheduled for May 17, May 31, and August 9. The August 9 session is the final exam. The purpose of the first two meetings is to ensure that we are all broadly on the same page regarding expectations, and to establish some sort of human contact which, hopefully, will reduce the likelihood of rude internet behavior.

Required texts:


To contain further student expenditure, we will also make use of (free) electronic materials available on line, through three media. First, various electronic Databases available on the Schurz Library system. To see if you can access these, try to click on the following. For off-campus access to this, you may need to reconfigure your browser:

Second, there is a lot of useful stuff available just through normal web links. Try, for instance, this link to the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management.

Readings

Date -- Topic (Readings)

Part I -- Theory

17 May -- The study and practice of public policy. Class meets in Wiekamp 1250, 5:30-8:45

- Birkland (chapter 1)
- Stone (introduction, chapter 1).

24 May -- Goals (and tensions!)

- Liberty
  - Stone (chapter 5)
- Security
  - Stone (chapter 4)
- Efficiency
  - Stone (chapter 3)
- Equity
  - Stone (chapter 2)

31 May -- Agenda setting, power and interest groups Class meets in Wiekamp 1250, 5:30-8:45

- Birkland (chapter 5)
- Stone (chapter 9)

7 June -- Policies and policy types

- Birkland (chapter 6)
- Stone (chapters 11, 12, 14 & 15)

14 June -- Policy design and policy tools

- Birkland (chapter 7)
- Stone (chapters 6, 7, 8, 10 and 13)

21 June -- Policy implementation and policy failure

- Birkland (chapter 8)

28 June -- Some global context

**28 June -- first paper due**

**5 July -- Some perspectives**

**12 July -- Ethics**
- Ethics
- The future

**19 July -- Historical and structural context**
- American government: never better?
- American citizenship: never worse?
  - Birkland (chapter 2)

**26 July -- Actors**
- Official actors and their roles.
• Birkland (chapter 3)
• Unofficial actors and their roles
  o Birkland (chapter 4)
• Second paper due

2 August -- Some closing ruminations
• Birkland (chapter 9)

9 August -- Final exam