

PLSC 435
Public Policy
Spring 2016
Andrews University
History/Political Science Department

Instructor: Marcella Myers

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Buller Hall 250
MW 2:00 – 3:45 a.m.
Office Hours:
and by appointment

Course Description:

An introduction to the theories and methods used by comparativists to study public policies. Topics include policy variations and similarities in education, health, social security, economics, taxation and environmental policy. Examines the interaction between policy development and institutions and various theoretical models of policy making.

Course Objectives:

The objectives of this course are to introduce students with the current state of research in the field of comparative public policy, to help them understand existing theories regarding policymaking and research methods employed by scholars. Students will be able to critique existing work and gain understanding of policymaking processes in various policy arenas and countries.

Required Texts:

Adolino, J. R., and C. H. Blake. 2001. *Comparing Public Policies: Issues and Choices in Six Industrialized Countries*. Washington D. C.: CQ Press.

Heidenheimer, A. J., H. Hecl, and C. Teich Adams. 1990. *Comparative Public Policy: The Politics of Social Choice in America, Europe, and Japan*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Gilens, M. 1999. *Why Americans Hate Welfare: Race, Media, and the Politics of Antipoverty Policy*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

Bardach, E. and E. M. Patashnik. 2016. *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis: The Eightfold Path to More Effective Problem Solving*, 5th edition. Washington D.C.: CQ Press.

Course Requirements and Grading:

This course follows a seminar format. Students are expected to attend all class sessions prepared to discuss the assigned readings for that week.

Special needs or students with disabilities should contact me as soon as possible to provide appropriate accommodations. If you are experiencing difficulties with the class please see me during office hours, make an appointment with me, or visit the Student Success Center in Nethery Hall rm. 204.

Assignments:

Term Papers: Students will be required to write a term paper for this class. The paper must be 15 – 20 pages in length, double spaced, 12 point font, including the bibliography; it is required that you used **Chicago notes and bibliography citation style**. Please refer to the Turabian writing manual, the writing center or myself if you have any questions regarding this citation style. Your paper should provide comparative analysis of a public policy in two advanced industrialized countries.

Presentation: Each student will prepare a 10 minute presentation of their research paper. Presentations will take place during the class periods at the end of the semester.

Academic Honesty:

Academic honesty is an important part of every academic institution and student learning. Plagiarism and all other forms of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the policy of Andrews University. It is your responsibility to be familiar with University policy. The University's Code of Academic Integrity may be found at http://www.andrews.edu/academics/academic_integrity.html .

Grading:

Your grade will be based on your presentation, term paper, and two exams.

Oral Presentations:	15%	Exam I:	20%
Paper:	40%	Exam II:	25%

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A	94 – 100%	C+	76 – 79%
A-	90 – 93%	C	71 – 75%
B+	86 – 89%	C-	68 – 70%
B	83 – 85%	D	60 – 67%
B-	80 – 82%	F	0 – 60%

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments :

Reading Assignments are subject to change with prior notice at the discretion of the instructor.

January 4:

Adolino & Blake: *An Introduction to Comparative Public Policy*

January 6 Policy Process & Theories of the Policy Making:

Adolino & Blake: *The Policy Process*

Theories of Policy Making

Heidenheimer et al.: *The Politics of Social Choice*

Moodle:

Scharpf *Policy Research in the Face of Complexity*

Mabbett and Bolderson *Theories and Methods in Comparative Social Policy*

Paper topic due

January 11 – 13 Emergence and Crises of the Welfare State:

Adolino & Blake: *Political and Economics of Industrialized Countries*

Heidenheimer et al.: *Policy Contrasts in the Welfare State*

Bardach: *The Eightfold Path* pp. 1 - 46

Moodle: Esping-Andersen Chapters 1 - 3

Pierson 1996 *The new politics of the welfare state*

Clayton & Pontusson *Welfare State Retrenchment Revisited*

Obinger & Wagschal *Families of Nations and Public Policy*

Finer Trends and Developments in Welfare States

January 20:

Bardach: *Eightfold Path* pp. 46 - 72

Moodle:

Iversen *A Brief Analytical History of Modern Welfare Production Regimes*

Pierson *The New Politics of the Welfare State* Chapter 6

Myles and Quadagno *Political Theories of the Welfare State*

Hicks and Swank *Politics, Institutions, and Welfare Spending in Industrialized Democracies*

Korpi and Palme *New Politics and Class Politics in the Context of Austerity and Globalization*

Kittel and Obinger *Political Parties, Institutions, and the Dynamics of Social Expenditure in times of Austerity*

Bibliography due

January 25 – 27 Policy making context:

Adolino & Blake: *The Policy making Context*

Gilens: *The American Welfare State*

The Politics of the American Welfare State

Bardach: *Eightfold Path* pp. 83 - 98

Moodle: Iversen and Soskice *An Asset Theory of Social Policy Preferences*

Iversen *Credible Commitment, Political Institutions, and Social Protection*

February 1 – 3 Economic Policy:

Adolino & Blake: *Fiscal Policy*

Taxation Policy

Heidenheimer et al.: *Economic Policy*

Taxation Policy

Bardach: *Eightfold Path* pp. 98 – 111

Moodle: Iversen and Stephens *Partisan Politics, the Welfare State, and Three Worlds of Human Formation*

Coleman *Social Capital in the Creation of Human Capital*

Jurajda and Terrell *Regional Unemployment and Human Capital in Transition Economies*

February 8 – 10 Environmental Policy

Adolino & Blake: *Environmental Policy*

Heidenheimer et al.: *Environmental Policy*

Bardach: *Eightfold Path* pp. 123 - 139

Moodle: Fodha and Seegmuller *A note on Environmental Policy and Public Debt Stabilization*

Lubell and Vedlitz *Collective Action, Environmental Activism, and Air Quality Policy*

Helm and Sprinz *Measuring the Effectiveness of International Environmental Regimes*

Sprinz and Faahtoranta *The Interest-based explanation of International Environmental Policy*

Konisky *Regulatory Competition and Environmental Enforcement*

Redo et al. *Impacts of internal and external policies on land change in Uruguay, 2001-2009*

February 17 Immigration:

Adolino & Blake: *Immigration Policy*

Bardach: *Eightfold Path* pp. 113 - 123

Moodle: Roberts and Bolderson *Inside Out*

Hero and Preuhs *Immigration and the Evolving American Welfare State*

Hall et al. *The Geography of Immigrant Skills*

Joppke *Beyond national models: Civic integration policies for immigrants in Western Europe*

Brader et al. *What triggers public opposition to immigration*

Paper outline due**February 22 – 24 Housing Policy:**

Heidenheimer et al.: *Housing Policy*

Moodle:

Peter Kemp *Income-related Assistance with Housing Costs: a cross-national comparison*

Kemeny *Comparative Housing and Welfare: theorizing the relationship*

Boelhouwer, van der Heijden, and van de Ven *Management of Social Rented Housing in Western Europe*

Balchin *Introduction to Private Rental Housing*

Balchin *Introduction to Social Rental Housing*
Doling *Comparative Housing Policy*
Joseph and Chaskin *Living in mixed income development*

February 29 & March 2 : Mid-term Exam

March 7 – 9 Social Policy:

Adolino & Blake: *Social Policy*

Gilens: *Individualism, Self-interest, and Opposition to Welfare*

Racial Attitudes, the Undeserving Poor, and Opposition to Welfare

Moodle: *Ditch Full Circle*

Iversen *Explaining Individual Social Policy Preferences*

Kenworthy *Do social welfare policies reduce poverty*

Castles and Obinger *Social expenditure and the politics of redistribution*

Whelan and Maitre *Welfare regime and social class variation in poverty and economic vulnerability in Europe*

Iversen and Soskice *An asset theory of social policy preferences*

March 21 – 23 Health Care Policy:

Adolino & Blake: *Healthcare Policy*

Heidenheimer et al.: *Health Policy*

Gilens: *Assessing Alternative Explanations*

Moodle: *Giaimo Who Pays for Health Care Reform? The New Politics of the Welfare State* ed. Paul Pierson

Freeman *Institutions, States, and Cultures: Health Policy and Politics in Europe*

Bjorkman *Who Governs the Health Care Sector?*

Hacker *Dismantling the Health Care State*

Newman and Kuhlmann *Consumers enter the political stage? The modernization of health care in Britain and Germany*

March 28 – 30 Education Policy:

Adolino & Blake: *Education Policy*

Heidenheimer et al.: *Education Policy*

Gilens: *The News Media and the Racialization of Poverty*

Moodle: Almendinger et al. *Education and the Welfare State*

Gesthuizen et al. *Education and Dimensions of Social Capital*

Henry et al. *The OECD, Globalization and Education Policy*

Busemeyer *Determinants of public education spending in 21 OECD democracies 1980 - 2001*

Busemeyer *Inequality and the political economy of education*

Paper Draft Due

April 4 – 6 Income Maintenance:

Heidenheimer et al.: *Income Maintenance Policy*

Gilens: *Media Distortions; Racial Stereotypes and Public Responses to Poverty*

Moodle: Ditch 1996 *A comparative study of social assistance*

Heikkila "A Brief Introduction to the Topic" *Linking welfare and work*

Ditch "The Structure and Dynamics of Social Assistance in the European Union" *Linking welfare and work*

Iversen and Wren *Equality, Employment, and Budgetary Restraint*

Bryan *Targeted programs v. the basic income guarantee*

April 11 – 13:

Gilens: *Beyond the Attitude Survey*

Racial Stereotypes and Public Responses to Poverty

Paper Presentations

April 18– 20 Globalization Welfare state future:

Paper Presentations

Paper Due

Final Exam: April 27 1:30 p.m.