INTRODUCTION TO THE POLICY PROCESS
Professor Janet Gornick
SPRING 2012

PSC 73101 [17868] | 3 credits
Wednesday 4:15pm to 6:15pm
Room 6421

Faculty: Janet Gornick
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The Graduate Center, CUNY

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Office Hours: Wednesday 6:30pm to 7:30pm, or by appointment.
Call or email with questions at any time.

Course Description:
This course will provide an introduction to the policy-making process, with a focus on the United States.

The first section of the course will offer an overview of major theories, concepts, and models of public policy-making. The second section will focus on the impact of social movements on the policy process; the “Occupy” movement will provide a contemporary case study.

The third section of the course will address problem definition and agenda-setting, and will further situate policy-making in the political landscape. The final section of the course will assess the implementation process, with a focus on “street-level bureaucracy”.

Course Requirements:
The requirements include four 2-page summaries of class readings; supervision of one class session, and two exams.

- four 2-page summaries of class readings (choose from Classes 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13) 15% of grade
- attendance, class participation, and co-supervision of one class session 15% of grade
- mid-term exam (March 28, in class) 30% of grade
- final exam 40% of grade
Required Reading:

TO BE DISTRIBUTED BY INSTRUCTOR

For Classes #2 and #3, we will read selections from this book – to be distributed in pdf files, after the first class:


Although this volume is nearly 20 years old, and many of the essays are even older, it remains a classic collection.

TO BE PURCHASED (OR OTHERWISE ACQUIRED) BY STUDENTS

These seven books are required reading. I recommend that you buy all of them. You should be able to purchase the whole set, new, for about $185 – or for much less if you buy used versions. These books have also been placed on reserve at the Mina Rees Library. Please get the years/editions specified below.

(1) David S. Meyer, Valerie Jenness, and Helen Ingram, Eds., 2005, Routing the Opposition: Social Movements, Public Policy, and Democracy Paperback available from Amazon, $26.00


(3) Anne L. Schneider and Helen M. Ingram, Eds., 2005, Deserving and Entitled: Social Constructions and Public Policy Paperback available from Amazon, $30.95


WEEKLY READING – ALL REQUIRED.

The reading is to be completed prior to the class in which it will be discussed.

**PART I – INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC POLICY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class #</th>
<th>Reading Topic</th>
<th>Authors and Titles</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>Class #1</td>
<td>Introduction and Overview – no required reading</td>
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<td>February 8</td>
<td>Class #2</td>
<td>Stella Z. Theodoulou and Matthew A. Cahn, Eds., 1994, Public Policy: The Essential Readings</td>
<td>The Nature of Public Policy: What is public policy, who makes it, and why study it?</td>
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<td>Reading 1</td>
<td>Stella Z. Theodoulou</td>
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<td><em>The Contemporary Language of Public Policy: A Starting Point</em></td>
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<td>Reading 2</td>
<td>Paul A. Sabatier (1991)</td>
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<td><em>Political Science and Public Policy</em></td>
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<td>Reading 3</td>
<td>Theodore J. Lowi (1964)</td>
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<td><em>Distribution, Regulation, Redistribution: The Functions of Government</em></td>
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<td>Reading 4</td>
<td>Murray Edelman (1964)</td>
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<td><em>Symbols and Political Quiescence</em></td>
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<td>Reading 5</td>
<td>Robert H. Salisbury (1968)</td>
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<td><em>The Analysis of Public Policy: A Search for Theories and Roles</em></td>
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<td>Reading 6</td>
<td>Robert A. Dahl (1967)</td>
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<td><em>With the Consent of All</em></td>
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<td>Reading 7</td>
<td>Hugh Heclo (1978)</td>
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<td><em>Issue Networks and the Executive Establishment</em></td>
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<td>Reading 8</td>
<td>Ralph Miliband (1969)</td>
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<td><em>Imperfect Competition</em></td>
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<td>Reading 9</td>
<td>David B. Truman (1971)</td>
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<td><em>Group Politics and Representative Democracy</em></td>
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<td>Reading 10</td>
<td>C. Wright Mills (1956)</td>
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<td><em>The Power Elite</em></td>
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<td>February 15</td>
<td>Class #3</td>
<td>Stella Z. Theodoulou and Matthew A. Cahn, Eds., 1994, Public Policy: The Essential Readings</td>
<td>The Policy Game: Rules, strategy, culture, resources</td>
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<td>Reading 37</td>
<td>Matthew A. Cahn</td>
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<td><em>Playing the Policy Game</em></td>
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Reading 38  Charles Beard (1935)  
*An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution*

Reading 39  Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, John Jay (1787-1788)  
*The Federalist Papers (1, 10, 15)*

Reading 40  Michael Rogin (1987)  
*Political Repression in the United States*

Reading 41  Samuel Bowles and Herbert Gintis (1986)  
*Democracy and Capitalism*

Reading 42  Milton Friedman (1962)  
*Capitalism and Freedom*

Reading 43  Richard Neustadt (1986)  
*Presidential Power*

Reading 44  Murray Edelman (1988)  
*Constructing the Political Spectacle*

Reading 45  Robert A. Dahl (1985)  
*A Preface to Economic Democracy*

Reading 46  G. William Domhoff (1983)  
*Who Rules America Now?*

**PART II – SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND PUBLIC POLICY: A SPECIAL SECTION**

February 22  Class #4  David S. Meyer, Valerie Jenness, and Helen Ingram, Eds., 2005,  
*Routing the Opposition: Social Movements, Public Policy, and Democracy*

**Introduction**  David S. Meyer  
*Social Movements & Public Policy: Eggs, Chicken, and Theory*

**Chapter 1**  Edwin Amenta  
*Political Contexts, Challenger Strategies, and Mobilization: Explaining the Impact of the Townsend Plan*

**Chapter 5**  Lee Ann Banaszak  
*Inside and Outside the State: Movement Insider Status, Tactics, and Public Policy Achievement*

**Chapter 9**  Ellen Reese  
*Policy Threats and Social Movement Coalitions: California’s Campaign to Restore Legal Immigrants’ Right to Welfare*

**Conclusion**  Valerie Jenness, David S. Meyer, and Helen Ingram  
*Social Movements, Public Policy, and Democracy: Rethinking the Nexus*

February 29  Class #5  REFLECTING ON THE “OCCUPY” MOVEMENT – CLASS PLAN TO BE ANNOUNCED  
(NOTE: This class will be only one hour long!)
PART III – PROBLEM DEFINITION, AGENDA-SETTING, AND THE POLITICS OF POLICY MAKING

March 7 Class #6
David A. Rochefort and Roger W. Cobb, Eds., 1994,
The Politics of Problem Definition: Shaping the Policy Agenda

Chapter 1
David A. Rochefort and Roger W. Cobb
Problem Definition: An Emerging Perspective

Chapter 2
John Portz
Plant Closings, Community Definitions, & the Local Response

Chapter 4
Ellen Frankel Paul
Sexual Harassment: A Defining Moment and Its Repercussions

Chapter 5
Elaine B. Sharp
Paradoxes of National Anti-Drug Policymaking

Chapter 6
Gary Mucciaroni
Problem Definition and Special Interest Politics in Tax Policy and Agriculture

Chapter 8
David A. Rochefort and Roger W. Cobb
Instrumental vs Expressive Definitions of AIDS Policymaking

Chapter 9
Christopher J. Bosso
The Contextual Bases of Problem Definition

March 14 Class #7
Anne L. Schneider and Helen M. Ingram, Eds., 2005,
Deserving and Entitled: Social Constructions and Public Policy

Introduction
Helen M. Ingram and Anne L. Schneider
Public Policy and the Social Construction of Deservedness

Chapter 1
Laura S. Jensen
Constructing and Entitling America’s Original Veterans

Chapter 2
Kay Schriner
Constructing the Democratic Citizen: Idiocy and Insanity in American Suffrage Law

Chapter 3
Stephanie J. DiAlto
From “Problem Minority” to “Model Minority”: The Changing Social Status of Japanese Americans

Chapter 4
Mara S. Sidney
Contested Images of Race and Place: The Politics of Housing Discrimination

Chapter 5
Lina Newton
“It Is Not a Question of Being Anti-Immigration”: Categories of Deservedness in Immigration
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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>Class #8</td>
<td>Anne L. Schneider and Helen M. Ingram, Eds., 2005 – continued, Deserving and Entitled: Social Constructions and Public Policy</td>
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<td>Chapter 6 Nancy Jurik and Julie Cowgill The Construction of Client Identities in a Post-Welfare Social Service Program: The Double Bind of Microenterprise Development</td>
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<td>Chapter 7 Michelle Camou Deservedness in Poor Neighborhoods: A Morality Struggle</td>
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<td>Chapter 8 Sean Nicholson-Crotty and Kenneth J. Meier From Perception to Public Policy: Translating Social Constructions into Policy Design</td>
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<td>Chapter 10 Sanford F. Schram Putting a Black Face on Welfare: The Good and the Bad</td>
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<td>Chapter 11 Joe Soss Making Clients and Citizens: Welfare Policy as a Source of Status, Belief, and Action</td>
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<td>March 28</td>
<td>Class #9</td>
<td>In-Class Mid-Term Exam</td>
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<td>April 4</td>
<td>Class #10</td>
<td>John W. Kingdon, 2010, Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policies with an Epilogue on Health Care Reform Chapters 1-10, Epilogue</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>Class #11</td>
<td>Frank R. Baumgartner and Bryan D. Jones, 2009, Agendas and Instability in American Politics Selected chapters (to be determined)</td>
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**PART IV – IMPLEMENTATION AND STREET-LEVEL BUREAUCRACY**

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<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>Class #12</td>
<td>Jeffrey L. Pressman and Aaron Wildavsky, 1984, Implementation: How Great Expectations in Washington Are Dashed in Oakland ... Chapters 1-11</td>
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<td>May 2</td>
<td>Class #13</td>
<td>Michael Lipsky, 2010, Street-Level Bureaucracy: Dilemmas of the Individual in Public Services Chapters 1-14</td>
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<td>May 9</td>
<td>Class #14</td>
<td>Wrap Up</td>
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