

Policy Seminar (UAP 4644/PSCI 4644), Policy and Administration in a Democracy

Seminar participants will reflect on how the presentation of policy evidence shapes how policymakers and members of the public respond to problems of everyday governance. The Seminar seeks to provide fellows the skills to recognize governance structures in organizations and how to use policy evidence to insert themselves into discussions that affect them. Coursework is reading and writing intensive. The seminar meetings and assignments are organized in four sections:

- **Section 1 - Constructing Evidence in Policy Debate** explores the process of creating, communicating, and consuming quantitative and visual evidence in policy debate.
- **Section 2 - Organizing National Security Policy** explores the development of the National Security Council (NSC) and the process of NSC policy-making.
- **Section 3 - Urban Governance** explores debate over a specific policy issue as a case study of governance, collaboration and response to critical policy matters.
- **Section 4 - Final Policy Briefings** focuses on the development and delivery of a short briefing examining a policy problem, project, or proposal.

Course Reading

Miller, Jane E. *The Chicago guide to writing about numbers*. University of Chicago Press, 2008.
Other readings as assigned.

Requirements

Evaluation of student coursework will be based on eight course elements – each constituting 12.5 percent of the final course grade:

1. [Memo #1 \(500-750 words\)](#)
2. [Memo #2 \(500-750 words\)](#)
3. [Memo #3 \(500-750 words\)](#)
4. [Memo #4 \(500-750 words\)](#)

Written work will be evaluated using four equally-weighted criteria:

- Assignment – Does it respond to the question or assignment?
- Analysis – Does it present a clear thesis or narrative? Are its conclusions supported?
- Grounding – Does it make effective use of course materials to establish firm theoretical and conceptual grounding?
- Readability – Is it concise and well-organized? Is the language clear? Is it free of egregious typos, grammatical errors, and other distractions?

5. [2 Policy Briefings](#)

Policy Briefings will be evaluated using four equally-weighted criteria:

- Assignment - Does the presentation respond to the assignment?
- Analysis - Are elements of the presentation organized around a coherent thesis or narrative? Are problems and concepts clearly defined? Is the presentation informative? Is it interesting?
- Grounding - Does the presentation make effective use of available policy evidence? Is policy evidence accurately described, clearly cited, and critically analyzed?
- Presentation - Do oral and visual aspects of the presentation contribute to its clarity and effectiveness. Is the presentation free of common stylistic distractions?

UAP 4624/PSCI 4624, Seminar in Politics and Public Policy, “Field Study”

The Field Study is intended to expand the experiential learning beyond the internship. Specifically, the Field Study seeks to expose students to policy making at the executive, legislative and judicial levels by experiencing the environments in which policy is discussed, developed and implemented, demonstrating the intersection of policy, governance and collaboration. Students are encouraged to consider their internship work environment when visiting the field sites and ask questions that help broaden their understanding and grasp of policy making in organizations and policy impacts on communities, states and the nation.

Sites are chosen based on their topical influence in policy, depth of expertise in a policy area, relevance of policy area and whether the work supports the identified case study.

Course Reading

Dixon J., Sanderson A., Tripathi S. (2007) Governance and the Public Interest: The Challenges for Public Sector Leaders. In: Koch R., Dixon J. (eds) Public Governance and Leadership. DUV.

Haus, M. & Klausen, J.E. (2011) Urban Leadership and Community Involvement: Ingredients for Good Governance? *Urban Affairs Review* 47(2) 256–279.

Rose-Ackerman, S, (2016) 30th Anniversary Essay. What Does “Governance” Mean? *Governance: An International Journal of Policy, Administration, and Institutions*, 00(00) 1-5.

SPIA 4374 Federal Cybersecurity Policy and Regulation

U.S. critical infrastructure must be able to withstand natural and manmade hazards — physical and virtual. The United States Government has identified sixteen critical sectors (or infrastructures) so essential to daily operations in the United States that even a temporary interruption of their services could have a debilitating effect on U.S. national security.

This course will consider virtual threats to these critical sectors e.g., financial services, communications, energy, and transportation and discuss appropriate policy or other measures to protect against these threats.

Students in the course will:

1. Establish a baseline understanding of U.S. critical infrastructure;
2. Become familiar with important cybersecurity terms and concepts, including cybercrime, cyber resilience, the problem of attribution, and risk versus vulnerability;
3. Analyze historical case studies, including the 2007 cyber attack on Estonia which critically disrupted financial and other essential services; and
4. Identify policy measures that safeguard critical infrastructure from virtual threats.

Journal

Students will keep a regular **Journal** reflecting on field study, professional development and internship experiences. Formats are flexible but each week journals should include at least two questions that students raise that summarizes observations regarding the effect of democracy and/or governance on policy making from field study, internship and professional development experiences. As a broad benchmark, the goal is to write about 250 words a week. **Journal entries are due by 11 pm every Sunday.**