

Governance and Policy Processes
PUBP 502
Sections 001 and TP1
Spring 2004

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Purpose of course:

The purpose of this course is to take a broad view of governance in a U.S., comparative, and international context. First, democratic governance in the U.S. is examined and compared with other democracies. Second, focusing on the U.S. as a case study, important changes in the execution of public policy are examined as increasing portions of public policy in democratic, market-based nations are carried out by private sector and non-profit organizations. Third, the course will analyze the comparative development of the modern democratic nation state, the emergence of the European Union, and the politics of interest group influence on international organizations. Students will learn about the governance and permeability of various international organizations and the interaction between non-governmental organizations.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to identify and assess the impact of a variety of governmental structures, be familiar with contemporary issues of governance, understand the varieties and implications of inter-sector cooperation, be aware of the changing dynamics of national and sub-national governance, and be conversant with the international dimensions of governance. The analytic techniques that students will be able to use include, case study analysis, simulation, non-technical cost-benefit analysis, and nominal group technique.

Required texts

Donald Kettl, *The Transformation of Governance* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins, 2002).

John Kingdon, *American the Unusual* (NY: St. Martins, 1999).

Elliott D. Sclar, *You Don't Always Get What you Pay For: The Economics of Privatization*

(Ithaca New York: Cornell University Press, 2000).

In addition, a number of articles and chapters will be assigned, as specified below or announced in class.

Class Format

The course will be conducted primarily as a seminar rather than in a lecture format. Thus each week's assignment must be read before class discussions each week. Active participation in class discussions is mandatory. Professionals in public policy must be able to speak effectively in small groups and to make presentations of their work. The only way to learn these skills is to practice, so students are expected to contribute to discussions and will be required to present summaries of course readings and their own writing. It is expected that students will keep up with policy developments in matters relating to this course.

Course Evaluation

Short paper	5%
Midterm exam (take-home)	15%
Written proposal for final paper	15%
Final exam (take home; per exam schedule)	20%
Class Participation	20%
Final Paper: Comparative Policy Analysis	25%

Written Assignments

Each of your written assignments must be submitted in hard copy, but an electronic copy must be submitted in addition so that it can be checked through the School's data base service of published and non-published term papers.

Do not put your papers in a special cover; merely staple them in the upper left corner. All papers must be double-spaced and in 12-point font on standard 8.5 x 11 inch paper.

Plagiarism: All work must be your own. Inappropriate use of the work of others without attribution is plagiarism. Whenever you use someone else's ideas, cite the source. If you use someone else's words, put them in quotation marks and cite the source.

George Mason's Honor Code provides that **plagiarism is punishable by expulsion** from the University. All papers must be available in digital format so that they can be checked against databases of published and other material available on the web.

[See: <http://www.gmu.edu/facstaff/handbook/ad.html>]

Outline of the Course

Weekly Topics:

1. Introduction to the Course and Overview of the Semester
2. The United States Constitutional Structure
Separation of Powers, Federalism

Assignment:

The Constitution of the United States of America

James Madison, *Federalist No. 10*

James Madison, *Federalist No. 51*

John P. Roche, "The Founding Fathers: A Reform Caucus in Action" (APSR 1961)

Martin Diamond, "Democracy and *The Federalist*: A Reconsideration of the Framers' Intent" (APSR 1959)

John Kingdon, *America the Unusual*, Chapters 1 and 2, pp. 1-22.

3. American Exceptionalism

Assignment:

John Kingdon, *America the Unusual*, Chapters 3-5, pp. 23-101.

S.M. Lipset, selections.

4. The Traditional Governance Model in the United States

Assignment:

Donald Kettl, *The Transformation of Governance*, Ch. 1-4, pp. 1-98.

5. The Transformation to the New Public Management

Assignment:

Kettl, *The Transformation of Governance*, Ch. 5-7, pp. 99-172.

James Pfiffner, "Traditional Public Administration versus The New Public Management: Accountability versus Efficiency," [optional to instructors, available via e-mail]

6. Governing Markets: neo-classical economics and the market model

Assignment:

Elliott D. Sclar, *You Don't Always Get What you Pay For: The Economics of Privatization*, Chapters 1-4, pp. 1-93.

7. Markets and Government: state and local cases and federalism issues.

A non-technical form of cost-benefit analysis will be included here.

Assignment:

Elliott D. Sclar, *You Don't Always Get What you Pay For*, Ch. 5-7, pp. 94-168.

8. Regional governance in the National Capital Area: Guest seminar with George Cook, long-time participant in federalism and local-state cooperation in the Washington area.

Assignment: to be announced.

9. The Development of Democracy and the Nation State
[Models of democracy, emergence of sovereignty, the nation state, globalism.]

Assignment:

Articles to be assigned by instructor.

10. Democracy, Markets, and Globalization

Assignment:

Articles to be assigned by instructor.

11. The case of the European Union: Guest seminar with Desmond Dinan

Assignment:

Articles to be assigned by instructor.

12. Problems with Globalization

Assignment:

Articles to be assigned by instructor.

13. The Efficacy of individual and group action

Assignment:

Articles to be assigned by instructor.

14. Case Study: ICANN: Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

Assignment:

Articles to be assigned by instructor.

Analytic Techniques to be used in the course:

Nominal Group Technique

Cost-Benefit Analysis (non-technical)

Case study analysis

Simulation, "Governance and Market Economy"

(Peace Keeping simulation conducted by SPP professionals)