

**POLITICAL SCIENCE 2070**  
**PUBLIC POLICY MAKING: AN INTRODUCTION**  
**Spring 2016**

Dr. Renée L.A. Renegar  
POLI 2070, Section 1  
TTh 4:30 – 5:50  
214 Coates

Office Hours:  
TTh 12:30 – 1:00 or by appointment  
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**Course Description:**

This course is designed to introduce students to the public policymaking process. The course introduces students to the fundamentals of policymaking, examines the nature of public policy, explores components of the public policymaking process, the structure and processes of the policymaking system, and policy analysis. The course also introduces policy specific studies examining a range of American public policy issues in depth, exploring historical context, political influences, and the current state of policy.

**Required Text:**

Peters, B. Guy. 2016. *American Public Policy: Promise and Performance*, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition, Los Angeles: CQ Press.

*Issues for Debate in American Public Policy*. 2016. 16<sup>th</sup> Edition, Los Angeles: CQ Press.

**Student Evaluation and Policies:**

Grades for the course are based on a student's class participation, paper, and performance on three exams. Letter grades are determined on the following scale:

A+	97.5% - 100%
A	92.5% - 97.5%
A-	89.5% - 92.5%
B+	87.5% - 89.5%
B	82.5% - 87.5%
B-	79.5% - 82.5%
C+	77.5% - 89.5%
C	72.5% - 77.5%
C-	69.5% - 72.5%
D+	67.5% - 69.5%
D	62.5% - 67.5%
D-	59.5% - 62.5%
F	Below 59.5%

*Exams*

Two exams and one final consisting of 100 points each will be given. The final exam will focus on the last section of material covered; however, material covered earlier in the semester may be drawn upon as well. Please note that any readings not covered in class will still be on the exams. It is the student's responsibility to complete all readings and be prepared to answer any questions about them on the exams.

On exam days, please bring a scantron form and a pencil to class. Scantrons are available for purchase in the bookstore.

Students are expected to show up on time for exams. Students who are late for exams will earn a 0 and will not be given the opportunity for a make-up exam.

Makeup exams are only provided for students who can produce a valid written excuse (serious illness, family crisis, etc.). For problems that can be anticipated, students must let me know in advance of the problem. For problems that crop up at the last minute, students should contact me as soon as is reasonably possible. *Students who do not meet these conditions will earn a 0 on the exam.* Note that it is the student's responsibility to make arrangements with me about makeup exams. Makeups are generally scheduled for the Friday following the date of the missed exam.

For students who have special needs or who require accommodations through Disability Services, please advise me of your situation. For accommodations involving the exams, please contact me about the necessary arrangements well in advance of the testing date.

The Final Exam schedule is posted on the University Registrar website. Students who have more than two exams scheduled for the same day may request – *through their college* – that an examination be rescheduled. According to published University Registrar guidelines any such requests must be made prior to 4:30 on Monday, April 4. **Requests made after this date will NOT be considered.**

#### *Paper*

There is an 8-10 page (double spaced, one inch margin, 12 point Times New Roman) paper due. The paper will consist of a critique of one of the policy issues covered in class. The bibliography (not counted in the page total) must consist of at least five sources. Web based sources are limited to TWO. In addition, THREE of your non-web based sources must be readings from outside the course. The paper is worth 100 points. **The paper is due in class APRIL 14. No late papers will be accepted.**

#### *Class Participation*

Students are expected to attend class and participate in class discussions. Class participation will be assessed by performance on 15 pop quizzes and participation in class discussions. Up to 40 points can be earned for class participation.

#### *Classroom Policy*

Please be considerate of those around you who are trying to listen and take notes. Keep in mind that class will begin promptly at 4:30. *Please be on time and seated prior to the beginning of class each day and leave early only for emergencies.* Most importantly, **do not talk during class.** Use of cell phones is prohibited during class – *turn off all cell phones prior to the beginning of class.* Disruptive students will be asked to leave immediately.

#### *Extra Credit - Voter Registration*

Students may earn two (2) points added to their final, raw score. Proof of registration is due April 26. Register to vote and submit a copy of your voter registration card. (This copy will be returned to protect your privacy.) Students who are already registered to vote need only submit their current copy of their registration card.

**Course Schedule:**

January 14	Introduction to Course/ Policy and Visions of Governance
January 19	Policy and Visions of Governance / What is Public Policy? <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 1 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 1
January 21	The Structure of Policymaking <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 2
January 26	Explaining Policy Choices <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 3
January 28	Agenda Setting and Public Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 4
February 2	Agenda Setting and Public Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 4 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 13
February 4	Policy Implementation <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 6
February 9	MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY
February 11	Policy Implementation <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 6 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 3
February 16	Policy Evaluation <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 8
February 18	Legitimizing Policy Choices <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 6 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 10
February 23	EXAM I
February 25	Budgeting: Allocation and Public Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 7
March 1	Budgeting: Allocation and Public Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 7
March 3	Economic Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 9 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 6
March 8	Economic Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 9 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 4

March 10	Tax Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 10
March 15	Social Security and Welfare <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 12 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 5
March 17	Social Security and Welfare <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 12 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 11
March 22 & 24	SPRING BREAK
March 29	Health Care Policies <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 11
March 31	Health Care Policies <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 11 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 15
April 5	EXAM II
April 7	Education Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 13 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 12
April 12	Education Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 13 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 14
April 14	Energy and the Environment <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 14 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 2 PAPER DUE – IN CLASS – NO EXCEPTIONS
April 19	Defense and Law Enforcement <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 15 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 9
April 21	Defense and Law Enforcement <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 15 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 16
April 26	Social Values and Public Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 16 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 7
April 28	Social Values and Public Policy <i>Peters</i> , Chapter 16 <i>Issues</i> , Chapter 8
May 7	FINAL EXAM 5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. IN THIS ROOM