

POLITICAL SCIENCE 646

SEMINAR IN PUBLIC POLICY THEORY

Ken Meier
Office: 2033
Fall 2004
email kmeier@politics.tamu.edu

Office Hours: M 2-4
and by appointment
5-4232

This seminar is a brief overview of the literature in public policy. It is designed to give the student an introduction to the field and to provide the opportunity to conduct research in this area. The focus is on public policy in the American context, but individual students willing to do extra work might well do work on public policy in other countries. The emphasis of this course is on exposure to different approaches to public policy and these approaches are applicable in a variety of different contexts and environments.

Grades

Each student has three responsibilities: 1. to read and be able to discuss the material assigned, 2. to organize and lead the discussion for one class session, and 3. to write a research paper on some topic related to public policy. Grades will be based on the following: 10% class participation, 20% organizing and leading the class discussion, 70% the research paper. Included in the research paper grade is a 10 minute class presentation that covers the salient points of the paper. All papers should conform to the APSA style manual. Paper presentations should be similar to the presentation of a conference paper.

The ability to meet deadlines in teaching and research is a bona fide occupational qualification for a political scientist. Accordingly, the instructor does not accept late work.

Warning: At times the instructor is considered "a bit blunt."

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities in B 118 Cain Hall, or call 845-1637.

Texas A&M has an honor code. Students are expected to be familiar with the code (<http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/>). Integrity in the process of research and scholarship is a requirement in this class and, the instructor thinks, in the profession. If you have questions, ask.

Books

- Anderson, James. 2000. *Public Policymaking: An Introduction*. Houghton-Mifflin.
- Baumgartner, Frank R. and Bryan D. Jones. 1993. *Agendas and Instability in American Politics*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Sheingate, Adam D. 2001. *The Rise of the Agricultural Welfare State*, Princeton.
- Lyons, W.E. David Lowery and Ruth Hoogland DeHoog. 1992. *The Politics of Dissatisfaction*. Armonk: M.E. Sharpe.
- Hill, Michael and Peter Hupe. 2002. *Implementing Public Policy*. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage.
- Meier, Kenneth J. 1994. *The Politics of Sin: Drugs, Alcohol and Public Policy*. Armonk: M.E. Sharpe.
- Mooney, Christopher Z. 2001. *The Public Clash of Private Values*. New York: Chatham House Publishers.
- Sabatier, Paul A. and Hank Jenkins-Smith. 1993. *Policy Change and Learning: An Advocacy Coalition Approach*. Boulder, CO: Westview.
- Ostrom, Elinor. 1990. *Governing the Commons*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

I. An Introduction

No Reading.

II. Scope of the Field

Required

Anderson, entire book.

Gormley, William T. 1987. "Institutional Policy Analysis: A Critical Review" *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 6:153-69.

Supplemental Readings.

Sabatier, Paul A. 1991. "Toward Better Theories of the Policy Process" *PS: Political Science and Politics*. 29:147-156.

Jones, Charles O. 1970. *An Introduction to the Study of Public Policy*. Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole.

Hecl, Hugh. 1974. *Social Policy in Britain and Sweden*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Lindblom, Charles E. and Edward J. Woodhouse. 1993. *The Policy-Making Process*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall.

Dahl, Robert. *Who Governs?* New Haven: Yale.

Schattschneider, E.E. 1960. *The Semi-Sovereign People*. New York: Holt, Reinhardt and Winston.

Lasswell, Harold. 1936. *Politics: Who Gets What, When and How*. New York: McGraw Hill.

III. Policy Typologies

Required

Lowi, Theodore J. 1972. "Four Systems of Policy, Politics and Choice" *Public Administration Review* 32: 298-310.

Gormley, William T. 1986. "Regulatory Issue Networks in a Federal System" *Polity* 18:595:620.

Wilson, James Q. 1980. "The Politics of Regulation." In *The Politics of Regulation*, pp. 357-394, James Q. Wilson, ed. New York: Basic Books.

Suggested

Ripley, Randall B. and Grace A. Franklin. 1991. *Congress, the Bureaucracy and Public Policy*. 5th edition. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.

Tatalovich, Raymond and Byron W. Daynes. 1988. *Social Regulatory Policy: Moral Controversies in American Politics*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

Heckathorn, Douglas D. and Steven M. Maser. 1990. "The Conceptual Architecture of Public Policy: A Critical Reconstruction of Lowi's Typology." *Journal of Politics* 52:1101-23.

Lowi, Theodore. 1969. *The End of Liberalism*. New York: Norton.

Meier, Kenneth J. 1993. *Politics and the Bureaucracy*. Third Edition. Monterey CA: Brooks/Cole.

Peterson, Paul. 1981. *City Limits*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

IV. Agenda Setting and Innovation

Baumgartner, Frank R. and Bryan D. Jones. 1993. *Agendas and Instability in American Politics*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Mooney, Christopher Z. and Mei-Hsien Lee. 1995. "Legislating Morality in the American States: The Case of Pre-Roe Abortion Regulation Reform" *American Journal of Political Science*. 39:599-66.

Berry, Frances and William D. Berry. 1992. "Tax Innovation in the States: Capitalizing on Political Opportunity." *American Journal of Political Science* 36:715-42.

Schneider, Sandra K. and William G. Jacoby. 1996. "Influences on Bureaucratic Policy Initiatives in the American States." *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* 6:495-523.

Suggested:

- Flemming, Roy B. et al. 1997. "One Voice Among Many: The Supreme Court's Influence on Attentiveness to Issues in the United States, 1947-92" *American Journal of Political Science*. 41:1224-50.
- Jones, Bryan, et al. 1997. "Does Incrementalism Stem from Political Consensus or From Institutional Gridlock?" *American Journal of Political Science* 47:1219-1339.
- Sharp, Elaine. 1994. "The Dynamics of Issue Expansion: Cases from Disability Rights and Fetal Research Controversies." *Journal of Politics* 56:919-39.
- Portz, John. 1996. "Problem Definitions and Policy Agendas: Shaping the Educational Agenda in Boston" *Policy Studies Journal* 24:371-86.
- Mintrom, Michael. 1997. "Policy Entrepreneurs and the Diffusion of Innovation." *American Journal of Political Science* 41:738-770.
- Talbert, Jeffrey C. et al. 1995. "Nonlegislative Hearings and Policy Change in Congress." *American Journal of Political Science* 39:383-405.
- Light, Paul C. 1991. *The President's Agenda*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Bachrach, Peter and Morton Baratz. 1963. "Decisions and Non-Decisions" *American Political Science Review* 57:632-42.
- Kingdon, John W. 1995. *Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policies*. Second edition. Boston: Little Brown.

V. Advocacy Coalitions.

Required:

- Sabatier, Paul A. and Hank C. Jenkins-Smith. 1993. *Policy Change and Learning: An Advocacy Coalition Approach*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.
- Mintrom, Michael and Sandra Vergari. 1996. "Advocacy Coalitions, Policy Entrepreneurs and Policy Change." *Policy Studies Journal* 24:420-38.

Suggested:

- Heinz, H. Theodore and Hank Jenkins-Smith. 1988. "Advocacy Coalitions and the Practice of Policy Analysis." *Policy Sciences* 21:169-211.
- Schlager, Edella. 1995. "Policy Making and Collective Action: Defining Coalitions Within the Advocacy Coalition Framework." *Policy Sciences* 28:243-270.
- Jenkins-Smith, Hank. 1988. "Analytical Debates and Policy learning; Analysis and Change in the Federal Bureaucracy" *Policy Sciences* 21:
- Jenkins-Smith, Hank C. Gilbert St. Clair, and Brian Woods. 1991. "Explaining Change in Policy Subsystems: Analysis of Coalition Stability and Defection Over Time" *American Journal of Political Science* 35:851-80.
- Worsham, Jeffrey. 1997. *Other People's Money*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

VI. Neoinstitutionalism

Required:

- March, James G. and Johan P. Olson. 1984. "The New Institutionalism: Organizational Factors in Political Life." *American Political Science Review* 78: 734-49.
- Moe, Terry M. 1989. "The Politics of Bureaucratic Structure." In *Can the Government Govern?* eds. John E. Chubb and Paul E. Peterson. Washington, DC, Brookings.
- Macey, Jonathan R. 1992. "Organizational Design and Political Control of Administrative Agencies." *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization* 8:93-110 (plus replies by Shepsle and Levine).
- McCubbins, Mathew, Roger Noll, and Barry Weingast. 1989. "Structure and process, Politics and Policy: Administrative Arrangements and the Political Control of Agencies." *Virginia Law Review* 75:431-82.

Suggested:

- Moe, Terry and Scott Wilson. 1994. "Presidents and the Politics of Structure." *Law and Contemporary Problems* 57:1-44.
- Moe, Terry. 1990. "Political Institutions: The Neglected Side of the Story." *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization* 6:213-53.
- Moe, Terry M. 1984. "The New Economics of Organization" *American Journal of Political Science* 28:739-77.
- Rockman, Bert. 1994. "The New Institutionalism and the Old Institutions." In *New Perspectives on American Politics*. eds. Lawrence C. Dodd and Calvin Jilson, Washington DC: CQ Press.

VII. Institutional Rational Choice

- Ostrom, Elinor. 1990. *Governing the Commons*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Ostrom, Elinor. 1991. "Rational Choice Theory and Institutional Analysis: Toward Complementarity." *American Political Science Review* 85:237-43.
- Gerber, Elisabeth R. 1996. "Legislative Response to the Threat of Popular Initiatives." *American Journal of Political Science* 40:99-128.

Suggested:

- Chubb, John E. and Terry Moe. 1990. *Politics, Markets and America's Schools*. Washington DC: The Brookings Institution.
- Smith, Kevin B. and Kenneth J. Meier. 1995. *The Case Against School Choice: Politics, Markets and Fools*. Armonk: ME Sharpe.
- Bromley, Daniel. 1989. *Economic Interests and Institutions; The Conceptual Foundations of Public Policy*. New York: Basil Blackwell.
- Welch, W.P. 1983. "The Political Feasibility of Full Ownership Property Rights: The Cases of Pollution and Fisheries." *Policy Sciences* 16:165-80.
- Olson, Mancur. 1965. *The Logic of Collective Action*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Stigler, George. 1971. "The Theory of Economic Regulation." *Bell Journal of Economics and Management Science* 2:3-21.
- Quinn, Dennis P. and Carla Inclan. 1997. "The Origins of Financial Openness: A Study of Current and Capital Account Liberalization." *American Journal of Political Science* 41:771-813.

VIII. Rational Choice: Some Critics in Political Economy

- Lyons, W.E. David Lowery and Ruth Hoogland DeHoog. 1992. *The Politics of Dissatisfaction*. Armonk: ME Sharpe.
- Lowery, David. "A Theory of Quasi-Market Failures" *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*

Suggested:

- Waligorski, Conrad. 1990. *The Political Theory of Conservative Economists*. Lawrence: University of Kansas Press.
- Little, I.M.D. 1957. *A Critique of Welfare Economics*. London: Oxford University Press.
- Meier, Kenneth J. 1987. *The Political Economy of Regulation: The Case of Insurance*. Albany: SUNY Press.

IX. Systems Approaches

- Meier, Kenneth J. 1994. *The Politics of Sin: Drugs, Alcohol and Public Policy*. Armonk: M.E. Sharpe.
- Sabatier, Paul A. et al. 1995. "Hierarchical Controls, Professional Norms, Local Constituencies and Budget Maximization: An Analysis of U.W. Forest Service Planning Decisions." *American Journal of Political Science* 39:204-243.

Suggested:

- Fording, Richard C. 1997. "The Conditional Effect of Violence as a Political Tactic: Mass Insurgency, Welfare Generosity and Electoral Context in the American States." *American Journal of Political Science* 47:1-29.
- Teske, Paul. "Interests and Institutions in State Regulation." *American Journal of Political Science* 35: 139-155.
- Haider-Markel, Donald P. and Kenneth J. Meier. 1996. "The Politics of Gay and Lesbian Rights: Expanding the Scope of the Conflict." *Journal of Politics* 58:332-49,
- Barrilleaux, Charles J. and Mark E. Miller. 1988. "The Political Economy of State Medicaid Policy." *American Political Science Review* 82:1089-1107.
- Dye, Thomas R. 1966. *Politics, Economics and the Public: Political Outcomes in the American States*. Chicago: Rand McNally.

X. State Theory

- Sheingate, Adam. 2001. *The Rise of the Agricultural Welfare State*. Princeton University Press.
- Swank, Duane. 1992. "Politics and the Structural Dependence of the State in Democratic Capitalist Nations" *American Political Science Review* 86:38-54.

Suggested:

- Skowronek, Stephen. 1982. *Building a New American State*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Finegold, Kenneth and Theda Skocpol. 1995. *State and Party in America's New Deal*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press.
- Nordlinger, Eric A. 1981. *On the Autonomy of the Democratic State*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Esping-Andersen, Gosta. 1990. *Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*. Princeton University Press.
- Skocpol, Theda. 1992. *Protecting Soldiers and Mothers*. Cambridge: Belknap/Harvard University Press.
- Quinn, Dennis P. and Carla Inclan. 1997. "The Origins of Financial Openness: A Study of Current and Capital Account Liberalization." *American Journal of Political Science* 41:771-813.
- Janoski, Thomas and Alexander Hicks. 1994. *The Comparative Political Economy of the Welfare State*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Carnoy, Martin. 1984. *The State and Political Theory*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Alford, Robert and Roger Friedland. 1985. *Powers of Theory: Capitalism, the State and Democracy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

XI. Implementation and Policy Design

- Hill, Michael and Peter Hupe. 2002. *Implementing Public Policy*. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage.
- Wood, B. Dan. 1992. "Modeling Federal Implementation as a System" *American Journal of Political Science* 36:40-67.
- Schneider, Anne and Helen Ingram. 1993. "Social Construction of Target Populations: Implications for Politics and Policy." *American Political Science Review* 87:334-47.

Suggested:

- Balla, Steven J. 1998. "Administrative Procedures and Political Control of the Bureaucracy." *American Political Science Review* 92: 663-74.
- Krause, George A. 1996. "The Institutional Dynamics of Policy Administration: Bureaucratic Influence Over Securities Regulation." *American Journal of Political Science* 40:1083-1121.
- Carpenter, Daniel. 1996. "Adaptive Signal Processing, Hierarchy and Budgetary Control in Federal Regulation." *American Political Science Review* 90: 283-302.
- Lipsky, Michael. 1980. *Street Level Bureaucracy*. Russell Sage Foundation.
- Mazmanian, Daniel A. and Paul A. Sabatier. 1989. *Implementation and Public Policy*, Second Edition. Baltimore: University Press of America.
- Meier, Kenneth J. et al. 1991. "The Politics of Bureaucratic Discretion: Educational Access as an Urban Service." *American Journal of Political Science* 35:155-177.

- Keiser, Lael R. and Kenneth J. Meier. 1996. "Policy Design, Bureaucratic Incentives, and Public Management: The Case of Child Support Enforcement." *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*. 6: 337-364.
- Meier, Kenneth J. and Deborah R. McFarlane. 1996. "Statutory Coherence and Policy Implementation: The Case of Family Planning." *Journal of Public Policy* 15:281-98.
- Schneider, Anne and Helen Ingram. 1990. "Behavioral Assumptions of Policy Tools." *Journal of Politics* 52:510-29.
- Mladenka, Kenneth R. 1981. "Citizen Demands and urban Services." *American Journal of Political Science* 25:693-714.
- Chaney, Carole and Grace Hall Saltzstein. 1998. "Democratic Control and Bureaucratic Responsiveness: The Police and Domestic Violence." *American Journal of Political Science* 42 (July).
- Jones, Bryan. 1985. *Governing Buildings and Building Government*. University: University of Alabama Press.
- Bullock, Charles S. and Charles M. Lamb. 1984. *Implementation of Civil Rights Policy*. Monterey, CA: Brooks/Cole.
- Schneider, Mark. et al. 1997. "Networks to Nowhere: Segregation and Stratification in Networks of Information About Schools." *American Journal of Political Science* 41:1201-1223.
- Ringquist, Evan J. 1995. "Political Control and Policy Impact in EPA's Office of Water Quality." *American Journal of Political Science* 39:336-363.
- Franzese, Robert J. 1999. "Partially Independent Central Banks, Politically Responsive Governments, and Inflation." *American Journal of Political Science* 43:681-706.
- Krause, George A. 1994. "Federal Reserve Policy Decision Making: Political and Bureaucratic Influences" *American Journal of Political Science* 38:124-144.
- Wood, B. Dan and James Anderson. 1993. "The Politics of U.S. Antitrust Regulation." *American Journal of Political Science* 37:1-39.
- Eisner, Marc Allen and Kenneth J. Meier. 1990. "Presidential Control versus Bureaucratic Power: Explaining the Reagan Revolution in Antitrust" *American Journal of Political Science* 34:269-287.
- Scholz, John and B. Dan Wood. 1998. "Controlling the IRS: Principals, Principles and Public Administration." *American Journal of Political Science* 42 (January), 141-162.

XII. Morality Politics

Mooney Chapters 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

XIII. Policy Evaluation, Compliance and Impacts

- Meier, Kenneth J. et al. 1996. "The Impact of State Level Restrictions on Abortion." *Demography* 33:307-12.
- Berk, Richard A. et al. 1992. "The Deterrent Effect of Arrest in Incidents of Domestic Violence" *American Sociological Review* 57:
- Currie, Janet and Duncan Thomas. 1995. "Does Head Start Make a Difference?" *American Economic Review* 85:341-64.
- Scholz, John T. and Mark Lubell. 1998. "Trust and Taxpaying: Testing the Heuristic Approach to Collective Action." *American Journal of Political Science* 42 (April).
- Scholz, John T. and Wayne B. Gray. 1997. "Can Government Facilitate Cooperation? An Informational Model of OSHA Enforcement" *American Journal of Political Science* 41:693-717.

Suggested:

- Scholz, John T. and Neil Pinney. 1995 "Fear, Duty and Tax Compliance: The Heuristic Basis of Citizenship Behavior." *American Journal of Political Science* 39:490-512.
- Brehm, John and Scott Gates. 1993. "Donut Shops and Speed Traps:Evaluating Models of Supervision on Police Behavior." *American Journal of Political Science* 37:555-581.
- Brehm, John and James T. Hamilton. "Noncompliance in Environmental Reporting: Are Violators Ignorant, or Evasive, of the Law?" *American Journal of Political Science* 40: 444-478.
- Smith, Kevin. B. 1997 "Explaining the Variation in state-level Homicide Rates" *Journal of Politics* 59:350-67.
- John Brehm and Scott Gates. 1997. *Working, Shirking and sabotage: Bureaucratic Response to a Democratic*

Public. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Lewis-Beck, Michael and John Alford, 1980. Can the Government Regulate Coal Mine Safety? *American Political Science Review* 74:645-56.

Ringquist, Evan. 1993 *Environmental Protection at the State Level*. Armonk: ME Sharpe.

Mohr, Lawrence. 1995. *Impact Analysis for Program Evaluation*. 2nd ed. Sage.

Meier, Kenneth J. and Lael R. Keiser. 1996. "Public Administration and a Science of the Artificial" *Public Administration Review* 56:459-66.

Schram, Sanford F. et al. 1998. "Without Cause or Effect: Reconsidering Welfare Migration as a Policy Problem" *American Journal of Political Science* 42:(January), 210-230..

Legge, Jerome S. Jr. 1985. *Abortion Policy: An Evaluation of the Consequences for Maternal and Infant Health*. Albany, SUNY Press.

Legge, Jerome S. Jr. 1991. *Traffic Safety Reform in the United States and Great Britain*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.

Hofferbert, Richard I. 1990. *The Reach and Grasp of Policy Analysis*. University of Alabama Press.