

Comparative Public Policy
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Spring 2013

Political Science 976
Mondays: 4:00-6:40pm

Professor: Natasha Borges Sugiyama, Ph.D.
Office: NWQB 5428

Office Hours: Weds.10-12
or by appointment
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(*NOTE SPELLING)

I. OVERVIEW

This class is concerned with the politics of policymaking. Specifically, when, why and how do governments choose to enact policy change? To answer this question, we will explore theories of the policy process developed by scholars in policy studies and comparative politics. We will also examine central debates on the origins of welfare state and the constraints for policy change.

This course starts with some analytic questions, including definitions of public policy and debates over theory-building exercises in political science. We then read works on the evolution of the welfare regimes as well as the role of institutions and ideas on policymaking. The latter part of the course explores the prospect for reform in several policy domains including: feminist policy, pension reform, and social policy (poverty) reform. We end the semester on policy diffusion, a topic which has captured the attention of scholars in American, comparative politics, and international relations. Throughout the semester, readings will draw on case studies from around the world, including the United States, Europe, and Latin America.

Students will note the readings span across traditional disciplinary subfields by drawing on research developed in American (U.S. state politics, policy studies) and comparative politics. As such, this course should interest students of public administration, public policy, American, and comparative politics.

II. OBJECTIVES

The course is designed to introduce graduate students to some of the key debates in policy studies and social sector reform. By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Explain the main currents in theory building exercises in policy studies, including the analytic strengths and weakness of the field.
- 2) Access the competing approaches scholars have employed to explain policy continuity and change.
- 3) Explain why *place* (country, state, or other unit of analysis) and *time* may be important factors for understanding policy processes and outcomes.

- 4) Develop a research project to explain the politics of a comparative public policy topic, including a full review of the literature from complementary political science subfields.

III. GRADING

Class Participation:	20 %
Analytic Essays (3):	30%
Research Proposal Draft:	10%
Research Proposal & Class Presentation:	40%

IV. IMPORTANT DATES

February 4 th	Submit first analytic essay on theories of the policymaking process. Students may select the material they wish write about for their second and third submissions. Those essays will be due in class on the day we discuss the material.
March 13 th	Target Deadline to discuss research proposal topics.
April 26 th	Draft Research Proposal Due (by 5pm)
May 6 th	Class Presentations
May 10 th	Final Research Proposal Due (by 5pm)

V. ASSIGNMENTS

Class Participation:

Students are expected to actively participate in weekly class discussion. For effective participation, come to class having read all the assigned material and bring the assigned reading to class.

Each week, 2-3 students will guide the rest of the class in discussion. All students will serve as discussion leaders for at least 3 sessions.

Discussion leaders will present brief overviews of the readings (5 mins) and provide the class with questions to generate discussion. Handouts with summaries of core arguments and assessments of each article/book should be short (no longer 2 pages). Questions for discussion should focus on core arguments and critiques of the works. Members of the group should meet before class to prepare presentations and questions for the session.

Optional: discussion leaders may circulate a set of questions prior to the class meeting. If you do this, I suggest you circulate questions 48 hours before we meet.

Draft 1/23/13

Analytic Essays (3): 30%

Analytic essays should address one week's readings and are due on the day we are scheduled to discuss them in class. Essays should be 4-5 pages in length and explore the central debates from the readings (e.g. conceptual and methodological approaches). Avoid excessive summary, instead focus on critiques of the books/articles and concentrate on the strengths and weaknesses of the analysis.

(Note: You may submit analytic essays on the weeks you are also serving as a discussion leader.)

Research Proposal Draft:

The draft research proposal is designed to provide early feedback on the final proposal. Plan to submit a complete first draft, including the entire narrative and references. You will also share your drafts with the rest of the class, circulating them one week prior to your oral presentations in class.

Final Research Proposal and Class Presentation:

Students will design a research project on a comparative public policy issue of their choice. The proposal should include a discussion of the research question, scholarly significance (including relevant discussion of the scholarly literature), and methods you would employ to carry out the project. Each proposal should be 15 pages in length (not including bibliography).

Please read the following resource as you think about and write your proposals:

Przeworski Adam, and Frank Saloman. 1988/1995. The Art of Writing Proposals. Social Science Research Council. Available at:
http://www.ssrc.org/workspace/images/crm/new_publication_3/%7B7a9cb4f4-815f-de11-bd80-001cc477ec70%7D.pdf

Proposals developed must be original efforts designed specifically for this course. As this course focuses on "comparative public policy" projects should have some type of comparison in their research design (e.g. comparison across policy arenas, comparison across time, or comparison across place (e.g. subnational, cross-national). All students should discuss their research topics with Prof. Sugiyama by Spring Break.

Students who strongly prefer to develop a full research paper may discuss this as an alternative to the research proposal.

VI. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Books to Purchase:

The following books are available for purchase at the UWM bookstore:

- Grindle, Marilee. 2007. *Going Local: Decentralization, Democratization, and the Promise of Good Governance*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. ISBN: 9780691140988. List Price: \$22.95 (New)
- Haggard, Stephan and Robert Kaufman. 2008. *Development, Democracy, and Welfare States: Latin America, East Asia, and Eastern Europe*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. ISBN: 9780691135960. List Price \$35 (New)
- Huber, Evelyn, and John, Stephens 2012. *Democracy and the Left: Social Policy and Inequality in Latin America*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ISBN: 9780226356532. List Price \$27.50 (New)
- Madrid, Raúl. 2003. *Retiring the State: The Politics of Pension Privatization in Latin America and Beyond*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press. ISBN: 9780804747073. List Price \$30.95 (New)
- McGuire, James. 2010. *Wealth, Health, and Democracy in East Asia and Latin America*. New York: Cambridge University Press. ISB: 9780521139342. List Price \$29.99 (New).
- Mettler, Suzanne. 2005. *Soldiers to Citizens: The G.I. Bill and the Making of the Greatest Generation*. New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780195331301. List Price \$20.00 (New).
- Sabatier, Paul A. 2007. *Theories of the Policy Process*, 2nd Edition. Bolder, CO: Westview. ISBN: 9780813343594. List Price \$53.25 (New)/\$36.70 (Used).

Additional Readings:

Other assigned materials, including articles, book chapters, and working papers will be available via the UWM Electronic Reserve system. For a direct link, see D2L course website under the “Contents” section.

CLASS POLICIES (READ CAREFULLY):

Attendance Policy: This course is designed to be an intensive seminar with student participation and discussion. In order for rich classroom discussion to take place, students must attend all sessions. If you have an emergency or scheduling conflict, please notify me.

Office Hours: My office hours are Wednesday 10-12, or by appointment.

E-mail: The best way to contact me is via e-mail. Please do not leave me a voicemail message as I don't check it frequently.

Academic Misconduct: Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action and disciplinary sanctions by the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies

on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. If you are unfamiliar with university rules related to cheating and plagiarism, please consult:

<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/DOS/conduct.html>

Disability Accommodations: At the beginning of the semester, students with disabilities who need special accommodations should notify the instructor by presenting a letter prepared by the Student Accessibility Center (SAC). To ensure that the most appropriate accommodations are provided, students should contact the SAC Office. For more information, see: <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/DSAD/SAC/SACltr.pdf>

Religious Beliefs Accommodation: On occasion, students may find it necessary to miss class in order to observe a religious holiday. In order to ensure reasonable accommodation, students should inform the instructor of the conflict prior to the holiday. http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S1.5.htm

Military Duty: Students called up for active military duty should contact the instructor for accommodation. For more information on the university's policies, see: <http://www3.uwm.edu/des/web/registration/militarycallup.cfm>

Discriminatory Conduct: For information on definitions of discrimination, harassment, abuse of power, and the reporting requirements of discriminatory conduct, see: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S47.pdf

Dropping the Course and Incompletes: Be sure you know the university deadlines for dropping courses (see the UWM Calendar for details). Incompletes are only given under extenuating circumstances (e.g. serious illness or injury, family emergency, etc.). Students must provide proper documentation and communicate with the instructor as soon as possible.

VI. READINGS SCHEDULE

PART I: Foundations

Week 1: Course Introduction - What is Public Policy? January 28th

Theodoulou, Stella Z. 1995. The Contemporary Language of Public Policy: A Starting Point In *Public Policy: The Essential Readings*, ed. Stella Z. Theodoulou and Matthew A. Cahn, 1-9. Saddle River, NJ: Prentiss Hall. [E-R]

Sabatier, Paul A. 1995. Political Science and Public Policy In *Public Policy: The Essential Readings*, ed. Stella Z. Theodoulou and Matthew A. Cahn, 10-15. Saddle River, NJ: Prentiss Hall. [E-R]

Lowi, Theodore J. 1995. Distribution, Regulation, Redistribution: The Functions of Government, In *Public Policy: The Essential Readings*, ed. Stella Z. Theodoulou and Matthew A. Cahn, 15-25. Saddle River, NJ: Prentiss Hall. [E-R]

Heclo, Hugh Issue Networks and the Executive Establishment, In *Public Policy: The Essential Readings*, ed. Stella Z. Theodoulou and Matthew A. Cahn, 46-58. Saddle River, NJ: Prentiss Hall. [E-R]

Mills, C. Wright. The Power Elite In *Public Policy: The Essential Readings*, ed. Stella Z. Theodoulou and Matthew A. Cahn, 72-85. Saddle River, NJ: Prentiss Hall. [E-R]

Week 2: Theories of the Policymaking Process February 4th

Theodoulou, Stella Z. 1995. How Public Policy is Made In *Public Policy: The Essential Readings*, ed. Stella Z. Theodoulou and Matthew A. Cahn. Pp. 86-96. [E-R]

Lindblom, Charles E. 1950. The Science of Muddling Through Public Administration Review 19 (Spring):79-88. Reprinted in *Public Policy Theories, Models, and Concepts: An Anthology*, ed. Daniel C. McCool. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall. Pp. 142-157. [E-R]

Sabatier, Paul A. *Theories of the Policy Process*, 2nd Edition. Bolder, CO: Westview. Read: Parts 1-3 (pp. 1- 222)

Recommended:

Kingdon, John W. 1995. *Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policies*. New York: Harper Collins.

Sabatier, Paul A. and Hank Jenkins-Smith. *The Advocacy Coalition Approach*.

Week 3: Conceptualizing the Welfare State February 11th

Esping-Anderson, Gøsta. 1990. *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*. Cambridge: Oxford University Press. Chapter 1. 9-34. [E-R]

Huber, Evelyn and John D. Stephens. 2001. *Development and Crisis of the Welfare State: Parties and Policies in Global Markets*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Chapters 1 & 2. [E-R]

John Myles and Jill Quadagno, "Political Theories of the Welfare State," *Social Science Review*, March, 2002. [E-R]

Pierson, Paul. 2000. Three Worlds of Welfare State Research. *Comparative Political Studies* 33(6/7): 791-821. [E-R]

Recommended:

Huber, Evelyn and John D. Stephens. 2001. *Development and Crisis of the Welfare State: Parties and Policies in Global Markets*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Part II: Approaches

Week 4: Macro-Historical February 18th

Haggard, Stephan and Robert Kaufman. 2008. *Development, Democracy, and Welfare States: Latin America, East Asia, and Eastern Europe*. Princeton: Princeton U. Press.

Recommended:

Skocpol, Theda. 1992. *Protecting Soldiers and Mothers: The Political Origins of Social Policy in the United States*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Week 5: Role of Institutions

February 25th

- Haggard, Stephan, and Matthew D. McCubbins. 2001. Political Institutions and the Determinants of Public Policy In *Presidents, Parliaments, and Policy*, 1-20. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press. [E-R]
- Shugart, Matthew Soberg, and Stephan Haggard. 2001. Institutions and Public Policy in Presidential Systems In *Presidents, Parliaments, and Policy*, 64-104. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press. [E-R]
- Baldez, Lisa, and John M. Carey. 2001. Budget Procedures and Fiscal Restraint in Posttransition Chile In *Presidents, Parliaments, and Policy*, 105-148. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press. [E-R]
- Samuels, David J., and Scott Mainwaring. 2004. Strong Federalism, Constraints on the Central Government, and Economic Reform in Brazil in *Federalism and Democracy in Latin America*, ed. Edward L. Gibson, 85-130. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. [E-R]
- Gibson, Edward L., Ernesto F. Calvo, and Tulia G. Falleti. 2004. Reallocation Federalism: Legislative Overrepresentation and Public Spending in the Western Hemisphere in *Federalism and Democracy in Latin America*, ed. Edward L. Gibson, 173-196. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press. [E-R]

Recommended:

- Thelen, Kathleen. 1999. Historical Institutionalism in Comparative Politics. *Annual Review of Political Science* 2: 369-404.
- Ostrom, Elinor. 2005. *Understanding Institutional Diversity*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Week 6: Institutions Cont: Decentralization

March 4th

- Grindle, Marilee. 2007. *Going Local: Decentralization, Democratization, and the Promise of Good Governance*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Falleti, Tulia. 2005. A Sequential Theory of Decentralization: Latin American Cases in Comparative Perspective. *American Political Science Review* 99(3): 327-346. [E-R]

Week 7: Ideas & Norms

March 11th

- Stone, Deborah. 2005. How Market Ideology Guarantees Racial Inequality In *Healthy, Wealthy, and Fair: Health Care and the Good Society*, ed. James A. Morone and Lawrence R. Jacobs, 66-89. New York: Oxford University Press. [E-R]
- Kingdon, John W. 1999. *America the Unusual*, New York, Worth. pp. 23-57. [E-R]
- Haas, Peter M. 1992. Introduction: Epistemic Communities and international policy coordination. *International Organization* 46(1): 1-35. [E-R]

Finnemore, Martha. 1993. International Organizations as Teachers of Norms: The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization and Science Policy. *International Organization* 47(4): 565-597. [E-R]

Yishai, Yael. 1993. Public Ideas and Public Policy: Abortion in Four Countries. *Comparative Politics*, 25(2): 207-228. [E-R]

Recommended:

Mossberger, Karen. 2000. *The Politics of Ideas and the Spread of Enterprise Zones*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press.

Stone, Deborah. 2001. *The Policy Paradox*, 2nd Ed. WW Norton.

Keck, Margaret E., and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. *Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Spring Break

March 18th

No new readings

Week 8: Policy Diffusion

March 25th

Sabatier, Paul A. Theories of the Policymaking Process, 2nd Edition. Westview. Read: Part 4 (pp. 223-292).

Sugiyama, Natasha Borges. 2008. Theories of Diffusion: Social Sector Reform in Brazil. *Comparative Political Studies* 41(2). [E-R]

Simmons, Beth A., Frank Dobbin, and Geoffrey Garrett. 2006. Introduction: The Diffusion of Liberalism. *International Organization* 60(4): 781-810. [E-R]

Shipan, Charles R., and Craig Volden. 2008. The Mechanisms of Diffusion. *American Journal of Political Science* 52(4): 840-857. [E-R]

Weyland, Kurt. 2005. Theories of Policy Diffusion: Lessons from Latin American Pension Reform. *World Politics* 57(2):262-295. [E-R]

Recommended:

Karch, Andrew. 2007. *Laboratories of Democracy: Policy Diffusion Among the American States*. Ann Arbor: Michigan University Press.

Simmons, Beth A., Dobbins, and Geoffrey Garrett. 2008. *The Global Diffusion of Markets and Democracy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Sugiyama, Natasha Borges. 2012. *Diffusion of Good Government: Social Sector Reforms in Brazil*. South Bend: University of Notre Dame Press.

Weyland, Kurt. 2007. *Bounded Rationality and Policy Diffusion*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Part 3: Public Policies & Outcomes

Week 9: Policy Reform – Social Policy

April 1st

Huber, Evelyn, and John, Stephens 2012. *Democracy and the Left: Social Policy and Inequality in Latin America*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Pribble, Jennifer, Evelyne Huber, and John D. Stephens. 2009. Politics, Policies, and Poverty in Latin America. *Comparative Politics* 41(4). [E-R]

Recommended trade books:

Easterly, William. 2007. *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Sachs, Jeffrey. *End of Poverty*. New York: Penguin.

Week 10: Policy Reform – Social Policy Cont.

April 8th

Kaufman, Robert R. and Joan M. Nelson. Introduction: The Political Challenges of Social Sector Reform In *Crucial Needs Weak Incentives*, ed. Robert R Kaufman and Joan M. Nelson, 1-22. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. [E-R]

McGuire, James. 2010. *Wealth, Health, and Democracy in East Asia and Latin America*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Hunter, Wendy, and Natasha Borges Sugiyama. 2009. Democracy and Social Policy in Brazil: Advancing Basic Needs, Preserving Privileged Interests. *Latin American Politics and Society* 51(2). [E-R]

Week 11: Policy Reform – Pensions/Social Security

April 15th

Madrid, Raúl. 2003. *Retiring the State: The Politics of Pension Privatization in Latin America and Beyond*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.

Pal, Leslie A., and R. Kent Weaver. 2003. The Politics of Pain in *The Government Taketh Away: The Politics of Pain in the United States and Canada*, ed. Leslie A. Pal and R. Kent Weaver. [E-R]

Weaver, R. Kent. 2003. Cutting Old Age Pensions in *The Government Taketh Away: The Politics of Pain in the United States and Canada*, ed. Leslie A. Pal and R. Kent Weaver. [E-R]

Week 12: Gendered Outcomes of The Welfare State

April 22nd

Esping-Anderson, Gøsta. 2002. A New Gender Contract In *Why We Need a New Welfare State*, ed. Gøsta Esping-Anderson, Duncan Gallie, Anton Hemerijck, John Myels. Oxford, Oxford University Press. pp. 68-95. [E-R]

Mushaben, Joyce Marie. 2001. Challenging the Maternalist Presumption: The Gender Politics of Welfare Reform in Germany and the United States in *Women and Welfare: Theory and Practice in the United States and Europe*, ed. Nancy J. Hirschmann and Ulrike Liebert. Piscataway, NJ: Rutgers University Press. [E-R]

Meyers, Marcia K., and Janet C. Gornick. 2001. Gendering Welfare State: Income Transfers, Employment Supports, and Family Poverty in *Women and Welfare: Theory and Practice in the United States and Europe*, ed. Nancy J. Hirschmann and Ulrike Liebert. Piscataway, NJ: Rutgers University Press. [E-R]

Ewig, Cristina. Reproduction, re-reform and the reconfigured state. In *Beyond the States and Markets: The Challenges of Social Reproduction*, ed. Issabella Baker and Rachel Silvey. New York: Routledge. pp. 143-158. [E-R]

Draft 1/23/13

Recommended:

Orloff, A. S. (1996). Gender in the Welfare State. *Annual Review of Sociology* 22:51-78.
[E-R]

**** Draft Research Proposals Due Friday, April 26th by 5pm ****

Week 13: Citizenship Development

April 29th

Mettler, Suzanne. 2005. *Soldiers to Citizens: The G.I. Bill and the Making of the Greatest Generation*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Bruch, Sarah K., Myra Marx Ferree, and Joe Soss. 2010. From Policy to Polity: Democracy, Paternalism, and the Incorporation of Disadvantaged Citizens. *American Sociological Review* Vol. 75(2): 205-226. [E-R]

Sugiyama, Natasha Borges, and Wendy Hunter. Whither Clientelism. *Comparative Politics*. Forthcoming. {D2L}

**** Reminder – circulate your draft proposal to the class by April 29th ****

Week 14: Student Research Workshop

May 6th

Student Research Proposal Presentations

**** Final Research Proposals Due: May 10th ****