

Spring 2021 School of Public Policy Course Offerings

ECON 600*

Policy Consequences of Economic Analysis

Mondays @ 4:30p

Jane Lincove

A course in political economy dealing with the implications and consequences for policy outcomes of different models of economic analysis, including an introduction to microeconomic theory. Note: May not be counted toward the concentration in economics.

PUBL 601

Political and Social Context of the Policy Process

Tuesdays @ 7:10p

Lauren Edwards

This course is designed to introduce students to the processes by which policy is made in the United States. It introduces students to the policymaking system, including the institutional, structural and political contexts, as well as the policymaking environment. The various stages of the policymaking process from problem definition and agenda-setting to implementation are examined and discussed, and important theories and models of policymaking are presented. Significant concepts relating to the political analysis of public policy are discussed, such as the social construction of problems, group demands, political influence and resources, motivations and incentive for political behavior and political feasibility.

PUBL 603

Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis

Wednesdays @ 7:10p

M. Usman Ali

An overview of the basic principles and elements of policy analysis. The course focuses on the activities and elements of policy analysts. In addition, the relationship between policy analysis and policymaking, along with emerging professional and ethical issues, are addressed.

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PUBL 604
Statistical Analysis
Tuesdays @ 4:30p
Zoe McLaren

An introduction to the concepts and methods of descriptive and inferential statistical techniques. Bi-variate and multi-variate statistical techniques are discussed. Note: Also listed as SOCY 604. Prerequisites: PUBL 600 or SOCY 600 or its equivalent, college algebra and consent of instructor.

PUBL 607
Statistical Applications in Evaluation Research
Mondays @ 7:10p
Zoe McLaren

Advanced course in analyzing and evaluating data. Focuses on interpreting statistical procedures for assessing the impact of programs and policies based on a variety of experimental and quasi-experimental designs, including true experiments, non-equivalent control group designs and interrupted time-series designs.

PUBL 608
Applied Multivariate Regression - An Introduction
Wednesdays @ 7:10p
Yusuke Kuwayama

An introduction to the practical application of widely used basic multivariate regression techniques. Experience in the use of these techniques is provided through hands-on exercises and the preparation of an original regression analysis of real-world data in an area of interest selected by the student. Methods covered include multiple linear regression, models with binary dependent variables, analysis of pooled data, and methods for assessing and comparing the performance of alternative models. Rather than focusing on the mechanics of regression computation, the course emphasizes the basic concepts involved in constructing and estimating regression models, and in interpreting their results. Consent of instructor.

PUBL 609*
Social Science Approaches to Policy Analysis
Thursdays @ 7:10p
Susan Sterett

This course provides an overview of philosophical and theoretical foundations of academic policy analysis and research to help students understand modern perspectives on social

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science research, academic policy research, and the role of policy analysis in a democratic society.

PUBL 610-001

Special Topics: Issues in Higher Education Policy

Mondays @ 7:10p

Pamela Bennett

This course provides an overview of higher education in the United States. Students will become familiar with the structure and institutional diversity of higher education, as well as the public debates and policies that shape it. Topics will include community colleges, selective and minority-serving institutions, as well as college access, affirmative action and admissions, equity, persistence, and affordability among others.

PUBL 610-002

Urban Sociology & Urban Policy

Thursdays @ 4:30p

Pamela Bennett

This course considers the ways in which sociology (and other disciplines) study the social and economic organization of cities, the ways in which that organization affects urban life, and how cities, in turn, are shaped by the social and economic dynamics that take place within them. The course begins with an examination of the major theoretical perspectives (and debates) used to examine these themes (e.g., the *Chicago School* and its ecological approach, *new urban sociology* and its political economy approach). We then explore social processes and institutions that generate and reflect inequalities in cities (e.g., segregation, suburbanization, ghettos), and consider how lifestyle and consumption patterns create urban change. Attention is given to policy issues throughout.

PUBL 610-004

Social Movements

Wednesdays @ 4:30p

Fernando Tormos-Aponte

Social movements are shaping politics across the globe, pressuring politicians, governments, and corporations to change their policies and practices through a wide range of strategies including protest, shaming tactics, advocacy, civil disobedience, and even violence. This course focuses on the politics of social movements. Students will learn about how social movements emerge, evolve, survive, die, and shape and are shaped by politics. The objectives of this course are: 1) to acquaint students with social movement theories, research methods, and practices; 2) to develop students' critical thinking and analysis skills; 3) to train students to conduct social movement research. After completing this course, students will be able to

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discuss literature on social movements and apply research methods to the study of social movements. Students are not expected to have prior knowledge of social movements to take this course.

PUBL 612*

Law and Public Policy

Tuesdays @ 4:30p

Susan Sterett

Around the world, courts participate in governing, and both interest groups and individuals look to them to hold governments and others accountable. Both constitutional issues of political accountability and questions under statutes about regulation show up in court. This course is an opportunity to learn about structures and opportunities, and how and where people bring the law and legal frameworks to bear on significant public issues. The course will offer students the opportunity to analyze courts and the politics of legal processes from the trial court level to the supranational.

PUBL 613

Managing Public Organizations

Thursdays @ 4:30p

Lauren Edwards

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the world of public management. More specifically, it focuses on who public managers are, what they do, the environments within which they operate, the tasks they perform and the roles they play in their organizations. In addition to the assigned textbook and readings, the course is case-based. That is, principles elucidated in readings are expanded from the 'real world' of public management. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

PUBL 618

Issues in Health Care Finance and Service Delivery

Tuesdays @ 4:30p

Nancy Miller

The purpose of this course is threefold: (1) to provide an overview of the concepts, principles and practices in healthcare finance and service delivery in the United States; (2) to understand the relationship between public and private-sector finance and service delivery of healthcare; and (3) to examine recent trends in healthcare payment and service delivery, including healthcare reform efforts.

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PUBL 623
GOVERNMENTAL BUDGETING
Wednesdays @ 4:30p
Roy Meyers

The budget as a means of financial control, management and policymaking. The politics of the budgetary process.

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	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday	
	4:30	7:10	4:30	7:10	4:30	7:10	4:30	7:10
CORE & FOUNDATIONS								
ECON 600: (Lincove) *	X							
PUBL 601: Political & Social Context of the Policy Process (Edwards)				X				
PUBL 603: Theory & Practice of Policy Analysis (Ali)						X		
PUBL 604: Statistical Analysis (McLaren)			X					
PUBL 609: Social Science Approaches to Policy Analysis (Sterett) *								X
PUBL 613: Managing Public Organizations (Edwards)							X	
PUBL 623: Government Budgeting (Meyers)					X			
ADVANCED METHODS								
PUBL 607: Statistical Applications in Evaluation Research (McLaren)		X						
PUBL 608: Multivariate Regression (Kuwayama)						X		
FIELD & ELECTIVES								
PUBL 610: Issues in Higher Education (Bennett)		X						
PUBL 610: Urban Sociology & Urban Policy (Bennett)							X	
PUBL 610: Social Movements (Tormas-Aponte)						X		
PUBL 612/POLI SCI 429: Law & Public Policy (Sterett) *			X					
PUBL 618: Health in Health Care Finance & Service Delivery (Miller)			X					
* class includes in-person option								