

## **V. Advanced Seminar in Public Policy**

### **Prof. David Schultz**

*David Schultz is a Professor in the School of Business at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota where he teaches in the Masters' and Doctoral programs in Public Administration. He is the author of more than 25 books and 70 articles on American politics and public policy.*

#### **Course Description.**

Examination of the major factors, processes, and actors influencing the formation, implementation, and evaluation of American public policy at the national, state, and local level. Emphasis in this class will be directed at the intergovernmental aspects of policy making, with specific reference towards Minnesota.

Part one of the course will first seek to set the political, economic, and sociological contexts that affect the public policy process in the United States. Emphasis will be on understanding the constraints and forces that define how government responds to problems.

Part two of the course examines how problems are placed or kept off the agenda, the actors and forces critical to formulating policies, and the unique issues faced across a range of policy domains.

Part three of the course looks at policy implementation, analysis, and impact. The emphasis here is on understanding how analysis is done and upon developing skills requisite for performing this function.

Part four examines the ethical and normative factors that constrain policy analysis, as well as the role of the media and money upon doing public policy. The section concludes with a review of specific policy making in the states.

The last part of the course looks to future trends and issues driving policy making and implementation. Emphasis will turn to globalization and multi-sector issues (such as privatization or partnerships) affecting the policy process.

#### **Goals.**

The goals for this class are to help the student:

- Understand the context of the policy process
- Describe how public policy is made and implemented
- Identify the important actors in the policy process
- Develop policy analysis skills
- Examine specific policies
- Appreciate the normative considerations constraining the policy process
- Project the future of the policy horizon in the United States

#### **Books.**

Anderson, James E., *Public Policymaking*, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN-13: 9780618506866  
6th ed.

Bardach, Eugene, *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis*, CQ Press, ISBN 781568029238.  
Bluhm, William T. and Robert A. Heineman, *Ethics and Public Policy: Methods and*

Cases, Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-13, 189343-2.

Rivlin, Alice, *Systematic Thinking for Social Action*, Brookings, ISBN 081577477X.

Rosenbloom, David H. *Administrative Law for Public Managers*, Westview Press, ISBN, 0-8133-9805-3.

Shafritz, Jay, et al, *Classics of Public Policy*, Pearson/Longman, 2005, ISBN: 0-321-08989-8.

Weimer, David and Aidan Vining, *Policy Analysis: Concepts and Analysis*, Prentice Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, ISBN 0131830015.

### **Requirements.**

- Class attendance and participation are worth 20% of your grade.
- Completion of a term paper worth 80% of your grade.

### **Course Organization.**

#### ***Part I: Introduction/The Political Economy and Sociology of American Politics***

##### **1. Introduction**

Schultz, “Stupid Public Policies and Other Political Myths.”

##### **2. Politics**

Shafritz, pp. 72-124,

Madison, Federalist no. 10 and 51,

Schattschneider, *The Semi-Sovereign People*, pp. 1-47,

##### **3. Economy**

Shafritz, pp. 161-195,

Weimer and Vining, pp. 54-97, 113-129, 132-155.

Lindblom, “The Market as a Prison.”

##### **4. Sociology**

Olson, *Logic of Collective Action*, pp. 5-53,

Hirschman, *Exit, Voice, and Loyalty*, pp. 1-21.

#### ***Part II: Policy Making***

##### **5. What is public policy and who makes it?**

Anderson, pp. 1-79,

Ripley and Franklin, *Congress, the Bureaucracy, and Public Policy*, pp 17-24,

##### **6. Agenda-setting**

Shafritz, pp. 23-71, 125-159,

Anderson, pp. 80-120,

Rosenthal, *The Decline of Representative Democracy*, pp. 200-245.

**7. Legislatures and Executives**

Anderson, pp.121-161,  
Shafritz, pp. 196-217, 230-277,

**8. Judicial Politics**

Shafritz, pp.279-312,

**9. Budgetary Politics**

Anderson, pp. 162-200,  
Wildavsky, *Politics of the Budgetary Process*, pp.127-144,  
Wildavsky, *The New Politics of the Budgetary Process*, pp. 1-33.

**10. Administrative Law**

Rosenbloom, entire book

***Part III: Policy Implementation and Analysis***

**11. What is implementation?**

Anderson, pp. 200-255,  
Weimer and Vining, pp. 261-294,  
Ripley and Franklin, *Policy Implementation and Bureaucracy*, pp. 33-91,  
Pressman and Wildavsky, *Implementation*, pp. 125-146.

**12. Analysis I**

Anderson, pp. 255-295,  
Bardach, pp. 1-105,  
Shafritz, pp. 391-419.  
Weimer and Vining, pp. 23-38, 309-362.

**13. Cost-Benefit Analysis**

Weimer and Vining, 380-452,  
Rivlin, Alice, *Systematic Thinking for Social Action*.

***Part IV: Public Policy and Policy Analysis in Context***

**14. Ethics and Values**

Bluhm and Heineman, pp.1 -69,  
Weimer and Vining, pp. 39-53,  
Rein, *Social Science and Public Policy*, pp 37-138.

**15. Media, Money, and Public Policy in the States**

Shafritz, pp. 362-390,  
Schultz, *Money, Politics, and Campaign Finance Reform Law in the States*  
Bluhm and Heineman, pp.74-104, 130-150

*Part V: New Directions in Public Policy: Multisector Approaches*

**16. Policy Challenges for the Future**

Anderson, pp. 302-311,

Weimer and Vining, pp. 156-191, 209-260.