



THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

Course Schedule

Spring 2023 at a Glance

Core and Disciplinary Courses for MPP and PhD				
PUBL 600 <i>Research Methodology</i>	Zoë McClaren	Monday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
PUBL 601 <i>Political and Social Context of the Policy Process</i>	Lauren Hamilton Edwards	Thursday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
PUBL 602 <i>Microeconomics for Public Policy</i>	Jane Lincove	Wednesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 438
PUBL 603 <i>Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis</i>	Ann Kellog	Tuesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
PUBL 604 <i>Statistical Analysis</i>	Yusuke Kuwayama	Wednesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
SOCY 606 <i>Inequality and Social Policy</i>	Marina Adler	Monday	4:30-7:00	PUBL 204

Core and Disciplinary Courses for MPP only				
613 <i>Managing Public Organizations</i>	Mir Usman Ali	Tuesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 438
PUBL 623 <i>Governmental Budgeting</i>	Sarah Arnett	Tuesday	7:10-9:40 pm	Online
Core and Disciplinary Courses for PhD Only				
PUBL 609 <i>Social Science Approaches to Policy Analysis</i>	Susan Sterett	Thursday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 451
Advanced Methods Courses				
PUBL 607 <i>Statistical Applications in Evaluation Research</i>	Zoë McClaren	Monday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 438
PUBL 608 <i>Applied Multivariate Regression - An Introduction</i>	Yusuke Kuwayama	Wednesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 451
SOCY 619 <i>Qualitative Methods in Social Research</i>	Sarah Chard	Friday	10:00 am -12:30 pm	PUBL 203
Specialization Courses				
PUBL 610 - 01 <i>Issues in Higher Education Policy</i>	Pamela Bennett	Monday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 451
PUBL 610 - 02 <i>Urban Sociology</i>	Pamela Bennett	Thursday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 438

PUBL 610 - 03 <i>Theories and Practice of Social Equity</i>	Mir Usman Ali	Thursday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 451
PUBL 610 - 04 <i>Neighborhood Inequality and Health Disparities</i>	Loren Henderson	Tuesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 451
PUBL 612 <i>Law and Public Policy</i>	Susan Sterett	Tuesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 440
PUBL 618 <i>Issues in Health Care Finance and Service Delivery</i>	Nancy Miller	Tuesday	44:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 451

Course Descriptions

Core and Discipline Courses

PUBL 600 Research Methodology

Zoë McLaren	Mondays	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
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Research provides the foundation for informed public policy making. This class is designed to provide you with an introduction to research methodology, from the basics of research design to advanced methods for causal inference. This course provides a foundation for further study of research methodology. It prepares students for future courses including PUBL 604, 607, 608, and 611. By design, many topics will be covered at a foundational level; however, by the end of the course you will be prepared to evaluate the quality of existing research and propose studies of your own to address questions of interest. This course is designed to allow you to both understand and perform important research techniques. For instance, we will not only study sampling and understand the value of different types of sampling, but we will also learn how to implement sampling techniques through statistical software.

PUBL 601 *Political and Social Context of the Policy Process*

Lauren Hamilton Edwards	Thursday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
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This course is designed to introduce students to the processes by which policy is made in the United States. It introduces students to the policy-making system, including the institutional, structural and political contexts, as well as the policy-making environment. The various stages of the policy-making process from problem definition and agenda-setting to implementation are examined and discussed, and important theories and models of policy-making 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 (graduate catalog description).

Many similar courses focus on the policy process. In this course, we will be taking a broad view of policy, not just the process but also the wider social and political context. Individuals, groups of people, and what is happening in the particular moment heavily inform the process. This is a large endeavor so we will be focusing our discussions and reading primarily on domestic policy issues.

PUBL 602 *Microeconomics for Public Policy*

Jane Lincove	Wednesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 438
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This course will provide an analytic framework for policy analysis and public management with a focus on understanding economic markets, mitigating market failures, and avoiding government failures through effective public policies. Through problem sets, cases, and projects, students will: apply economic models to policy problems; use economic definitions of efficiency and equity as criteria for policy evaluation; identify sources of market failure, economic justifications for policy intervention, and appropriate remedies; and identify government failures and appropriate remedies.

PUBL 603 *Theory and Practice of Policymaking*

Ann Kellog	Tuesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
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This course focuses on the basic principles and techniques of policy analysis. Most of the course attends to activities involved in policy analysis. In addition, the relationship between policy analysis and policy making, along with emerging professional and ethical issues, will be addressed.

PUBL 604 *Statistical Analysis*

Yusuke Kuwayama	Wednesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
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This course provides an introduction to statistical analysis in the social sciences, ranging from simple descriptive statistics to multiple regression analysis, with a focus on use in applied policy research. Students will learn to frame quantitative research questions, organize and analyze data, apply statistical analysis to policy questions, and coherently report and display results. Prerequisite: PUBL 600.

PUBL 609 *Social Science Approaches to Policy Analysis*

Susan Sterett	Thursday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 451
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A methodological examination of the contributions, complementarities and conflicts among the economic, political science and sociological approaches to policy analysis. Focuses on the nature of questions each discipline can answer by looking at their methods and limitations. Fundamental assumptions, theories, perspectives and policy recommendations are discussed. This course is repeatable for credit.

This is the course that culminates in the Comprehensive Exam.

PUBL 613 *Managing Public Organizations*

Mir Usman Ali	Tuesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 438
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This course examines current management theories and techniques with a specific focus on organizations in the public and nonprofit sectors. The course prepares students to evaluate current management approaches in the public and nonprofit sectors, as well as preparing the student for the application of those approaches in the field. Topics will include New Public Management, New Public Service, the political context of public management, contracting out, networking, strategic management and planning, performance management, and public participation.

PUBL 623 *Governmental Budgeting*

Sarah Arnett	Monday	4:30-7:00 pm	Online
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This is a survey course on how U.S. governments acquire and spend money. For both better and worse, budgeting is an incredibly important process. While people often think it is a dry and boring subject, in fact, it's exactly the opposite. Budgeting involves fundamental issues of public policy, management, and politics. We will address those issues throughout the semester, using real-world documents and events. You should find that different parts of this course complement your other courses on policy analysis and evaluation, public management, health policy, education policy, and urban policy.

Assignments emphasize learn-as-you-do exploration of ideas and skills, particularly on how budgets are prepared and then executed at the micro level. This is essential knowledge for public managers, elected officials, and those who work with or seek to influence them.

SOCY 606 *Inequality and Social Policy*

Marina Adler	Monday	4:30-7:00	PUBL 204
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This course examines poverty and inequality in modern society. The focus is on describing the extent of poverty and inequality, examining theories that attempt to explain these phenomena and discussing the policies that have been employed to mitigate them. In addition to class inequality, the course will consider racial and gender inequality.

Advanced Methods Courses

These are suggestions. You **must** discuss your options with your advisor.

PUBL 607 Statistical Applications in Evaluation Research

Zoë McClaren	Monday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 438
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One of the fundamental challenges in policy analysis is determining the causal impact of a policy or intervention on one or more outcomes of interest. This course will examine the fundamental theory of causal inference and use it to design studies, analyze data and interpret regression analysis. Lectures will focus primarily on analyzing data from randomized controlled trials (RCTs), which are considered the “gold standard” in overcoming the challenge of confounding and obtaining causal estimates, with a particular emphasis on obtaining and interpreting causal estimates. We will examine potential threats to unbiased estimates in RCTs (e.g. selection bias, attrition, non-compliance, missing data) and the means for addressing them in research design and data analysis. In parallel, students will master data cleaning and regression analysis techniques using Stata and gain hands-on experience working with real world data. The course will culminate with students producing an original research analysis using skills acquired during the semester.

PUBL 608 Applied Multivariate Statistics

Yusuke Kuwayama	Wednesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 451
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This course provides an introduction to the practical application of widely used basic multivariate regression techniques. Methods covered include multiple linear regression, time series and panel data analysis, regression discontinuity designs, differences-in-differences, and limited dependent variable models. Students will gain experience in the use of these techniques 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. Students will also gain experience in reading and interpreting journal articles that employ multivariate regression.

SOCY 619 *Qualitative Methods in Social Research*

Sarah Chard	Friday	10:00 am -12:30 pm	PUBL 203
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This course will focus on the styles of research, analysis and epistemologies associated with qualitative research in the applied social and policy sciences. As an increasingly important mode of inquiry, qualitative, multi-method approaches are particularly relevant to the study of social interaction and behavior in natural settings. Qualitative approaches involve collecting and analyzing empirical information from multiple sources, such as first-person accounts, life histories, visual/printed records, semi-structured and open-ended interviews, informal and formal observations, and biographical and autobiographical materials. Students in the course will learn how to design, collect and analyze qualitative information by conducting a small, semester-long study. Sections of the research project will be prepared, presented and evaluated throughout the course.

You do need instructor approval to join.

Specialization Courses

PUBL 610-01 *Issues in Higher Education*

Pamela Bennett	Monday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 451
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This course is designed to analyze higher education in the United States. Students will become familiar with the scholarly debates and public policies that shape it. The course is divided into sections in which we'll consider for whom is higher education, funding for and the affordability of higher education; and the institutional contexts of higher education. Specific topics include affirmative action in admissions, for-profit colleges, community colleges, and minority-serving institutions; the relationship between government funding and college affordability; financial aid; Title IX; crime on college campuses, and more.

PUBL 610-02 *Urban Sociology & Urban Policy*

Pamela Bennett	Thursday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 438
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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 used to examine these themes (e.g., the *Chicago School* and its ecological approach, *new urban sociology* and its political economy approach), as well as debates about the relationship between the built environment of cities and society. We then explore social processes and institutions that generate and reflect inequalities in cities (e.g., social control of public space), and consider how lifestyle and consumption patterns create urban change. Attention is given to policy issues throughout.

PUBL 610-03 *Neighborhood Inequality and Health Disparities*

Loren Henderson	Tuesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 451
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This class will analyze the impacts of neighborhood and community level factors, as well as how inequalities in socioeconomic status shape and form health outcomes in our society. In particular, this class will examine community theories such as mass incarceration and the New Jim Crow, residential segregation, and broken windows that help students make connections between individual and community level impacts on health disparities. Particular emphasis will be placed on the mechanisms through which neighborhoods influence child and adolescent development, health, and employment opportunities and outcomes in adulthood. This course will provide an in-depth look at various health disparities among groups of people based on social and physical environmental factors such as race, class, biological sex, values and belief systems, occupation, living conditions and other aspects of social structures that can affect the health and well-being of societal members. The readings and discussions will not only make comparisons between women's health and men's health, but also compare health disparities among racial groups. By studying these processes, the course will establish that health differences are not solely based on biological processes and that social

factors exert varying influence on different aspects of health in the U.S.

PUBL 610-4 *Theories and Practices of Social Equity*

Mir Usman Ali	Thursday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 451
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In this course we will learn about the necessity of analyzing and addressing of social inequities through the lens of social theory and public management theory. We will examine structural explanations for social inequities, the role public managers and organizations may play in mitigating or exacerbating them. We will learn examine theoretical approaches that managers may use to analyze inequities, measure them, as well as strategies for addressing them. A key theme throughout will be to facilitate students in the process of developing an evidence-based, adaptable, repertoire of skills that they can use in their careers as public management professionals or researchers.

PUBL 612 *Law and Public Policy*

Susan Sterett	Tuesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 440
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Public policy officials and citizens reference law when they act. Law mobilizes citizens and officials to act: think about the recent discussions over deportation, temporary protected status, international obligations to refugees, and title 9 in universities. Organizations pursue their interests through courts, among other institutions. In the United States, politicians argue over appointments to the United States Supreme Court. Less high profile are appointments to the district courts and, most of the time, selection for state courts. Administrative law judges, caseworkers and other decision makers within bureaucracies often have the final word on many people's legal claims, from disability to immigration to suspension from school. Yet the forms, processes and institutions charged with working with law are often not integrated into learning about public policy. This course will address courts and some of the artifacts and processes of law.

PUBL 618 *Issues in Health Care Finance and Service Delivery*

Nancy Miller	Tuesday	44:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 451
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The purpose of this course is threefold: 1) to provide an overview of the concepts, principles, and practices in financing health care services in the U.S.; 2) to understand the relationship between public and private sector financing of health care; and 3) to become sensitive to the complexities of U.S. health services finance, payment, and service delivery, including health care reform efforts.