



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>	Loren Henderson	Tuesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
PUBL 601 <i>Political and Social Context of the Policy Process</i>	Lauren Hamilton Edwards	Wednesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 438
PUBL 602 <i>Microeconomics for Public Policy</i>	Zoë McClaren	Monday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
PUBL 603 <i>Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis</i>	Nancy Miller	Monday	4:30-7:00 pm	ILSB 118
PUBL 604 <i>Statistical Analysis</i>	Yusuke Kuwayama	Wednesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
Core and Disciplinary Courses for MPP only				
613 <i>Managing Public Organizations</i>	Mir Usman Ali	Tuesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438

<b>Core and Disciplinary Courses for PhD Only</b>				
PUBL 609 <i>Social Science Approaches to Policy Analysis</i>	Lauren Hamilton Edwards	Tuesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 451
<b>Advanced Methods Courses</b>				
PUBL 610 <i>Cost-Benefit Analysis for Health, Education, and Environmental Policy</i>	Yusuke Kuwayama	Wednesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 451
611 <i>Causal Inference for Program Evaluation</i>	Jane Lincove	Tuesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
<b>Specialization Courses</b>				
PUBL 610 - 01 <i>Neighborhoods and Health Inequalities</i>	Loren Henderson	Wednesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 440
PUBL 627 <i>Policy Networks and Intergovernmental Problems</i>	Mir Usman Ali	Thursday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 440
PUBL 652 <i>Politics of Health</i>	Nancy Miller	Thursday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 440
PUBL 700 <i>Doctoral Research Seminar</i>	Pam Bennett	Thursday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 451

## Course Descriptions

### *Core and Discipline Courses*

#### **PUBL 600 *Research Methodology***

Loren Henderson	Tuesday	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	Wednesday	4:30-7:00 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***

Zoë McClaren	Monday	7:10-9:40 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***

Nancy Miller	Monday	4:30-7:00 pm	ILSB 118
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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***

Lauren Hamilton Edwards	Tuesday	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	7:10-9:40 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 610 *Race, Segregation, and Social Inequality***

This course counts as SOCY 603.

Pam Bennett	Monday	4:30-7:00 pm	PAH 123
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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 610-04 Cost-Benefit Analysis for Health, Education, and Environmental Policy***

Yusuke Kuwayama	Wednesday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 451
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Needs description.

#### ***PUBL 611 Causal Inference for Program Evaluation***

Jane Lincove	Tuesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 438
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Surveys methods for identifying causal relationships in evaluation and policy research. The course considers the use of randomized experiments as well as a number of quasi-experimental research designs. Topics include matching techniques, panel data estimation, instrumental variables, discontinuity designs, and selection correction.

Jane, do you want to add anything?

### ***Specialization Courses***

#### ***PUBL 610-05 Neighborhoods and Health Inequities***

Loren Henderson	Wednesday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 440
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Needs description.

#### ***PUBL 627 Policy Networks and Intergovernmental Problems***

Mir Usman Ali	Thursday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 440
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Complex public policy programs draw in the involvement of a wide range of governmental and nongovernmental organizations. Governmental agencies increasingly rely on cooperative or contract relationships with private and non-profit organizations to deliver services to the public. Public agencies now frequently coordinate their efforts to address multiple dimensions of a public problem at the same time. Students of public policy must be aware of how public problem solving occurs in a multi-organizational context. This class prepares students to work in or conduct research on public management networks, contract relationships, and collaborative efforts. Topics covered include the foundations for multi-organizational collaboration, design and evaluation of public management networks, and privatization and the management of contract relationships.

### **PUBL 652 *Politics of Health***

Nancy Miller	Thursday	4:30-7:00 pm	PUBL 440
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This course examines how health policies reflect the political system in which they are enacted and implemented. It introduces concepts, theories and literature concerning the development of the U.S. healthcare system and the contemporary agendas and actions of the federal and state governments. It applies political dimensions to policy issues such as access to insurance and health services, cost containment, disease and injury prevention and initiatives for healthcare reform.

### **PUBL 700 *Doctoral Research Seminar***

This course is for Ph.D. students only that are working on their dissertations.

Pam Bennett	Thursday	7:10-9:40 pm	PUBL 451
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Needs description.