

Planning and Public Policy Program (formerly Urban Studies Program) and Public Health Program, Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University

Introduction to Policy, Planning and Health, 732:101:01 and 832:101:01, Fall 2006, 3 credits

Monday and Wednesday, 2:15-3:35, Cook/Douglass Lecture Hall, Room 102, Cook/Douglass Campus

Instructor is Frank J. Popper, Civic Square Building, Room 178, College Avenue Campus, 732-932-4009, X689, fpopper@rci.rutgers.edu or fpopper@princeton.edu. Teaching assistant is Arianna Martinez, martinezarianna@hotmail.com, Civic Square Building, Room 165, phone to be announced.

Office hours for instructor: Monday and Tuesday, both 10-12, or by appointment. Office hours for teaching assistant: Wednesday, 12-1:30 or by appointment.

Course material: All course materials, including this syllabus, readings, exams, announcements and other important information, will be on the course page in the Sakai system. As a matter of basic responsibility, students should check this site at least weekly, since new material will appear on it throughout the semester. The instructor and teaching assistant will bear no responsibility for a student's unawareness of material, including schedule changes, announced in class and posted on the site.

Using sakai

Rutgers users should always **login with their NetID**, not an email address. The NetID is the name that you use to login to other OIT computing systems, such as eden, pegasus, clam, rci, andromeda and crab. The password for Sakai is the same as the password for those systems.

There is no @ in your NetID. E.g. if your email address is smith@eden.rutgers.edu, that is an email address. Your NetID is simply smith.

If a tab doesn't show up when you think it should

Sometimes you are able to login, but after you've logged in you don't see all the sites you expect. That is, you think you should be a site member, but a tab for that site doesn't show up

First, see if there's a **pull-down menu at the right** end of the tabs labelled "--more--". This is used if there would be too many tabs to fit. Pull down the menu to find the additional sites.

If you still do not find the tab

- For many sites, the site owner **add members manually**. Make sure that the site owner knows your NetID (if you are a Rutgers faculty, staff or student) or your Guest ID.
- For a course site, check with your faculty to see whether the site is set up to add **all members of the course automatically**, or whether you have to join it. If

you have to join the site, choose "My Workspace", then "Membership", then "Joinable Sites".

- If the site is setup so that members **join** it choose "My Workspace", then "Membership", then "Joinable Sites".

If the site is set to add all members of a course automatically, make sure that University records show you as a member of the course. **If you are not properly registered, you won't be in the site.** When you register for a course, Sakai doesn't find out until the next morning. If you are deregistered, you will disappear from all Sakai sites that add members automatically.

Note that **faculty can add you to a site manually**, if the automatic method doesn't work. Please contact your faculty member.

This course offers an introductory, non-technical survey of how societies and governments make decisions on matters of public import. The course takes the stance of Thomas Jefferson—that is, it assumes that ordinary citizens can, with effort, understand and sometimes affect public decisions of all kinds. This approach contrasts with the more Alexander Hamilton approach often taken in social-science courses that assumes that elites, experts and other insiders are the prime movers of public affairs. The course is on the whole more optimistic than not just Hamilton, but than many current observers of public issues.

The course will explore in turn five basic--and interrelated--questions: What is government for? How large should government be? What happens when government acts? How do different parts of government interact? How does government interact with other parts of society? The course will range across a variety of policy fields, but frequently return to planning and health.

Students will do five take-home exams, each of equal weight, but with the lowest mark not counting in computing a final grade. Thus a student who is satisfied with the results of the first four exams may opt not to take the fifth and still suffer no penalty—an incentive to excel in September, October and November and avoid a December exam. The exams will be cumulative—that is, later exams will build on earlier ones. (As mentioned, the five basic questions are interrelated.) In computing a final grade, the instructors will also take into account a student's class participation and general conscientiousness, including getting work in on time.

All written work for the course should be typed double-spaced. The instructor and teaching assistant expect all such work to meet collegiate standards of writing and will lower the grade of any that does not. Students are expected to attend all classes and do the reading for them carefully.

All written work should be an original product written for this course only. The instructor and teaching assistant do not take plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty lightly. They view academic dishonesty as a breach of trust; it may result in a grade of F for the class or suspension or expulsion from Rutgers. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting or collaboration with others, consult the instructor or the teaching assistant. But if they are not

available and as a general rule, if you think you may be going over the line into academic dishonesty, you probably are. So don't.

Any student applying to the Bloustein School to major in Planning and Public Policy (762) or Public Health (832) must have gotten at least a C in this course. This course replaces four previous lower-level Bloustein School courses: Introduction to Public Health (832:232), Introduction to Public Policy (975:231), Introduction to Urban Studies (975:233) and Introduction to Urban Planning (975:249). This course counts as a substitute for any one of these. If you have any questions about applying to the Bloustein School, please get in touch with Cindy Meekins, Civic Square Building, Room 174, 732-932-5475, X683, cmeekins@rci.rutgers.edu.

Schedule

September 6	Introduction.
September 11	What is government for? The approach of Thomas Hobbes. Hobbes reading.
September 13	The approach of John Locke. Locke reading.
September 18	The approach of Jean Jacques Rousseau. Rousseau reading.
September 20	Synthesizing and updating the three thinkers. Synthesis readings. Hand out Exam 1.
September 25	How large should government be? The approach of Edmund Burke. Burke reading.
September 27	The approach of John Maynard Keynes. Keynes reading. Exam 1 due.
October 2	A case study in the size of government: environmental and land-use planning generally. Planning reading.
October 4	A more specific planning case study: eminent domain. Eminent domain reading.
October 9	Synthesizing and expanding from the planning cases. Synthesis-expansion reading. Hand out Exam 2.
October 11	What happens when government acts? The big picture. Big-picture reading.
October 16	Welfare reform reading I.

	Exam 2 due.
October 18	Welfare reform readings II.
October 23	Immigration debate readings I.
October 25	Immigration debate readings II. Hand out Exam 3.
October 30	An interim summary; where the course has gone so far. Readings.
November 1	How do different parts of government interact? The big picture. Big-picture reading. Exam 3 due.
November 6	Guests: David Price and Stephanie Loh, Office of Legislative Services, New Jersey State Legislature, "The New Jersey Smoke-Free Air Act," readings to be assigned.
November 8	Guests: Joyce Murray and Cindy Hespe, Office of Legislative Services, New Jersey State Legislature, "Affordable Housing," readings to be assigned.
November 13	Guests: Peter Kelly and Frank Parisi, Office of Legislative Services, New Jersey State Legislature, "Pay to Play," readings to be assigned. Hand out exam 4.
November 15	No class: exam-writing. (Enjoy.)
November 20	Exam 4 due.
November 22	No class: Thanksgiving holiday.
November 27	How does government interact with other parts of society? Economic inequality readings I.
November 29	Economic inequality readings II.
December 4	Health care reform readings I.
December 6	Health care reform readings II. Hand out Exam 5
December 11	No class: exam-writing. (Enjoy.)
December 13	Exam 5 due.