

Marine Policy Analysis SMEA 519

3 Credit Hours

Winter 2023

M, W 12:00-1:20pm

Location: **MAR 268**

Instructors:

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Office Hours:

Wednesdays 1:30-2:30 Ere's office (MAR 133)

Course Description

Public sector across levels of governance is under increasing pressure to provide better services with fewer resources. Policy analysts and public managers, therefore, need to be able to prioritize what services to offer and evaluate whether the programs designed to provide such services have been effective, efficient, and equitable. This course focuses on methods and approaches used in marine policy analysis. We will examine and apply most commonly used interdisciplinary approaches and methods for policy analysis. Further, we will review methods for monitoring of policy outcomes and policy performance evaluation.

This course entails lectures, discussion of the assigned readings, one short individual assignment, in-class activities, and completion of a policy issue paper (group assignment). I expect students to read the assigned readings prior to the class and to come to class prepared to discuss them.

Course Objectives

The course has four objectives. First, students will learn, apply, and critically evaluate skills required for designing and conducting policy analysis, monitoring, and evaluation. Second, students will develop an understanding for how diversity, including, but not limited to race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, religion, and disability may impact policy values. Further, they will practice how to ensure diversity of thoughts, perspective, and experiences is respected in policy discourse. Third, students will learn oral and written communication techniques employed in the field of policy analysis. Fourth, through learning about the role of policy analysis in a democratic policy dialogue, students will learn how to better engage in democratic policy decision making.

Course Preparation

While this course has no formal prerequisites, prior knowledge of OLS regression, pre-calculus (exponential functions), and microeconomics will be advantageous. Students, who have not taken courses in the above areas, may want to budget for some additional time to learn the relevant core concepts as we apply them in the class.

Evaluation and Grading

Full participation in this course requires the following types of engagement: the ability to attend two weekly meetings of 80 minutes with about 30 other students; the ability to read about 70 pages per class session prior to the class; the ability to complete analytical assignments both individually and in a team of 3-4 students; the ability to present the results of the analysis in writing and in oral presentations. Students' work will be evaluated with the assignments specified in the table below and graded with a numeric grade.

Maximum Possible Points

1. In-class assignments 30*
2. Individual assignment: structuring policy problems 25
3. Final project: policy issue paper (group project) 40
4. Participation 5

TOTAL 100

*In-class assignments should be turned in every following Monday by midnight

Structuring policy problems

Each student will select a marine policy problem of their interest and complete the 4 phases of problem structuring. While you may use several methods of problem structuring, listed in Table 3.2 (Dunn, 2018; 90), you are expected to illustrate how you applied one of these methods in your presentation. If it helps, I have posted 3 examples of how students in previous years approached this assignment (Canvas/Files). The students have given permission to use their assignments.

Please prepare a ppt presentation (no more than 5 slides, please) and be prepared to share your results with the class on **January 30**. Please post a pdf file with your presentation slides as an attachment to your message on the Canvas discussion board entitled "Structuring a Policy Problem" before class on **January 30**.

Policy Issue Paper

After each student has structured a policy problem of their interest, we will transition to group work. Students are expected to form groups of 3-4 members, based on their shared marine/environmental policy problem. Groups can opt to work on a problem structured by one of the group members in their "Structuring" assignment, or they can define a new policy problem. To understand what other students are interested in, students are encouraged to browse the posted "Structuring" assignments after **January 30**

To facilitate conversations, formations of the groups, and negotiations of the policy issues, I will create a Discussion board entitled "Creating groups for the policy issue paper". Please use this discussion board to negotiate the topic and form a group. Once you have identified the group, please create a new Discussion board with your group's name.

Your team will write a draft of the Policy issue paper following the template in Dunn, Appendix 1 (2018: 433-439). On **Feb 13**, please post this draft in your group's discussion board so that your peers, who want to review it and provide feedback, can access it. Your team will also give an oral presentation of the policy brief to the class on the week of **Feb 27**.

Final paper due on March 13. Minimum 15 pages, max 18 pages (without appendix)

Final paper presentations:

- The power point presentations are open format, but must include a final slide with references.
- All presentations will last 15min with 5min for questions.
- Please upload your power points to the discussion board before class on **Feb 27**.

Textbook

Dunn, William N. 2018. *Public Policy Analysis: An Integrated Approach*. (6th edition). Routledge.

On-line document access and assignment submission

Instructors will use the UW Canvas site for this course (SMEA 519 A) to post course documents and grades. Students will use the Canvas site (<https://canvas.uw.edu>) to submit their individual and group assignments. If you are not familiar with the Canvas sites, you can access tutorials on how to use Canvas at <http://www.uwb.edu/learningtech/elearning/canvas> (<http://www.uwb.edu/learningtech/elearning/canvas>).

Late Submission Policy

To be productive in this class, students should remain on schedule learning, critically examining, and applying concepts and methods as they are discussed in the class. Further, given that important assignments are completed in teams, failure to submit

work on time may delay the entire team. It is important to complete your work on time, your classmates are depending on you. If late submissions are unjustified I will deduct 30% of the assignment's grade.

Academic Conduct

We expect students to uphold the UW academic conduct standards. Passing anyone else's scholarly work (which can include written material, graphics or other images, and even ideas) as your own, without proper attribution, is considered academic misconduct. Plagiarism, cheating, and other misconduct are serious violations of the **University of Washington Student Conduct Code (WAC 478-120)**

(<http://www.washington.edu/students/handbook/conduct.html>) . We expect that you will know and follow university policies on cheating and plagiarism. Any suspected cases of academic misconduct will be handled according to university regulations. For more information, see the College of the Environment's **Academic Misconduct Policy** (<http://environment.uw.edu/intranet/academics/academic-policies/academic-misconduct/>) and the **Community Standards and Student Conduct website** (<http://www.washington.edu/cssc/>) .

Disability accommodations

University of Washington is committed to assisting disabled students. If you believe that you have a disability and would like academic accommodations, please contact Disability Resources for Students (DRS) at: **206-543-8924 (tel:206-543-8924) V / 206-543-8925 (tel:206-543-8925) TDD /** uwdrs@uw.edu e-mail / <http://www.uw.edu/students/drs> (<http://www.uw.edu/students/drs>) .

Religious Accommodations

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available

at **Religious Accommodations Policy**

(<https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>)

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Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the **Religious Accommodations Request form**

(<https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/>)

Feedback

I want to make my classroom a welcoming space for all. Students are encouraged to provide in person (e-mail/meeting) or anonymous feedback on the course at any point. For anonymous feedback please use the survey posted on Canvas>Modules.

Schedule of Topics, Readings and Activities

January 4: Review of the syllabus. The process of policy analysis

Activity 1: Goals and approaches of policy agendas.

Due on January 16

Reading: Dunn, Ch. 1

January 9: Policy analysis in the policy making process

Activity 2: Goals and approaches of policy agendas continued

Due on January 16

Reading: Dunn, Ch. 2

January 16: Structuring policy problems

Activity 3: Structuring policy problems

Due on January 23

Reading: Dunn, Ch. 3

January 23: Forecasting expected policy outcomes

Activity 4: Extrapolation: In-depth discussion and application in breakout groups

Due on January 30

Reading: Dunn, Ch. 4

January 30: Prescribing preferred policies

Presentations of structuring policy problems assignments

*Policy issue paper group formation

Activity 5: Cost-Benefit analysis.

Due on February 6

Reading: Dunn, Ch. 5

February 6: Monitoring observed policy outcomes

Activity 6: Monitoring observed policy outcomes activity

Due on Feb 13

Reading: Dunn, Ch. 6

February 13: Evaluating policy performance

Activity 7: In class activity

Reading: Dunn, Ch. 7

February 20: Policy Communication: Developing policy arguments

Activity 8: In-class activity

Due on Feb 27

Reading: Dunn, Ch. 8

February 27: Policy Communication: Communicating Policy Analysis

Activity 8: Presentations of policy issue papers (all teams present)

Reading: Dunn, Ch. 9

March 6: work on Final paper

March 13: Final paper is due