

PS 4255
Canadian Public Policy
Lecture: Mondays: 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
RB 3049

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
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Objective of course

This course will introduce students to the study of Canadian public policy with a focus on public policy formation and analysis. The course begins with a look at the importance of studying public policy and then proceeds to study the five stages of the policy cycle and ends with a focus on different policy areas.

By the end of the course the student will gain:

- a better understanding of the basic theoretical concepts of policy analysis
- a better understanding of public policy formation
- a perspective of the policymaking process

As well, the student will develop the ability to:

- critically assess policies and policy choices
- make oral presentations and work in teams
- conduct independent research and express their findings orally and in writing.

Format

The course will be comprised of lectures and class discussion. The readings and class discussions complement rather than substitute for the lectures. All students are expected to do the readings for each class and be prepared to present arguments and general findings, as well as to provide constructive comments and criticisms.

Required Text

Howlett, M., Ramesh, M., and Perl, A. *Studying Public Policy: Policy Cycles and Policy Subsystems* 3ed ed. Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2009.

All other material will be placed on reserve or available online

Evaluation

Participation, Attendance and Weekly forms	20%	
Movie Critical Review Due February 3, 2014		10%
Research paper (2500-3000 words) Due March 17, 2014	40%	
Research Paper Proposal February 24, 2014	10%	
Group Project/Presentation Due March 24 & 31, 2014		20%

All term work should be handed in to the instructor at the beginning of class. Papers submitted via email or facsimile will not be accepted.

Late papers will be penalized by 5 per cent for each day that they are late. Weekends count as one day. Extensions will not normally be granted. The only exceptions will be in the case of documented medical excuse or death in the family.

Late papers must be date stamped. Do not slip papers under my door.

All term work must be submitted by April 3, 2014 unless special arrangements have been made.

For the Short Papers and Research Essay:

The essays will respect all the rules of good essay composition: a central question the essay will address; an introduction with the plan for development of the argument; appropriate choice of method for topic development; respect for argument and evidence; clear and economical exposition; good quality and quantity of appropriate research; a conclusion, appropriately formatted footnotes and bibliography.

If in doubt, consult a style guide on the proper format for bibliography and footnotes. The first person ("I") may be used.

Quotations longer than four lines should be indented without quotation marks. Do not overuse quotations.

Do not use Wikipedia, mapleleafweb.com, Dictionary.com or any non academic web source for definitions and historical/political facts/arguments. You must include a bibliography.