Objectives

This course provides students with a basic knowledge of the functions and goals of public policy, structures and processes of public policy-making. These include: market failures and public policy, stages of public policy-making and policy network, the politics of policy-making and budgeting, and bureaucratic neutrality and political accountability. After completing this course, students will be able to: (a) understand the logic and reasons of government intervention; (b) comprehend the dynamics and complexity of public policy-making; and (c) critically assess the values and ethics underpinning public policy.

Readings


**Indicative Schedule and Readings**

**26 January 2007**

Housekeeping week
07 September 2007

1. The Study of Public Policy and Administration
   The growth of government and administration
   Demarcation of public sector
   “Market” versus “state”
   Study of public policy

Flinders and Smith, Quangos, Accountability and Reform, chaps. 1-3.
Ham and Hill, Policy Process in the Modern Capitalist State, chap. 1.
Howlett and Ramesh, Studying Public Policy, chap. 1.
John, Analysing Public Policy, chap. 1.
*Lane, Public Sector, chap. 1.
Parsons, Public Policy, sections 1.1-1.10.
Peters, Politics of Bureaucracy, chap. 1.
Ridley and Wilson, The Quango Debate, pp. 3-13, 29-47.
Weimer and Vining, Policy Analysis, chaps. 4-8.
Wildavsky, Budgeting, chap. 12.

14, 21 & 28 September 2007

2. Public Policy Cycle
   Setting of agenda
   Formulation of policy proposals
   Making policy decision
   Implementation and evaluation
   Policy change

*Anderson, Public Policy-Making, chaps. 3-4, 6-7.
*Ham and Hill, Policy Process in the Modern Capitalist State, chaps. 4-6.
Henry, Public Administration and Public Affairs, chaps. 7, 10.
Hill and Hupe, Implementing Public Policy, chaps. 3-5, 8.
Howlett and Ramesh, Studying Public Policy, chaps. 5-9.
John, Analysing Public Policy, chap. 2.
*Kingdon, Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policies, chaps. 4-9.
Lane, Public Sector, chap. 4.
Lester and Stewart, Public Policy, chaps. 5-9.
Parsons, Public Policy, sections 2.1-4.8.
**Scott, Public Administration in Hong Kong, chaps. 6-8
*Tadao Miyakawa, Science of Public Policy, vol. V-VI.

**05, 12 & 26 October 2007** (19 October: Chung Yeung Festival Holiday)

3. The Politics of Policy-Making
   - Policy networks and community
   - Politicians and bureaucrats
   - Business corporations and interests groups

*Anderson, Public Policy-Making,* chap. 2.


**Chan, Cheuk Wah. 2002. The Politics of Banking in Hong Kong. Ph.D. Thesis. Hong Kong: The Chinese University of Hong Kong.**


*Frederickson and Smith, Public Administration Theory Primer,* chaps. 2-3.


Howlett and Ramesh, *Studying Public Policy,* chap. 3.


*Lindblom and Woodhouse, Policy-Making Process,* chaps. 4-8.


Page, *Political Authority and Bureaucratic Power,* chap. 6.

Peters, *Politics of Bureaucracy,* chaps. 5-6.


**02, 09 & 16 November 2007**

4. Bureaucracy, Bureaucrats and Resources Allocation
   - Theories of bureaucracy
   - Organizational structure
   - The politics of budgeting

*Anderson, Public Policy-Making,* chap. 5.

*Dowding, Civil Service,* chaps. 2-5.
*Dunleavy, Democracy, Bureaucracy and Public Choice, chaps. 6-8.
Ham and Hill, Policy Process in the Modern Capitalist State, chaps. 8-9.
Henry, Public Administration and Public Affairs, chaps. 3-5, 8 & 9.
Hood and Peters, Rewards at the Top, chaps. 1 & 13.
Lane, Public Sector, chaps. 2, 10-12.
Page, Political Authority and Bureaucratic Power, chaps. 2-4.
Peters, Politics of Bureaucracy, chaps. 3-4, 7.
Wildavsky, Budgeting, chaps. 1 & 11.

23 & 30 November 2007

5. Public Administration: Accountability
   Bureaucratic neutrality
   Responsibility and Accountability

Asmerom and Reis, Democratization and Bureaucratic Neutrality, chaps. 2-4, 14.
Dowding, Civil Service, chap. 8.
Kearns, Managing for Accountability, chaps. 1-6.
*Paul, Strengthening Public Service Accountability
Peters, Politics of Bureaucracy, chap. 8.
Ridley and Wilson, Quango Debate, pp. 128-144, 163-181.

07 December 2007

Revision

Assessment

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