SRAP5001

Policy Analysis

Term 1, 2022

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Diana Perche	diana.perche@unsw.edu.au	Email to arrange an appointment time	Morven Brown, Room 138	Contact via Teams

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

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Acknowledgement of Country

UNSW Arts, Design and Architecture Kensington and Paddington campuses are built on Aboriginal Lands. We pay our respects to the Bidjigal and Gadigal peoples who are the Custodians of these lands. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the First Australians, whose lands, winds and waters we all now share, and pay respect to their unique values, and their continuing and enduring cultures which deepen and enrich the life of our nation and communities.

Image courtesy of the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous UNSW's Indigenous strategy

Course Details

Units of Credit 6

Summary of the Course

This course will introduce you to a range of theoretical concepts and models that will help to explain how policy is made. These are used to analyse real-world policy examples drawn from current affairs and from your own experiences in the workplace. You will have opportunities to explore ways in which academic or scholarly research about policy can be used to shape and improve policy analysis in practice. You will also develop skills in using policy analysis to provide policy advice.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Apply relevant theoretical concepts to explain how policy is made
2. Analyse the role of different actors and institutions in influencing policy in a specific policy context
3. Critically evaluate different kinds of evidence and use this to develop coherent and persuasive policy advice
4. Communicate research findings accurately and clearly using a range of techniques (written, spoken, visual)
5. Collaborate effectively with peers

Teaching Strategies

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of how policy is made, based on policy theory, and use this knowledge to analyse policy formulation in specific real-world cases. The course develops students' skills in analysis of policy (an academic exercise), and analysis for policy (as used by practitioners).

During the course, students will engage critically with the work of key authors in policy studies, and apply their concepts, models and theories that help to understand how policy is made in specific cases. Students will be encouraged to draw on their own policy-related experience in the workplace and elsewhere and use the academic theories to deepen their understanding of the policy process.

The course is taught through weekly seminars which include elements of lecture, small group activities and whole group discussion. Students will be provided with readings and other materials to reflect on before each class. Assessment in this course allows students to develop skills in analysis of policy and analysis for policy, and students will also work with peers in synthesising policy analysis based on a real-world case study.

Assessment

Further information about the requirements, expectations and marking criteria for assessment tasks will be available on Moodle.

For all written assessments in this course, you should use the SOSS Referencing Guide for your referencing.

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Course Learning Outcomes Assessed
1. Policy Case Study: Report	35%	13/03/2022 11:59 PM	1, 2, 4
2. Policy Case Study: Presentation 👥	15%	23/03/2022 06:00 PM	4, 5
3. Policy Brief	50%	25/04/2022 11:59 PM	1, 2, 3, 4

Assessment 1: Policy Case Study: Report

Assessment length: 1500 words
Due date: 13/03/2022 11:59 PM

Individual written report, 1500 words.

Students will apply theoretical concepts and models to a specific case study. Students will receive written feedback based on a marking rubric.

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Additional details

The case study materials will be provided on Moodle, and your case study will be allocated by Week 2.

Assessment 2: Policy Case Study: Presentation (Group)

Assessment length: 10 minute group presentation
Due date: 23/03/2022 06:00 PM

Group presentation, maximum 10 minutes.

Students will collaborate with team members to synthesise their analysis of the case study analysis and deliver a short group presentation. The group will receive written feedback based on a marking rubric.

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Additional details

Submission of Peer Assessment Scores

You must submit you peer assessment scores on the same day of your presentation. All members of the group must submit a peer assessment score sheet. The peer assessment score sheet should be submitted to the course convenor on the day of the group presentation.

Assessment 3: Policy Brief

Assessment length: 2000 words
Due date: 25/04/2022 11:59 PM

Policy brief, 2000 words

Students will present a policy brief in two parts on a current issue of their choice. The brief will provide policy analysis for two different audiences. Students will receive written feedback based on a marking rubric.

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Additional details

Additional instructions will be provided in class and on Moodle.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 14 February - 18 February	Seminar	*Introduction: What do we mean by policy analysis?*
Week 2: 21 February - 25 February	Seminar	*Theoretical approaches to analysing politics and policy making*
Week 3: 28 February - 4 March	Seminar	*The policy context: institutions, interests and policy subsystems*
Week 4: 7 March - 11 March	Seminar	*Explaining policy change: the policy cycle and its critics*
Week 5: 14 March - 18 March	Seminar	*Theories of policy change*
Week 6: 21 March - 25 March	Presentation	*Case Study Group Presentations (assessed)*
Week 7: 28 March - 1 April	Seminar	*Problem definition and framing*
Week 8: 4 April - 8 April	Seminar	*Decision making and policy instruments*
Week 9: 11 April - 15 April	Seminar	*Implementation and coordination*
Week 10: 18 April - 22 April	Seminar	*Policy Evaluation and Policy Advising* *Course Review*

Resources

Prescribed Resources

There is no textbook for this course.

All required readings will be provided electronically through Leganto, on the UNSW Library website, using your library login. The link is provided on Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Supplementary readings

The following texts may be useful to you if you are new to studying public policy, or if you are not familiar with the Australian policy context. Most of them are available as e-books through the UNSW Library.

Highly recommended

Bacchi, C. (2009). *Analysing Policy: What's the problem represented to be?*. Frenchs Forest: Pearson Australia

Cairney, P (2020), *Understanding public policy : theories and issues*, Palgrave Macmillan, Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire ; New York.

Colebatch, HK (2009), *Policy* 3rd ed., McGraw-Hill Education, Maidenhead.

Fenna, A (2004), *Australian public policy* 2nd ed., Pearson Education Australia, Frenchs Forest, N.S.W.

Head, B. & Crowley, K. (2015). *Policy Analysis in Australia* [eBook]. Bristol, UK: Policy Press

Hill, M. and Varone, F. (2020). *The Public Policy Process (7th edn).* London, England: Routledge.

Haigh, Y. (2012). *Public Policy in Australia.* Melbourne: Oxford University Press.

Maddison, Sarah & Denniss, Richard 2009, *An Introduction to Australian Public Policy,* Cambridge University Press, Melbourne. (e-book available for this edition; a hard copy of 2013 edition is available in the Library)

Sabatier, PA & Weible, CM (2014) *Theories of the Policy Process* 3rd ed., Westview Press, New York.

You are also advised to learn to interrogate the literature to supplement the recommended readings, and you will need to do this for your assignment work. Here are leading journals in the field of public & social policy that will be useful for your assignments at the postgraduate level.

- Australian Journal of Public Administration
- European Journal of Political Research
- Journal of Public Policy
- Journal of Policy Analysis and Management
- Policy Sciences
- Policy Studies Journal

- Social Policy & Administration
- Social Policy & Society
- Policy and Politics
- Policy Design and Practice
- Public Administration Review
- Regulation and Governance
- Critical Social Policy

You will benefit from becoming familiar with GoogleScholar (http://scholar.google.com) as a key search engine for academic publications and reports. You can set up the preferences to link to the UNSW Library even when you are not on campus.

Go to Google Scholar> settings> library links, and enter 'University of New South Wales' in the box for "Library":

You can sign up for Table of Contents (TOC) Alerts from the homepages of relevant journals, to receive an email whenever new articles are published in that journal. Journal websites will often carry information on the most viewed and most cited articles; these are likely to be interesting and often influential contributions. Google Scholar will also point you to articles that have cited a particular article and hence will be related to the topic.

Course Evaluation and Development

We value your feedback to help improve the course. We make changes each year based on student feedback. You will have access to formal and informal feedback mechanisms during the semester. Your feedback ensures that the course content, delivery mode and assessment tasks remain highly targeted to ensure you ongoing development, learning and engagement throughout the semester. Please discuss any course-related issues with the Course Convenor in the first instance.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices

The [UNSW Academic Skills support](#) offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library has [the ELISE tool](#) available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study. Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided.)

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines

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