Fall Semester 2015
Political Science
Graduate Course Descriptions

Visit our website at www.umsl.edu/~polisci
PS 6300-G01
Leadership and Management in NonProfit
Barbara Hosto-Marti

Class time: We from 6:55pm - 9:35pm
Class location: 218 Social Science Business (SSB)

Same as P P ADM 6300 and SOC WK 6300. Prerequisites:
Graduate standing required.

Addresses the role and scope of the independent sector in the United States, as well as the leadership and management of nonprofit organizations within that sector. Topics include the economic and political scope of the independent sector, the role of volunteerism in a democratic society, and the role and scope of philanthropy. Topics in voluntary organization management and leadership include the dynamics, functions and membership structure of NPOs, especially staffboard and other volunteer relations; governance and management of NPOs; resource mobilization; and program development management and evaluation.
PS 6401-G01
Introduction To Policy Research
William Winter

Class time: Tu and Thu from 5:30pm -6:45pm
Class location: 102 Social Science Business (SSB)

SAME AS PPA 6010. Special consent form required.

Procedures for testing explanations, including research design, principles of measurement, probability sampling, methods of data collection, and techniques for analyzing data.
This is the last of a three-course sequence for graduate students in the methodological techniques used in public policy analysis. The primary aim of this course is to provide students with the theoretical and applied skills to produce sound quantitative research in Political Science. In the first few weeks, special attention will be given to assumption violations and how these relate to statistical estimation and inference. Students will also be introduced to some matrix algebra and calculus.

Then we will look at maximum likelihood. This will provide students with the theoretical and analytical background to understand advanced econometric modeling techniques. However, much of the course will be focused toward the application of methodological tools for estimating, interpreting, and diagnosing various types of statistical models. We will consider and practice a variety of estimation techniques used in political analysis including models with qualitative dependent variables, event counts, pooled cross-sectional time series data, and survival data. A familiarity with Stata will be useful, as most of the models we will look at will be taught using Stata.

Finally (and if time allows), we will explore some of the more cutting-edge topics in political methodology, such as multilevel modeling.
PS 6410-G01
Introduction To Policy Analysis
Todd Swanstrom

Class time: Mo from 6:55pm - 9:25pm
Class location: 328 Social Science Business (SSB)

Same As P P ADM 6000

PS 6410 will provide an introduction to policy analysis that includes both the more scientific, quantitative approaches along with the more interpretive, qualitative approaches. Assignments will reflect the “real world” of policy analysis, meaning the need for “quick and dirty” policy analysis, how to frame the issues, the importance of language, and how to write for a lay audience. Students will be required to choose a policy domain and write three papers applying concepts in the course to their policy domain: an issue-framing paper, an op-ed article, and a final policy analysis paper. There will also be a mid-term exam.
This Proseminar is intended to assess the place of the bureaucracy in the policy process. In attempting to understand its place, we will examine the major schools of organization theory and their strengths and weaknesses. This Proseminar takes neo-institutional approach and assesses why American bureaus behave as they do. We will contrast this with European counterparts. The course also examines various reform measures aims at increasing bureaucratic efficiency and effectiveness such as contracting out, privatization, and the general reinvention movement. Bureaucracies implement public policy and we will show that their effect can be substantial. Readings for the course include classical theorists and current case studies.
PS 6443-G01
Health Care Policy
Shirley Porterfield

Class time: Mo from 6:55pm - 9:35pm
Class location: 12 Bellerive Hall (BRH)

Same as Ger 6443, SW 6443 and PPA 6430, Soc 6443

Prerequisites: Graduate Standing or Consent of Instructor
Same as PPA 6430, Gerontology 6443, Sociology 6443 & SW 6443 (MSW students will normally take the social policy foundation course before enrolling in this course.)

Survey course examining current issues in health policy that face the nation. Policies are placed in a historical context to show how issues have been influenced by different political and economic conditions. Secondary consequences and limitations of current trends in health policy are explored.
PS 6449-G01
Human Resources in the Public Sector
Yuguo Liao

Class time: Mo from 6:55pm - 9:35pm
Class location: 201 Social Science Business (SSB)

Same As PPA 6490 & SW 6449 Prerequisites: PPA 6600 or consent of Instructor.
(Same as SW6449 & PPA6490)

This course exposes students to selected themes and topics that prove pivotal in public personnel decisions and processes. Major topics examined in this master-level seminar include ethical considerations of public personnel management, recruitment and selection, position analysis and evaluation, employee training, performance appraisal and compensation.
PS 6450 –G01
Proseminar in Comparative Politics
Joyce Mushaben

Class time: Fridays from 12:00pm-2:40pm
Class location: 344A Social Science Building (SSB)

This course will address a variety of theoretical and qualitative-methodological approaches to the study of Comparative Politics, concentrating on the unifying theme of Politics & Religion across advanced industrial states. It will examine the role of legal-structural, historical institutional and political-cultural factors, as well as the connections between and among populist politicking, socioeconomic stratification, public policies, identity formation, interest group mobilization and citizenship ideals at the local, national and supranational levels, with a special emphasis on the role of Islam in post 9-11 societies.
Examination of various approaches to the study of international relations, focusing on studies of conflict, the use of force, terrorism, international political economy, and related topics. Included are realist, liberal, constructivist, feminist, and Marxist perspectives.