**POLS 400G – Comparative Public Policy**

Spring 2022

Thursdays 3:30-6:00 PM

MG 308

Instructor: Julia Albarracín Office: 428 Morgan Hall

Email: J-Albarracin@wiu.edu Office Hours: TTH 2-3; W 1-3.

**Objectives**

The course will examine the public policy process and public policy outcomes using a comparative perspective. The first part of the class addresses the different explanations that account for policy outputs (political parties and ideologies, institutions, and interest groups). The second part will analyze different policy areas (economic, drug policy, immigration, and crime) in diverse contexts – e.g. industrial and developing countries – and in selected cases in the Americas, Europe and Asia.

**Required Readings**

1. There are four required books. Please, check library I-Share to borrow books from library (https://i-share-wiu.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/search?vid=01CARLI\_WIU:ALL&search\_scope=NewDiscoveryNetwork).

*People, Power, and Profits: Progressive Capitalism for an Age of Discontent* by Joseph Stiglitz (WW Norton and Company, 2019)

*Controlling Immigration: A Global Perspective,* edited by James Hollifield, Philip Martin, and Pia Orrenius (Stanford University Press, 2014).

*Drug War Mexico: Politics, Neoliberalism and Violence in the New Narcoeconomy* by Peter Watt & Roberto Zepeda (Zed Books, 2012).

*Crime and Public Policy*, edited by James Q. Wilson and Joan Pertisilia (Oxford University Press, 2011).

2. Other required readings are on Western Online.

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**Examinations & Course Requirements**

1. **Attendance.** Students are expected to attend class and to have completed the readings before the class. Students are allowed to miss 1 class. Beyond that they will be discounted ½ a point for each class they miss. Students will also be asked to share their thoughts in class.
2. **Reviews.** In addition to regular class participation, students will write 5 (undergraduate) and 7 (graduate and bridge) 2-page papers starting week 2 reacting to ALL the readings of the week. In this paper, students will briefly summarize the readings and offer their own viewpoint about the material. These papers will be due on the day before class by 6:00 PM and should be posted on the discussion board on Western Online. Each paper will be worth 7 points (undergraduate students) and 5 points (graduate students) and together will account for 35% of your grade. Students will be able to turn in two late papers. To avoid problems with file conversion, **please paste paper in the body of the post**.
3. **Presentation:** students will be required make a 20-minute presentation and lead a discussion (prepare questions) on a topic related to the readings for class starting week 4. Further guidelines will be explained in class.
4. **Final Paper:** students will be required to write a final paper. Paper guidelines will be distributed later in the semester and will be different for seniors and graduate students. **A paper proposal with an annotated bibliography will be due on 4/14 and the final paper on Finals Week’s Thursday at 3:00 PM.**

Grades

Grade Breakdown. Breakdown of the final grade for the course:

Reaction papers 35%

Final Paper 40% (10 proposal and draft)

Presentation 15%

Attendance and Participation 10%

Total 100%

**Schedule of Readings**

***Week 1: 1/20-Introduction***

**Part 1-What Explains Different Policy Outcomes?**

***Week 2: 01/27***

Political Parties and Ideologies (politics matter!)

Topics: Ideological bases of public policies; social democracy and the left; neo-liberalism.

All: Seymour Martin Lipset (2001), “The Americanization of the European Left,” *Journal of Democracy* 12, 2: 74-87.

Graduate: Zerbe, Richard O. and Howard E. McCurdy. 1999. “The failure of market failure.” *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 18: 558-78 (ISSN: 0276-8739).

Political institutions (and Culture)

Topics: How institutions shape politics and policy-making processes.

All: Anthony King, “Ideas, Institutions and the Policies of Governments: A Comparative Analysis, Part III,” *British Journal of Political Science,* 3, 4 (October 1973): 409-23.

***Week 3: 2/3***

How interest groups matter – Pluralism vs. Corporatism.

All: Arend Lijphart and Markus M.L. Crepaz, “Corporatism and Consensus Democracy in

Eighteen Countries: Conceptual and Empirical Linkages,” *British Journal of Political Science* 21, 2 (April 1991): 235-46.

Graduate: Christopher J. Anderson; Christine A. Guillory, “Political Institutions and Satisfaction with Democracy; A Cross-National Analysis of Consensus and Majoritarian Systems,” *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. 91, No. 1. (Mar., 1997), pp. 66-81.

Characterizing the Welfare State

All: Christopher Howard, “Is the American Welfare State Unusually Small?” *PS Notes* 36, 3 (July 2003): 411-16.

Graduate: Greg Shaw, “Changes in Public Opinion and the American Welfare State.”

Political Science Quarterly, Vol. 124, No. 4 (Winter 2009-10), pp. 627-653 .

**Part 2-Economic Policy**

***Week 4: 2/10***

All: *People,* 1 (Introduction), 2 (Toward a More Dismal Economy), 3 (Exploitation and Market Power).

Graduate: Chapter 4 (America at War with Itself over Globalization)

**Presentation:** (3 and 4)

***Week 5: 2/17***

All: *People,* chapters 5 (Finance and the American Crisis), 7 (Why the Government), 8 (Restoring Democracy), and 9 (Restoring a Dynamic Economy with Jobs and Opportunity for All).

Graduate: 10 (A Decent Life for All) and 11 (Reclaiming America).

**Presentation:** (open)

**Part 3- Drug Policy**

***Week 6: 2/24***

All: *Crime and Public Policy*, Chapters 13 (Drugs, Crime and Public Policy)

Graduate: R. MacCoun, P. Reuter, and T. Schelling, “Assessing Alternative Drug Policy Control Regimes,” *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management,* 15:330-52.

All: [Moises Naim, “The Five Wars of Globalization,” *Foreign Policy,* 134:28 (2003) (W).](http://search.ebscohost.com.ezproxy.wiu.edu/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&AN=8786050&site=ehost-live)

All: *Drug War*, pp. 1-34.

**Presentation: (***Crime and Public Policy* 13, MacCoun, and Naim)

***Week 7: 3/3***

*Drug War*, chapter 2 (Cold War), 3, (Political Economy of the War on Drugs), and 4 (Getting Rich Quick).

**Presentation:** (3 and 4)

***Week 8: 3/10***

*Drug War*, Chapters 5 (The Change), 6 (War is Peace), and 7 (Another Century of Drug War).

**Presentation:** (6 and 7)

***\*Spring Break 3/14-18\****

**Part 4 – Immigration Policy**

***Week 9: 3/24***

All: *Controlling Immigration,* Chapters 1 (intro) and 2 (US)

Graduate: *Controlling Immigration,* Chapter 3 (Canada)

**Presentation:** (2 and 3)

***Week 10: 3/31***

All: *Controlling Immigration,* Chapters 5 (France) and 6 (Great Britain)

Graduate: *Controlling Immigration,* Chapter 7 (Germany)

**Presentation:** (6 and 7)

***Week 11: 4/7***

All: *Controlling Immigration,* Chapters 11 (Italy) and 12 (Spain)

Graduate: *Controlling Immigration,* Chapter 13 (Japan and South Korea)

**Presentation:** (12 and 13)

**Part 5 – Crime Policy**

***Week 12: 4/14 (Paper Proposal due)***

All: *Crime and Public Policy*, Chapters 1 (Intro), 2 (Crime in International Perspective), and 3 (Crime and Biology).

Graduate: *Crime and Public Policy*, Chapter 9 (Race and the Administration of Justice in the US)

**Presentation:**  (2, 3, and 9)

***Week 13: 4/21***

All: *Crime and Public Policy*, Chapters 6 (Street Gangs), 10 (Gun Control), and 15 (Prosecution).

Graduate: *Crime and Public Policy,* Chapter 18 (Prisons)

**Presentation:** (6, 10, 15 and 18)

***Week 14: 4/28***

All: *Crime and Public Policy*, 16 (Sentencing), and 20 (Democratic Policing on the Evidence).

**Presentation:** (16 and 20)

***Week 15: 5/5***

**Presentations papers**

**Paper Draft due\*\*\*\***

**Final Paper due Thursday 5/12 at 3 PM.**