

## **POLS4345 Public Policy Analysis**

### **Professor Contact Information**

#### **Geoffrey Willbanks**

E-mail: [gwillbanks@uttyler.edu](mailto:gwillbanks@uttyler.edu) (best contact method) an unofficial contact is [Gwill@tjc.edu](mailto:Gwill@tjc.edu)

Phone: (903) 510-2768

Office: Jenkins Hall 179 Tyler Junior College

Office Hours: by appointment

(Please email to schedule an appointment)

I check email frequently during the day, though if I am with a student or in a meeting response to email may be delayed during this time period. (For any email sent outside office hours, you should expect a response within 48 hours (excepting Sundays).

Email policy: per university request, I will only communicate with students through your Patriot email accounts. The university has had several problems reaching students with vital questions or information because they do not check their Patriot email, and they have asked faculty to require that students use their Patriot email accounts. All responses to student email will be sent only to your Patriot email account (even if you send the email from some other account). After January 27th (the census date), email sent from any non-Patriot email account will not be answered. I will also read emails to [gwill@tjc.edu](mailto:gwill@tjc.edu) but will not respond.

### **Required Course Materials**

#### **(1) Policy Analysis as Problem Solving: a flexible and evidence-based framework,**

published by Routledge, ISBN 9781138630178 (pbk.), ISBN 9781351807364 (Web pdf), ISBN 9781315209678 (Master Ebook)

1st edition

By Rachel Meltzer and Alex Schwartz

#### **(2) Publication Manual of APA,**

7th edition, 978-1433832161

published by American Psychological Association

## **May be used; not required**

(1) Theories of the Policy Process, 4th edition

By Paul A. Sabatier

Published by Routledge, ISBN 978-0813350523

(2) The CQ Press Writing Guide to Public Policy

by Andrew Pennock

Published by CQ Press, ISBN 978-1506348780

(3) Writing Public Policy 4th edition

by Catherine F. Smith

published by Oxford, ISBN 978-0199388578

These texts are available from the campus bookstore or online. Excerpts may be posted in Canvas

## **Course Description & Objectives**

This course will explore the formulation and implementation of public policy in the United States. Attention will be given to all stages of the policy process (from agenda setting to policy evaluation) and to all actors that might influence the policy life cycle (public officials, interest groups, the media, and the public). In addition to a general overview of the process and politics of the policy process, the stages of the policy process and specific policy areas will be explored with greater depth.

## **Course Learning Objectives**

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- describe the policy process and discuss the role of political and non-political forces in each stage of the policy process.
- describe the models, schools of thought, and paradigms by which scholars attempt to understand and analyze the policy process; discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each model, school of thought, and paradigm.
- analyze the content of a particular policy area, including the concepts and political
- explain the nature of policy analysis as an analytical tool and a public profession.

## **Grading Standards and Expectations**

It is my experience that many students do not understand what is required of them in order to achieve certain goals in a course. In order to help clarify this issue, here is some additional information about student expectations:

What do grades mean?

1. A) performance/work is exemplary, exceeds expectations, goes well beyond stated minimum requirements and performs the assigned task extremely well.
2. B) performance/work is above average, goes somewhat beyond stated minimum requirements and performs the assigned task relatively well.
3. C) performance/work is average, meets but does not exceed minimum expectations and the assigned task is completed in an acceptable manner.
4. D) performance/work is below average, does not meet minimum expectations; the assigned task is attempted but not completed in an acceptable manner.
5. F) performance/work is unacceptable, may be off-topic and well below the minimum standard, may include instances of academic dishonesty.

In an upper division University course, these are the general minimum expectations:

- Students will attend every possible class session
- Students will be mentally present during class sessions (pay attention, do not electronically disengage)
- Students will complete the reading assignments before class
- Students will submit assignments on time and follow the assignment instructions regarding content, format, and method of submission
- Students will conduct themselves as adults (respect classmates and professor, engage in civil discourse, discuss controversial issues calmly and productively, etc.)

Much of the class materials will be available through Canvas. If you experience any problems logging into Canvas, you should seek help from Technology Support. Their office is located in RBN 3022, and they can be reached by email at [itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu](mailto:itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu) or the helpnow webpage [Help.uttyler.edu](http://Help.uttyler.edu). Their phone number is 903-565-5555. Please include your full name, student ID number and date of birth in any communications you send to them.

## **Course Grade Components**

Your grade in this class will consist of six components:

- PowerPoint Presentation (15%) - Students will be divided into groups. Each group will prepare a PowerPoint presentation on the topic selected for the policy brief. Further details will be provided in another document.
- Policy Brief Presentation (15%) - Using the groups from the PowerPoint assignment, each group in consultation with the professor will analyze the topic used in the PowerPoint presentation. The group will write a policy brief of 5 to 10 pages and submit a single copy to the professor. Further details will be provided in another document.

- Reading Quizzes (10%) - These will cover the assigned reading for that week. The quizzes will be available online in the course website. The quizzes will have few questions and count for few points.
- Short Written Assignments (30%) – Instructions will be given on the module or assignment page. Students will complete a series of approximately one to two page papers on topics given by the professor.
- News report (10%) - Students will select news articles related to public policy. Students may seek articles identifying policy problems, policy proposals, policy adoption, policy implementation, and policy evaluation. Students will summarize the article listing the key points and conclusions. Further details will be given in the instructions found under modules or assignment pages.
- Comprehensive Final Exams (20%) – Exams will consist of essay questions. Prior to the exam date, the professor will provide copies of the questions along with other details. The essay questions will focus on various topics from the entire course.

Schedule:

### **Monday, January 18**

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,Topic One Short Paper Topic One Short Paper Assignment
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,syllabus syllabus agreement
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,News Report News Report One
- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Quiz Quiz One

Mon, Jan 25 Monday, January 25

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,Topic Two Short Paper Topic Two Short Paper Assignment
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,News Report News Report Two
- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Quiz Quiz Two

Mon, Feb 1 Monday, February 1

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,Topic Three Short Paper Topic Three Short Paper Assignment
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,News Report News Report Three
- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Quiz Quiz Three

Mon, Feb 8 Monday, February 8

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,Topic Four Short Paper Topic Four Short Paper Assignment
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,News Report News Report Four
- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Quiz Quiz Four

Mon, Feb 15 Monday, February 15

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,Topic Five Short Paper Topic Five Short Paper Assignment
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,News Report News Report Five

- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Quiz Quiz Five

Mon, Feb 22Monday, February 22

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,Topic Six Short Paper Topic Six Short Paper Assignment
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,News Report News Report Six
- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Quiz Quiz Six

Mon, Mar 1Monday, March 1

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,Topic Seven Short Paper Topic Seven Short Paper Assignment
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,News Report News Report Seven
- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Quiz Quiz Seven

Mon, Mar 15Monday, March 15

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,Topic Eight Short Paper Topic Eight Short Paper Assignment
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,News Report News Report Eight
- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Quiz Quiz Eight

Mon, Mar 22

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,Topic Nine Short Paper Topic Nine Short Paper Assignment
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,News Report News Report Nine
- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Quiz Quiz Nine

Mon, Mar 29

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,Topic Ten Short Paper Topic Ten Short Paper Assignment
- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,News Report News Report Ten
- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Quiz Quiz Ten

Mon, Apr 12

- Assignment, Due 9:00pm ,PowerPoint PowerPoint Assignment

Mon, Apr 19

- Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Policy Brief Paper Policy Brief Paper Assignment

Thu, Apr 29

Assignment, Due 11:59pm ,Final Exam Assignment Final Exam Assignment

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES

### UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

### Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

### Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License

holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at

<http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

### UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch

campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.

Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.

There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support.

For more information on cessation programs please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free)

.

## Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated.

Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at

<http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>

. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.

Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)

Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)

Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment

Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

## State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university.

For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

## Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities.

If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with an Accessibility Case Manager. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

## Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

## Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.



## Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

## Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit.

If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

## Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. i.

1. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
  - copying from another student's test paper;
  - using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
  - failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test; · possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
  - using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
  - collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
  - discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;

- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

ii.

“Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

iii.

“Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on

scholastic dishonesty.

iv.

All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

**UT Tyler Resources for Students**

- UT Tyler Writing Center

(903.565.5995),

writingcenter@uttyler.edu

- UT Tyler Tutoring Center

(903.565.5964),

tutoring@uttyler.edu

- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler

Counseling Center

(903.566.7254)

Important Covid-19 Information for Classrooms and Laboratories:

Students are required to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth, and follow social distancing guidelines, at all times in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories), as specified by Procedures for Fall 2020 Return to Normal Operations. The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its Honor Code and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home and may join the class remotely. Students who have difficulty adhering to the Covid-19 safety policies for health reasons are also encouraged to join the class remotely. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email saroffice@uttyler.edu.

Recording of Class Sessions:

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in this course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.