PAD Fall 2014 Course Descriptions

**Students Registering for this Section Must FIRST Register for a Discussion: 8761, 8785, 8814, 8815, 9937, or 9938**

This course introduces students to the process of public policy making. This course analyzes public policy making as the outcome of a number of political actors and processes. As a student in this course, you will gain a greater appreciation for the complexity of policymaking, the vast number of actors involved in policy making, and the factors that make policies more or less successful. Through the course, we will ask questions such as: Where do ideas for policies come from in the first place? Why do some ideas get attention while other problems are ignored? What does it take to get a policy formulated, enacted, and successfully implemented? What are the roles of the executive, legislature, courts, interest groups, business, the news media, and other actors in the policy process? Why do some policies, even after extensive research and analysis, seem so irrational and haphazard? There are no prerequisites for this course. Only one version of RPAD/RPOS 140 may be taken for credit.
PAD Fall 2014 Course Descriptions

RPAD 204  COMPUTER MODEL DECISION  J. Mayo
3896  M  4:15PM - 7:05PM  SL G03
Making tough decisions – can computers help? Students will learn to use Internet technologies as well as techniques in computer modeling for critical thinking, policy analysis, and decision support. Topics include a review of quantitative methods for strategic analysis, tools for helping make tough decisions, and a survey of formal modeling techniques.

RPAD 302  UNDERSTANDING PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS  E. Fazekas
4823  TH  2:45PM - 5:35PM  Husted 12**
The major objective of this course is to provide students with an opportunity to explore basic ideas about how people work in large (work) organizations, and the processes and structures that operate day to day in such organizations. The course examines how people act and interact within organizations and attempt to change those organizations, and how organizations react to the individuals who comprise the organization. The course uses multiple perspectives or frames as a way of understanding of individual and organizational behavior in work organizations. Only one version of R PAD 302 may be taken for credit. ** Note this class meets on downtown campus.

RPAD 303  PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT  A. Davis-Alteri
3439  T  2:45PM - 5:35PM  Husted 13**
This course is designed to provide students an introduction to the field of public administration, including its practice, themes and values, and contemporary challenges. Public administration is government in action, as broadly defined by Woodrow Wilson in 1887. Public administration includes activities taken directly by government, or indirectly by its partners, to meet the democratically expressed needs of the public. These activities include policy design, implementation, evaluation of outcomes, and re-design or re-direction. By the end of the course, students should have a basic understanding of 1) the relationship and tensions between politics and administration, 2) various means for assuring administrative accountability and responsiveness, and 3) the challenges associated with implementing public programs. It is intended that students will leave the course with a substantive, applied understanding of the values and practice of public administration. Prerequisite(s): junior or senior class standing. ** Note this class meets on downtown campus.

RPAD 316/RPOS316  METHODOLOGICAL TOOLS FOR PUBLIC POLICY  J. Lee
8179/6451  TTH  11:45AM - 1:05PM  AS 13
Introduction to research design, statistics, and computer usage in public policy with an emphasis on the interpretation of results. Students examine experimental, quasi-experimental and nonexperimental research designs, summarize and present univariate distributions, perform bivariate and multivariate analyses including simple cross-tabulations and multiple regression analysis, and learn to use a computer to perform statistical and data management operations. Required for public affairs majors. Only one version of R PAD 316 may be taken for credit. Prerequisite: R PAD 204.

RPAD 325/RPOS 325  GOVERNMENT & POLITICS NEW YORK STATE  F. Mauro
8181/3574  TTH  4:15PM - 5:35PM  BA 233
Introduction to the major political and governmental institutions of New York State. Examines the historical, constitutional, and economic setting of government and politics in New York State; the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government with an emphasis on separation of powers and checks and balances among the branches; state-local relations and federal-state relations; and the nature of party competition and elections in New York’s unusual multi-party system.
PAD Fall 2014 Course Descriptions

RPAD 329Z/RPOS 329  BUREAUCRATIC POLITICS  M. Christakis
6896/5334  T  4:15PM - 7:05PM  BA 212
Examination of political behavior within and among administrative agencies, focusing on the sources of power in the bureaucracy, and the ways in which agencies use their political resources to shape public policy. Only one version of RPAD 329Z/RPOS 329 may be taken for credit. Prerequisite(s): RPOS 101 and 102, or junior or senior standing.

RPAD 345  PSYCHOLOGICAL ECONOMICS AND POLICY  S. Weinberg
9956  MW  5:45PM - 7:05PM  Husted 310**
This course explores the ways that economists have drawn on psychology to build richer models of human behavior. We will analyze the actual choices of economic decision-makers in the lab and in the field. What are the implications of human psychology for economic policy in areas such as savings behavior, economic development, health care, poverty, and consumer protection? Along the way, we will also work on a few specific skills. We will cover core principles of present discounted values (a concept used in any evaluation with a time dimension, from pricing a bond to deciding whether to invest in green energy). We will learn how to apply Bayes' Rule (the central organizing principle of probability theory). We will learn some of the fundamentals of experimental design. Most importantly, we will work on writing with numbers. Specifically, we will think about how to structure papers, sentences, and tables to direct the reader's attention to your key points, especially when you are using quantitative information. Prerequisite(s): AECO 110, AECO 111, and a 300-level statistics course such as RPAD 316 or AECO 320.
** Note this class meets on downtown campus.

RPAD 366  INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY  A. Tiwari
8837  TH  5:45PM - 8:35PM  LC 12
The class investigates how environmental consciousness arose in major industrial countries and the subsequent formation of environmental policies and institutions in China and India. After reviewing US experience, the class considers critical dilemmas including climate change, water scarcity and renewable energy. Prerequisite: junior or senior status.

RPAD 435  LAW IN FIN MARKET REGULATION  D. McCaffrey
8283  Online course offered through Blackboard Learning System
The development, operation, and regulation of technological systems shape modern financial markets. These systems are developed and overseen by market centers, clearing organizations, and other market infrastructure organizations, as well as sell-side financial firms, institutional investors and other buy-side participants, corporations, technology providers, and public and private regulators. Market controls, technological development, and regulation shape this system individually and interactively. This course examines the central features of technology in financial markets and how market and regulatory controls and social and behavioral conditions produce and interact with them. Prerequisite(s): prior coursework in study of regulation and/or finance highly recommended.
This capstone course includes the completion of an internship and a linked classroom experience. This internship course integrates the policy and management coursework with practical experience in political and administrative institutions. Students are required to undertake an internship in public policy or public management, typically with a state agency or a non-profit organization. In the course, students will learn practical issues of implementing policy or managing public affairs. They will use written assignments and oral presentations to discuss how their coursework relates to their internship experience. May not be taken by students with credit for RPAD 498/RPOS 390. Prerequisite(s): RPAD 140, RPAD 316, AECO 110, RPOS 101, RPAD 302, and a cumulative grade point average of 2.0.

This course builds on the analytical tools and theoretical concepts developed in the Public Policy and Management core to explore the field of policy analysis, rationales for policy intervention, and a range of policy tools. Students will learn how to locate and apply external information sources, evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of existing policy analyses, develop a plan to study a new policy issue, and effectively communicate these complex ideas in writing. May not be taken by students with credit for RPOS/ RPAD 340. Prerequisite(s): RPAD 140, RPAD 316, AECO 110, A ECO 111. Only for students graduating in May or December 2014 who have NOT taken RPAD 340.

This course examines the public regulation of business, surveying the field in general but with special attention to regulatory controls in financial markets. Its subjects include the justifications and critiques of government regulation, ethical considerations in regulatory decisions, international dimensions of regulatory policy and management, and how political, legal, and technological processes shape regulation. **This course is restricted to the Honors College Students**