PSCI 3405A

Comparative Public Policy Analysis

Tuesdays, 11:35 am to 2:25 pm
Please check Carleton Central for location

Instructor: Dr. Vandna Bhatia
Contact: A625 Loeb Building
         520-2600, ext. 1360
         vandna_bhatia@carleton.ca
Office Hours: Tuesdays
             2:45 pm to 4:00 pm

Course Description
Contemporary governments in developed democracies around the world are faced with many similar policy problems: environmental protection, economic growth and employment, sustainable health care services, quality education and reliable income support programs – to name just a few. Despite generally similar issues and resources, national governments often respond very differently to these problems. This course will examine how and why policies dealing with issues such as health care, immigration, taxation and fiscal policy and the environment differ across nations. By comparing nations, we will examine and contrast the influence of factors such as political ideas and ideologies, institutions and organized interests in shaping the process and substance of public policy.

The primary objective of this course is to introduce students to the cross-national study of public policies in the industrialized democracies of North America, Europe and East Asia. We will examine specific policy issues across several nations, including the impact of globalization and global public policy. The course will familiarize students with key theoretical frameworks and concepts for understanding, analyzing and comparing public policies and their development across nations.

At the end of the course, students should be:

- Familiar with broad theoretical concepts explaining policy development;
- Able to apply these concepts to the analysis of practical policy problems;
- Able to compare and contrast differences and similarities across a range of policy issue areas and across nations;
- Able to identify patterns of policy development across different issue areas and across nations.

Evaluation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay 1</td>
<td>September 30</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay 2</td>
<td>October 21</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay 3</td>
<td>December 2</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Class Presentations</td>
<td></td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
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<td>10%</td>
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Students must submit all essays to receive a passing grade in the course. Please note that all written assignments are due by 11:55 PM on the due date and must be submitted electronically via CULearn. Please submit your assignments as PDF files. All papers should include a cover page, conform to APA citation format and meet
minimum standards of essay writing for third year students. Students are strongly encouraged to consult the following style guides in preparing papers:


Late essays will be penalized significantly on a per day basis. Late penalties will have an appreciable impact on your final grade, so please weigh carefully your decision to submit a late paper. Papers submitted after 5 days (including weekends) past the due date without official (medical) documentation of illness or incapacity are assigned a grade of 0. Every effort will be made to return papers within two weeks of the due date.

Students are expected to make one group presentation during the term, based on the assigned readings for a given week. A single presentation mark is awarded to each member of the group presenting. Presentations will be graded based on evaluation by your peers and the instructor. Further instructions and details about papers and presentations will be discussed in class and made available on CULearn.

**Academic Resources**

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<tr>
<th>If you need assistance with...</th>
<th>Refer to...</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>◉ Finding a tutor</td>
<td>Student Academic Success Centre – Learning Support Services</td>
<td>302 Tory Building, 613-520-7850 <a href="http://www2.carleton.ca/sasc/">http://www2.carleton.ca/sasc/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◉ One-on-one study skills support</td>
<td></td>
<td>No appointments necessary.</td>
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<td>◉ Group study skills workshops</td>
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<td>◉ Reserving group study rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>◉ Academic support and advice</td>
<td>Student Academic Success Centre – Academic Advising</td>
<td>302 Tory Building, 613-520-7850 <a href="http://www2.carleton.ca/sasc/">http://www2.carleton.ca/sasc/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◉ Choosing, changing major</td>
<td></td>
<td>No appointments necessary.</td>
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<td>◉ Academic planning</td>
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<td>◉ A learning disability</td>
<td>Paul Menton Centre</td>
<td>501 University Centre, 520-6608 <a href="http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/">http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>◉ Developing writing skills</td>
<td>Writing Tutorial Service</td>
<td>4th Floor MacOdrum Library, 613-520-6632 <a href="http://www2.carleton.ca/sasc/writing-tutorial-service/">http://www2.carleton.ca/sasc/writing-tutorial-service/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>◉ Polishing English conversation skills</td>
<td>International Student Services Office, Conversation Groups</td>
<td>128 University Centre, 613-520-6600 <a href="http://www1.carleton.ca/issso/">http://www1.carleton.ca/issso/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>◉ Research assistance</td>
<td>Research Help Desk, MacOdrum Library</td>
<td>MacOdrum Library, 520-2735 <a href="http://www.library.carleton.ca/">http://www.library.carleton.ca/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◉ Statistics/SPSS assistance (by appointment only)</td>
<td>Data Centre, MacOdrum Library</td>
<td>Statistical Consultant, 520-2600 x 2619 <a href="http://www.library.carleton.ca/contact/service-points/data-centre">http://www.library.carleton.ca/contact/service-points/data-centre</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>◉ Coping with stress or crisis</td>
<td>Office of Student Affairs</td>
<td>613-520-2600, x 2573 <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/studentaffairs">http://www.carleton.ca/studentaffairs</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health and Counseling Services</td>
<td>613-520-6674 <a href="http://www.carleton.ca/health">http://www.carleton.ca/health</a></td>
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**Student Conduct and Academic Regulations**

Students are expected to be familiar with and abide by academic and conduct regulations of Carleton University. Undergraduate students should consult the [Academic Regulations](#) listed in the Undergraduate Calendar, in
particular those dealing with Academic Integrity and Offenses of Conduct (sections 14 and 15). Additional information regarding academic conduct and accommodations is appended to this syllabus.

**Required Texts**

Anneliese Dodds (2013). *Comparative Public Policy*. Palgrave MacMillan

- Copies of the book are available through Haven Books.

Journal articles and selected book chapters.

- Most required readings are available electronically (unless otherwise indicated) online through the University library system or via the Ares link in CULearn.
- Those not available electronically are marked with an asterix (*) and are available through the Library’s course reserves.

**Supplementary Readings**

Supplementary readings, as noted in the list of weekly readings, are available electronically or are kept on reserve at MacOdrum. These readings are provided as a reference point for students to begin in preparing their country profiles on specific issues, for papers and presentations.

The following textbooks are suggested for supplementary reading. They are recommended particularly for students who have a limited background in public policy. They are available at MacOdrum Library.


**Weekly Topics and Readings**

**Week 1 (Sept 9): Introduction to Theories of Public Policy**

Introductions and orientation to course. Why study the politics of public policy? Why compare across nations? How are the politics of policy making analyzed? What is the policy process?

**Required Readings:**

- Dodds, Introduction and Chapter 1: Why compare public policies?

**Supplementary Readings:**

**Week 2 (Sep 16): Policy and the Instruments of Governance**

What tools are available to governments in developing policy? How does the study of policy instruments advance the comparative study of public policy? What is the relationship between policy instruments and governance?

**Required Readings:**
- Dodds, Chapter 2: Differences between public policies

**Supplementary Readings:**

**Week 3 (Sep 23): Domestic Governance Challenges and Economic Policy**

How do states differ with respect to their approaches to managing the economy? What factors contribute to the capacity of states to effectively manage economic policy, such as during fiscal crisis? How do partisan political factors influence government decisions? Presentations begin.

**Required Readings:**
- Dodds, Chapter 3: Economic policy

**Supplementary Readings:**

**Week 4 (Sep 30): Policy Regimes and Pension Reform**

How do states differ in their policies to support retirement? In what ways do past policies influence the prospects for reforming social policy? How have nations attempted to or succeeded in reforming their pension systems in recent years? Presentations.

**Required Readings:**
- Dodds, Chapter 4: Welfare policy
Supplementary Readings:

**Week 5 (Oct 7): Policy Regimes and Health Care Systems**
What are the key tools that nations use to ensure affordable, high quality and equitable health care for their citizens? How do existing policy regimes affect the prospects for adapting and/or reforming health systems in the face of new developments and demands? Presentations.

Required Readings:
- Dodds, Chapter 5: Health policy

Supplementary Readings:

**Week 6 (Oct 14): Federal Institutions and Education Policy**

Required Readings:
- Dodds, Chapter 6: Education Policy
Supplementary Readings:

Week 7 (Oct 21): Policy Networks and the Politics of Carbon Markets
How do policy actors organize to influence public policy decisions, both domestically and cross-nationally? How have business and industry groups shaped the selection of policy tools in dealing with climate change mitigation policies, particularly with regard to the development of carbon pricing? Presentations.

Required Readings:
• Dodds, Chapter 7: Environmental policy

Supplementary Readings:

Week 8 (Nov 4): Groups, Social Movements and Same-Sex Marriage Policy
How do social movements and societal groups influence perceptions of morality issues like same-sex marriage? How do groups mobilize support for and legitimate their perspectives and seek policy change? What types of collective action and strategies have groups used support or inhibit policies to legalize same-sex marriage across nations? Presentations.

Required Readings:
• Dodds, Chapter 8: Interests and public policy

Supplementary Readings:

Week 9 (Nov 11): Familialism, Feminism and Family Policy
How do ideas and social norms about gender roles and families influence the type of policies nations develop to support families with young children? How do child care and parental leave policies compare across nations with respect to their impact on gender roles and female labour market participation? Presentations.

Required Readings:
• Dodds, Chapter 9: Ideas and public policy

Supplementary Readings:
• Fleckenstein, T. & Lee (2014). The politics of postindustrial social policy: Family policy reforms in Britain, Germany, South Korea, and Sweden Comparative Political Studies, 47 (4): 601-630
Week 10 (Nov 18): Political Institutions and Immigration Policy

How do political parties and electoral politics influence public perceptions of a nation’s immigration policies? In particular, what has been the impact of centre-right and/or fringe political parties on mainstream party positions? Presentations.

Required Readings:


Supplementary Readings:

- Dodds, Chapter 10: Institutions and public policy

Week 11 (Nov 25): Policy Transfer and Learning in Labour Market Policies

(What) can states learn from each other when it comes to public policy? Under what conditions is policy learning – the transfer of information across boundaries – likely to occur? To be successful? Has policy learning contributed to a convergence in approaches to labour market policy across nations? Presentations.

Required Readings

- Dodds, Chapter 11: Policy Transfer and Learning
**Supplementary Readings**

- Dwyer, P. & N. Ellison (2009). 'We nicked stuff from all over the place': policy transfer or muddling through? *Policy & Politics* 37(3): 389-407

**Week 12 (Dec 2): Globalization and Global Public Policy**

*How do states and the international community address global policy issues? What types of policy tools do transnational governing institutions, such as the WHO, have at their disposal? What has been the impact of the WHO on domestic responses to communicable disease preparedness? Presentations.*

**Required Readings:**

- Dodds, Chapter 12: Policymaking beyond the nation state

**Supplementary Readings:**


Updated 14 August 2014

Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a letter of accommodation. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

• reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
• submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
• using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
• using another’s data or research findings;
• failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
• handing in “substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.
Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of “F” for the course.

**Oral Examination:** At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day’s date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Grading:** Assignments and exams will be graded with a percentage grade. To convert this to a letter grade or to the university 12-point system, please refer to the following table.

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<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>85-89</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>80-84</td>
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<td>57-59</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>73-76</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>53-56</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50-52</td>
<td>D-</td>
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**Grades:** Final grades are derived from the completion of course assignments. Failure to write the final exam will result in the grade ABS. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Carleton E-mail Accounts:** All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

**Carleton Political Science Society:** The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit [http://facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety](http://facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety) or come to our office in Loeb D688.

**Official Course Outline:** The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.