

**Carleton University
Institute of Political Economy
PECO 5501/PSCI 5501/SOCI 5504**

Political Economy and Public Policy: A Scalar Perspective

Tuesday, Thursday: 2:30-5:30

**Instructor: Neil Bradford
Office: 1503 Dunton Tower
Office Hours: 1:00 -2:00 Tuesday and Thursday
Phone: (613) 520-2600 ext. 7566
E-mail: bradford@uwo.ca**

In recent decades, states around the world have devolved and decentralized important policy responsibilities to a range of local actors, urban networks, community organizations, and regional institutions. The result has been a complex array of policy and governance experiments across major public policy fields including economic, social, cultural, environmental, and health. In conceptualizing these dynamics, Political Economy research has creatively advanced a scalar approach to ‘new state spaces’. At the same time, leading approaches in Public Policy remain without a ‘spatial lens’, working through national-level models of the policy cycle from agenda setting to evaluation. This course explores the potential for constructive dialogue across Political Economy and Public Policy traditions for better understanding and assessment of localized modes of governance and inter-scalar policy making. Working with literature at the intersection of Political Economy and Public Policy, several key issue areas will provide focus: economic development (eg. technology clusters/social economy); social inclusion (eg. poverty reduction/child care); cultural diversity (eg. immigrant settlement/indigenous peoples); ecological sustainability (eg. resource stewardship/environmental justice); population health (eg. social determinants/community care).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Seminar Discussion: 15% (participation matters)

Seminar Facilitation: 15% (two students will lead one session)

Reading Reflections: 20% (concise – 3 double-spaced – thoughts on readings from four seminars of your choice, due on Thursday seminar of the readings selected)

Research Essay: 50% (topic of your choice, combining theoretical perspective and illustrative policy case study, due in-class June 19)

COURSE MATERIALS

The course is built through articles, chapters, and reports available on reserve at the university library or online. As such, there is no required text, but two excellent books will be frequently used and provide intellectual context for our work. Students may wish to purchase these books through a seller of their choice.

Keil, Roger and Rianne Mahon (eds.) 2009. *Leviathan Undone? Towards a Political Economy of Scale*. Vancouver: UBC Press

Taylor, Marilyn. 2003. *Public Policy in the Community*. New York: Palgrave MacMillan

COURSE PLAN

PART 1: PUBLIC POLICY AND POLITICAL ECONOMY

May 8 Bringing Scale In (1): Public Policy

M. Howlett, M. Ramesh, and A. Perl, "Introduction: Why Study Public Policy?" in *Studying Public Policy: Policy Cycles & Policy Subsystems* 3rd ed.

M. Taylor, "The Policy Context" in *Public Policy in the Community*

M. Gertler, "Urban Economy and Society in Canada: Flows of People, Capital, and Ideas". *Isuma* (Autumn 2001)

http://www.urbancentre.utoronto.ca/pdfs/elibrary/Gertler_Urb-Eco-Society-Cda.pdf

May 10 Bringing Scale In (2): Political Economy

R. Mahon and R. Keil, "Introduction" in *Leviathan Undone?*

N. Brenner, "A Thousand Leaves: Notes on the Geographies of Uneven Spatial Development" in *Leviathan Undone?*

J. Tomiak, "The Urban Aboriginal Policy Nexus: A Multi-scalar Perspective" Chapter 4 in *Indigenous Self-Determination, Neoliberalization, and the Right to the City: Rescaling Aboriginal Governance in Ottawa and Winnipeg* (Doctoral Dissertation, 2011)

May 15 Bringing Scale In (3): Policy Governance

M. Mason "Collaborative Partnerships for urban development: a study of the Vancouver Agreement. *Environment and Planning A* 39 (10) 2366-2382.

S. Phillips “The Intersection of Governance and Citizenship in Canada: Not Quite the Third Way” IRRP August 2006 <http://www.irpp.org/pm/archive/pmvol7no4.pdf>

S. Bell and A. Park, “The Problematic Metagovernance of Networks: Water Reform in New South Wales”. *Journal of Public Policy* (26:1) 2006.

PART 2: POLICY FIELDS: A SCALAR LENS

May 17 Economic

M. Mendell, “Improving Social Inclusion at the Local Level Through the Social Economy: Designing an Enabling Policy Framework” Paper prepared for OECD.

N. Bradford, “Economic Ideas and Development Strategy: The Case of London, Ontario. *Canadian Planning and Policy/Canadian Journal of Urban Research* 19:1 Supplement 2010.

J. Jenson “Diffusing Ideas for After Neoliberalism: The Social Investment Perspective in Europe and Latin America”. *Global Social Policy* (10:59) 2010.

May 22 Social

P. Smyth, T. Reddel and A. Jones “Social inclusion, new regionalism and associational governance: the Queensland experience” *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 28:3, 601-615.

R. Mahon, “Of Scalar Hierarchies and Welfare Redesign: Child Care in Four Canadian Cities” in *Leviathan Undone?*

J. Conway, “The Empire, the Movement, and the Politics of Scale: Considering the World Social Forum” in *Leviathan Undone?*

May 24 Ecological

G. Werkerle, L. Sandberg, L. Gilbert, “Regional Resistances in an Exurban Region: Intersection of the Politics of Place and the Politics of Scale” in *Leviathan Undone?*

M. Raco, “Sustainable Development, Rolled-out Neoliberalism and Sustainable Communities” *Antipode* (37:2) 324-347, March 2005,

J. Coburn, “Street Science: Characterizing Local Knowledge” in *Street Science: Community Knowledge and Environmental Health Justice*.

May 29 Cultural

L. Sandercock, "Sustaining Canada's Multicultural Cities: Learning from the Local"
<http://www.fedcan.ca/images/File/PDF/BOH/breakfast-sandercock0204.pdf>

A. Scott, "Capitalism and Urbanization in a New Key? The Cognitive-Cultural Dimension" *Social Forces*, (85:4) June 2007.

G.-E. Galabuzi, "The Intersecting Experience of Racialized Poverty and the Criminalization of the Poor" in D. Crocker and V.M. Johnson (eds.) *Poverty, Regulation & Social Justice*.

May 31 Health

McMaster Health Forum , "Issue Brief: Supporting Neighbourhood-based Approaches to Addressing Poverty Concentration and its Impacts on Health in Hamilton"
http://www.mcmasterhealthforum.org/images/docs/addressing%20poverty%20concentration%20and%20its%20impacts%20on%20health_brief_2011-10-06.pdf

C. Rocan, "Multi-level Collaborative Governance: The Canadian Heart Health Initiative", *Optimum Online* (39:4) December 2009.

S. Harris Ali and R. Keil, "Public Health and Political Economy of Scale: Implications for Understanding the Response to the 2003 Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) Outbreak in Toronto" in *Leviathan Undone?*

June 5 Learning

J. Peck, "Political Economies of Scale: Fast Policy, Interscalar Relations, and Neoliberal Workfare" *Economic Geography* (78:3) 331-360, July 2002.

B. Harrison and M. Weiss, "Synthesis and Conclusions: Toward Better Design, Promotion, and Evaluation of Community-Based Workforce Development Networks" in *Workforce Development Networks: Community-Based Organizations and Regional Alliances*.

A. Bramwell, "Networks Are Not Enough ... But They Do Matter: Urban Governance and Workforce Development in Three Ontario Cities" *Urban Affairs Review* (48:3) 2012.

PART 3: MOVING FORWARD: THEORY AND PRACTICE

June 7 Place and Public Policy

M. Taylor, "The Institutional Challenge" in *Public Policy in the Community*

N. Bradford, "Public Policy in Canada: Bringing Place In? In S. Chisholm (ed.) *Investing in Better Places* (London: Smith Institute, 2011)
<http://www.smith-institute.org.uk/file/Investing%20in%20Better%20Places.pdf>

M. Burstein and E. Tolley, “Exploring the Effectiveness of Place-based Program Evaluations”. Report for the PRI April 2011.

http://welcomingcommunities.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/Place-based-Evaluations_Report_2011_FINAL.pdf

June 12 Space and Political Economy

M. Taylor “The Challenge for Communities” in *Public Policy in the Community*

R. Mahon and R. Keil, “ Conclusion” in *Leviathan Undone?*

E. McCann and Kevin Ward “Assembling urbanism: following policies and ‘studying through’ the sites and situations of policy making” *Environment and Planning A* (44:1) 2012.

June 14 TBA/Research Day

June 19 The Inter-scalar State?

M. Hess and D. Adams, “Knowing and Skilling in Contemporary Public Administration” *Australian Journal of Public Administration* (61) 2002, 65-87.

Federal Family on Community Collaboration (2009) “This Much We Know” *Plan Canada Special Edition*.

D. Cook, “Donec Prohibiti, Procidite: Building a Knowledge Infrastructure to Support Place-based Policy” *PRI Horizons* Volume 10 Number 4, 2010.