Draft syllabus, updated March 15, 2021

EVST S253—Policy Analysis and Program Design for Justice and Sustainability
Summer A 2021

Time and days: T, Th, 1:00pm-4:15 EDT
Place: Remotely, on Zoom!
Instructor: Michael Fotos
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Office hours: TBD
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Course overview

This course is premised on the claim that all policy is in its nature a political experiment. As with all experiments, policies depend for their intended outcomes on adequate causal theory. The study of policy problems with implications for justice or sustainability frames essential readings in policy theory and program design, policy analysis, implementation research, and program design and evaluation. Students gain insight on applying theories and principles of policy and program design to 'real world' problems by reading and discussing cases in environmental justice and sustainability and by the study of problems in justice or sustainability of their own choosing.

The course is taught in seminar format and the primary student deliverables include responses to course readings, participation in daily/weekly seminar sessions, an annotated bibliography and literature review on a policy problem of their choosing, and a policy analytic report with policy recommendations that they present in a mock professional setting. The course is non-quantitative and designed to be accessible to all students with an interest in the topics covered. The course has no prerequisites but previous exposure to concepts in microeconomics and American policy processes are beneficial.

Course objectives

In EVST S253, students learn how to conduct empirical policy analysis using the "eightfold process" outlined in *A Practical Guide to Policy Analysis* by Eugene Bardach and they

learn the essentials of program design incorporating an applied theory of change according to the Kellogg Logic Model template. Students who complete EVST S253 will know how to

- define a policy problem,
- frame questions to be answered by investigation,
- locate other studies of the problem, relevant professional literature, and subject matter experts,
- locate their investigations with respect to underlying social conditions and in relation to other studies of the problem,
- identify alternatives for remediating the policy problem,
- select economic, justice, and sustainability criteria that are appropriate for evaluating the identified policy alternatives,
- choose appropriate metrics for measuring policy outcomes and impacts,
- collect data or evidence as required to fulfill the metrics and project outcomes,
- analyze and present their findings, and
- compare policy alternatives and recommend one based on the projected outcomes.

By taking this course, students will gain experience

- reading across disciplines in the professional policy analytic literature,
- writing a literature review on a topical policy problem,
- composing an empirical policy study that comports with recognized professional standards,
- using logic models to address questions of program design and policy evaluation,
- constructing implementation scenarios and projecting outcomes and impacts,
- connecting policy choices to the challenges of implementation and program design, and
- presenting their work in a professional setting.

The term-length project

Students will prepare an annotated bibliography and topical literature review based on ten additional sources (outside the required readings listed below) and submit a policy analytic study of a policy problem in justice or sustainability of their own choosing. Periodically throughout the term, students will submit written work indicative of their progress in preparing the final research project, e.g. the annotated bibliography, lit review, etc. For the final assignments, students will prepare and present their policy analytic study and discuss theirs and other student presentations.

Daily and weekly work

For each class meeting, students will read and discuss selected items from the professional literature on policy analysis, microeconomic and political theory, justice, and

sustainability including case materials that illuminate the methods of research and social theories covered in class and the readings. Daily or weekly readings with written responses and class discussion will enable students to better relate their work to the professional stream in policy analysis. Students can expect to encounter 100-150 total pages of assigned reading for each day the course meets. Daily readings will be divided between the 'a' and 'b' sessions as described below. Students will necessarily encounter substantial additional reading to complete their policy analytic research projects.

Total writing requirement

Students in this course can expect to complete approximately 8000 words of original writing divided among reading responses (6x100=600), problem statement (250), annotated bibliography (1500), logic model (1200), literature review (1000), presentation (750), Criteria-Alternative matrix (1200), and final report (1500).

Contribution to course grades

Attendance and participation	20%
Written responses to the readings	15%
Statement of policy problem	5%
Annotated bibliography	10%
Logic model exercise	10%
Literature review	10%
Criteria-Alternatives Matrix	10%
Presentation	5%
Final report	15%

Key dates and deadlines

Statement of policy problem	June 10, before class
Preliminary bibliography/reading list	June 14, 9am
Annotated bibliography	June 18, 5pm
Literature review	June 25, 5pm
Preliminary Criteria-Alternatives Matrix	June 29, before class
Logic model exercise	July 1, before class
Final Criteria-Alternatives Matrix	July 6, before class
Presentation	July 8, in class
Final report	July 9, 5pm

The required books are:[1]

Bardach, Eugene and Patashnik, Eric M. 2016 (4th ed.). *A Practical Guide to Policy Analysis (This book has been published in multiple editions. Students need the 4th edition or later to keep up on the course.)*, Washington: CQ Press. (used from $4.69, new 6th edition (2020) from $36.28)

Graff, Gerald and Birkenstein, Cathy. 2018. *The Say/I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing (4th edition)*, New York and London: W. W. Norton & Co. (new from $26.15)

Logic Model Development Guide: Using Logic Models to Bring Together Planning, Evaluation, and Action, (1998, updated January 2004) Battle Creek MI: W.K. Kellogg Foundation. (available online for free)

Highly recommended:

Style: The Basics of Clarity and Grace (4th edition), Joseph M. Williams and Gregory G. Colomb (2012, 2009, 2006) New York: Longman. (used from $17.74)

Outline of class meetings and daily topics

Except for the last day, class meetings will be divided into two sessions (a & b) of roughly equal length and the daily readings divided between them. Students are expected to complete the assigned readings in advance of the date listed. Every class meeting will include time set aside to discuss student research projects.

Tuesday, June 8
Meeting 1a. Course introduction, discussion of student research ideas
Read in advance (*68 pages*): Syllabus, Bardach/*Practical Guide* (Preface, Introduction), Booth et al./*Craft of Research* (Chapters 3 & 4)
Meeting 1b. Introduction to analysis
Read in advance (*32 pages*): Bardach/*Practical Guide* (Appendix A), Dery/*Problem Definition* (Preface, chapter 1), Graff and Birkenstein/*They Say/I Say* ("Don't Blame the Eater")
In class: *writing exercise*

Thursday, June 10
Meeting 2a. Language, concepts, knowledge, and values
Read in advance (*46 pages*): Ostrom/*Artisanship and Artifact*, Graff and Birkenstein/*They Say/I Say* (Preface, Introduction, "Nuclear Waste")
Meeting 2b. What's this all about anyway?
Read in advance (*78 pages*): Bardach/*Practical Guide* (all of Part I (steps 1-8)),

[1] Online prices as of November 12, 2020.

Tuesday, June 15

Meeting 3a. The craft of policy analysis

Read in advance: (*69 pages*) Lindblom/*The science of muddling through*, Lindblom/*Still muddling, not yet through*, Knopf/*Doing a literature review*, Graff and Birkenstein/*They Say/I Say/Chapters 1, 11, & 14, Index of Templates*

Meeting 3b. Cases in economic justice—ghettos, captured gardens, and enforced poverty

Read in advance: (59 *pages*) Stoll/*The captured garden: subsistence under industrial capitalism*, Shelby/*Prisons of the forgotten: ghettos and economic injustice*, Graff and Birkenstein/*They Say/I Say/Chapter 2*

Thursday, June 17

Meeting 4a. Markets and governments

Read in advance: (*71 pages*) Hayek/*The use of knowledge in society*, Stigler/*The theory of economic regulation*, Coase/*The lighthouse in economics*, Graff and Birkenstein/*They Say/I Say/chapters 3 & 12*

Meeting 4b. Transaction costs and environmental justice—*DuPont's Dark Waters*

Read in advance: (*~ 60 pages*) Coase/*The problem of social cost*, Rich/*The lawyer who became DuPont's worst nightmare*

Tuesday, June 22

Meeting 5a. Public service industries

Read in advance: (*77 pages*) Ostrom, Tiebout, and Warren/*The organization of government in metropolitan areas*, Bardach/*Appendices B and C*, Ostrom and Ostrom/*Public goods and public choices*

Meeting 5b. Working on the lit reviews

Read in advance: (*66 pages*) Graff and Birkenstein/*They Say/I Say/chapters 4, 5, 6, & 7*, Orwell/*Politics and the English Language*

Thursday, June 24

Meeting 6a. Knowing what you need to know about your policy problem

Read in advance: (*45 pages*) Bardach/*Parts II & III*, Graff and Birkenstein/*They Say/I Say/chapters 8, 9, & 10*

Meeting 6b. Turning ideas into policy and policy into programs

Read in advance: (*71 pages*) W. K. Kellogg Foundation/*Logic Model Development Guide (all)*

Tuesday, June 29

Meeting 7a. Rent-seeking—unjust and insidious

Read in advance: (*45 pages*) Krueger/*The political economy of the rent-seeking society*, Case and Deaton/*Why is capitalism failing so many? & How American healthcare is undermining lives*

Meeting 7b. Racial and environmental justice—Katrina and its successors

Read in advance: (*~60 pages*) Bullard and Wright/*Recovery and reconstruction in post-Katrina New Orleans*, Sylves/*TBD*

Thursday, July 1, Oh, Canada!

Meeting 8a. Review and work on student projects in class

Read in advance: More Bardach, read for your projects

Meeting 8b. The politics of policy and implementation research

Read in advance: (*68 pages*) Lowi/*Four systems of policy, politics, and choice*, Sabatier/*An advocacy coalition framework of policy change*, Sabatier and Pelkey/*Incorporating Multiple Actors and Guidance Instruments into Models of Regulatory Policymaking*

Tuesday, July 6

Meeting 9a. Behavioral economics, prospect theory, and the power of frames

Read in advance: (*55 pages*) Tversky and Kahneman/*Rational Choice and the Framing of Decisions*, Kahneman and Tversky/*Prospect Theory: An Analysis of Decision under Risk*

Meeting 9b. Cost-benefit analysis

Reading: Fotos, 2017, unpublished manuscript;

Thursday, July 8

Meetings 10a & b. Student presentations of policy analytic reports

Supplemental required or recommended readings

Regular reading assignments will include papers, articles, and excerpted portions of the books as listed below.

Anderies, John M. and Janssen, Marco A. 2017 [2013]. *Sustaining the Commons V. 2.0*, Tempe AZ: Arizona State University, Center for the Study of Institutional Diversity, http://sustainingthecommons.asu.edu

Booth, W. C., et al. 2016. *The Craft of Research (4th ed.)*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Bullard, Robert D. and Wright, Beverly. 2012. *The Wrong Complexion for Protection: How the Government Response to Disaster Endangers African American Communities*. New York and London: New York University Press.

Case, Anne and Deaton, Angus. 2020. *Deaths of Despair and the Future of Capitalism*. Princeton NJ and Oxford: Princeton University Press.

Coase, Ronald. 1960. "The Problem of Social Cost," *Journal of Law and Economics*. 3:1-44.

_____. 1974. "The Lighthouse in Economics," *Journal of Law and Economics*. 17:357-76.

Dery, David. 1984. *Problem Definition in Policy Analysis*, Lawrence KS: University Press of Kansas.

Fotos, III, M. A. 2017. "Public Goods and the Diagnosis of Counterintentional Policy Outcomes," in *Institutional Diversity in Self-Governing Societies: The Bloomington School and*

Beyond, edited by Filippo Sabetti and Dario Castiglione. Lanham MD: Lexington Books. 213-38.

Hayek, F. A. 1945. "The Use of Knowledge in Society," *American Economic Review*, 35:4(September), pp. 519-30.

Kahneman, Daniel and Amos Tversky, "Prospect Theory: An Analysis of Decision under Risk," *Econometrica*, Vol. 47, No. 2 (Mar., 1979), pp. 263-291.

Kingdon, John W. 1984. *Agendas, Alternatives and Public Policies*. Boston: Little, Brown and Co.

Knopf, Jeffrey. 2006, "Doing a Literature Review," *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 40, 1:127-32 (January 2006).

Krueger, Anne O. "The Political Economy of the Rent-Seeking Society." *The American Economic Review*, vol. 64, no. 3, 1974, pp. 291–303.

Lindblom, Charles E. "Still Muddling, Not Yet Through," *Public Administration Review*, Vol. 39, No. 6 (Nov. - Dec., 1979), pp. 517-526.

_____. "The Science of "Muddling Through," *Public Administration Review*, Vol. 19, No. 2 (Spring, 1959), pp. 79-88.

Lowi, Theodore J. "Four Systems of Policy, Politics, and Choice," *Public Administration Review*, 32, 3: 298-310 (July-August 1972).

Munger, M. 2000. *Analyzing Policy: Choices, Conflicts, and Practices*, New York: W.W. Norton.

Olson, Mancur. 1969. The Principle of "Fiscal Equivalence": The Division of Responsibilities among Different Levels of Government. *The American Economic Review, 59*(2), 479-487.

Orren, Karen and Skowronek, Stephen. 2017. *The Policy State: An American Predicament*. Cambridge MA and London: Harvard University Press.

Orwell, George. 1946. "Politics and the English Language," *Why I Write*. New York: Penguin Books.

Ostrom, Vincent. 2012 [1991]. "Some Ontological and Epistemological Puzzles in Policy Analysis," prepared for presentation to the American Political Science Association meeting panel on "The Future of Policy Analysis," August 30, 1991.

Ostrom, Vincent. 1980. "Artisanship and Artifact," *Public Administration Review*. 40(July-August)309-17.

Ostrom, Vincent and Elinor Ostrom. 1978. "Public Goods and Public Choices: The Emergence of Public Economies and Industry Structures," Working Paper 78-1.

Ostrom, Vincent, Charles Tiebout, and Robert Warren. 1961. “The Organization of Government in Metropolitan Areas: A Theoretical Inquiry,” *American Political Science Review*, 55 (December) 831-42.

Pelzman, Sam. 1976. "Toward a More General Theory of Regulation." *Journal of Law and Economics*. 19:211-40.

Pielke, Jr., Roger. 2007. *The Honest Broker: Making Sense of Science in Policy and Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Pollock, Philip H. 2009. *The Essentials of Political Analysis (3rd edition)*, Washington: CQ Press.

Rich, Nathaniel. 2016. “The Lawyer Who Became DuPont’s Worst Nightmare,” *The New York Times Magazine*. (January 6)

Sabatier, Paul. 1986. "Top-Down and Bottom-Up Approaches to Implementation Research: A Critical Analysis and Suggested Synthesis," *Journal of Public Policy*. 6:21-48.

Sabatier, Paul A. 1988. “An Advocacy Coalition Framework of Policy Change and the Role of Policy-Oriented Learning Therein,” *Policy Sciences*. 21: (2/3) 129-168.

Sabatier, Paul and Pelkey, Neil. 1987. “Incorporating Multiple Actors and Guidance Instruments into Models of Regulatory Policymaking: an Advocacy Coalition Framework.” *Administration and Society*. 19:2 (August) 236-263.

Schattschneider, E. E. 1960. *The Semi-Sovereign People: a realist’s view of democracy in America*. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.

Shelby, Tommie and Terry, Brandon M. 2018. *To Shape a New World: Essays on the Political Philosophy of Martin Luther King, Jr.* Cambridge MA and London: The Belknap Press of the Harvard University Press.

Shively, W. Phillips. 2011 [2005]. *The Craft of Political Research, 8th ed.* Boston et al.: Longman.

Stigler, George. 1971. "The Theory of Economic Regulation," *Bell Journal of Economic and Management Science*. 2:3-21.

Stoll, Steven. 2017. *Ramp Hollow: The Ordeal of Appalachia*. New York, NY: Hill and Wang.

Sylves, R. 2008. *Disaster Policy & Politics: Emergency Management and Homeland Security*, Washington: CQ Press.

Tullock, Gordon. 1980. “Rent Seeking as a Negative-Sum Game,” in Buchanan, J. M., Tollison, R. D., and Tullock, G. (eds.) *Toward a Theory of the Rent-Seeking Society*. College Station: Texas A&M Press. (16-36)

Tversky, Amos and Daniel Kahneman, "Rational Choice and the Framing of Decisions." *The Journal of Business*, Vol. 59, No. 4, Part 2: The Behavioral Foundations of Economic Theory (Oct., 1986), pp. S251-S278.

von Mises, Ludwig. 2011 [1940]. *Interventionism: an economic analysis; edited and with a foreword by Bettina Bien Greaves*. Indianapolis IN: Liberty Fund.

Williamson, Oliver E. 1985. *The Economic Institutions of Capitalism: Firms, Markets, Relational Contracting*. New York: The Free Press.

Academic Integrity

The strength of the university depends on academic and personal integrity. In this course, you must be honest and truthful. Plagiarism is the use of someone else's work, words, or ideas as if they were your own. Here are three reasons not to do it:

- By far the deepest consequence to plagiarizing is the detriment to your intellectual and moral development: you won't learn anything, and your ethics will be corrupted.
- Giving credit where it's due but adding your own reflection will get you higher grades than putting your name on someone else's work. In an academic context, it counts more to show your ideas in conversation than to try to present them as *sui generis*.
- Finally, Yale punishes academic dishonesty severely. The most common penalty is suspension from the university, but students caught plagiarizing are also subject to lowered or failing grades as well as the possibility of expulsion. Please be sure to review **Yale's Academic Integrity Policy**.

You can find a fuller discussion of using sources and avoiding plagiarism on the **Writing Center Website**.