

POLS*4280: The Politics Behind Policy: Problems, Design, and Outcomes

Credit Weighting: 0.5

Pre-/Co-Requisites: See WebAdvisor

Restrictions: See WebAdvisor

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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GENERAL DETAILS

How do policy makers choose what problems to address? How are policies designed to tackle contemporary social, economic, and political problems? And what are the effects of these choices? This course will critically examine key phases of the policy making process while paying particular attention to the role of institutions, ideas, and interests in driving policy change and stasis. Each week will include at least one reading where scholars apply these theories to specific policy fields

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The goal of this course is to enable students to understand and critically assess how and why public policies are made in contemporary democratic systems by exploring the relationship between politics and public policy. By the end of the course, students should be able to use their theoretical base to better understand numerous aspects of the policymaking process in Canada and comparatively.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

REQUIRED READING

All texts can be electronically accessed through the University library or uploaded on CourseLink.