Instructor: Ramiro Berardo, Ph.D.
Office: 2003E.
Phone: (414) 382-1784.
Office Hours: SFS 2003E, Wednesdays 12:00-1:30 pm, Thursdays 4:00-5:15 pm, or by appointment. Also, if my door is open wide open, it means I’m available. Door half-way open is code for “I may or may not have time right now” but you are welcome to try!

Course Description

This course is designed to achieve a double goal. The first goal is to give students access to basic concepts, models, and theoretical frameworks that have been developed over decades of public policy scholarship to describe and explain the inner functioning of policy-making process. The second goal is to have students apply this knowledge to the study of particular water policy problems that they deem important, focusing on the design and implementation of relevant water policy that may help solve those problems. The course will be divided in three main blocks. The first block will expose students to what we could call ”policy fundamentals”. Students will learn what a public policy is, what are the different types of policies, and the social and political conditions that increase (or decrease) the likelihood that a policy issue will be enacted. The second block will cover some of the main models and theoretical frameworks that can be used to describe and explain how policy comes to be designed and adopted. We will concentrate in five of them: the Multiple Streams model, the Institutional Analysis and Development framework, the Advocacy Coalition framework, the Punctuated Equilibrium theory, and the Ecology of Games framework. Finally, the third block will be devoted to an individual research project where the students will detect and study ongoing water problems or controversies that are likely to prompt a policy response at either the local, state, national, or international levels.
Course Website. The course’s website is anchored in D2L (Desire to Learn). Please check the website regularly for changes and updates of this syllabus and other course material. Most readings (other than the assigned book) are available there.

Books: You have to purchase the following book, which you can find at Amazon.com:


You will also notice that there are other books listed in this syllabus, but we’ll read only a few chapters from each, and those will be provided to you in electronic format. You don’t need to buy them!

Evaluation

Participation. I expect every student taking this class for credit to actively engage in discussion during our meetings. Additionally, every student will lead discussion one week (the schedule will be released in the second week, check D2L!). Whenever she/he leads, the student will begin by summarizing the week’s reading/s, stating the main ideas of the author/s, the limitations of the work, and the potential applications to water topics. Participation accounts for 20 % of the final grade.

Stakeholder Analysis. Students will complete a stakeholders analysis of a problem of their choosing. The SA will account for 25 % of the final grade.

Research Proposal. The research proposal is due at the end of the semester and it cannot exceed 5000 words. For this activity, you will choose a water-related problem and write a proposal to analyze it. The topic is open (the proposal can be about any problem you want), but you need to discuss it with me! You should pick a topic by mid/late February, so feel free to contact me during office hours or in class to talk about your proposal ideas. The proposal accounts for 35 % of the grade and it is due on May 4th at noon. I will heavily penalized late submissions (one letter grade for each hour of tardiness), so plan accordingly.

Short Presentations. Each student in the class will make two presentations to the rest of the class, one about their stakeholder analysis and one about their final paper (see schedule for more details). More details about these presentations will be provided later in the semester. These presentations will account for 20 % of the final grade.

Grading System
A: 93 or more points
A-: 90 to 92.9 points
B+: 87 to 89.9 points
B: 83 to 86.9 points
B-: 80 to 82.9 points
C+: 77 to 79.9 points
C: 73 to 76.9 points
C-: 70 to 72.9 points
D+: 67 to 69.9 points
D: 63 to 66.9 points
D-: 60 to 62.9 points
E: lower than 60 points

Policy on Class Absences. I will discount 20 points of the final grade for any student that misses more than two meetings throughout the semester.

Time Allocation

To comply with a Higher Learning Commission requirement, this syllabus provides information on the investment of time by an average student to achieve the learning goals of the course.

The amount of time that an average student should expect to spend on this class, in order to achieve the learning goals of the course, is given below.

Time in the classroom (face to face instruction and presentations/workshops): 37 hours
Time taking exams: 0 hours
Time completing assignments: 20 hours
Time completing final project: 40 Time for short presentations: 4 Time for reading (preparation and study): 43 hours

The total number of hours: 144 hours (48 hours/credit)

University Policies
The Secretary of the University web site contains the university policies, the link is:
http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/SyllabusLinks.pdf

Students with disabilities. Special accommodations are provided to meet learning and testing needs in a timely manner. http://www4.uwm.edu/sac/SACltr.pdf

Religious observances. Accommodations for absences due to religious observance should be noted.http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S1.5.htm

Students called to active military duty. Accommodations for absences due to call-up of reserves to active military duty should be noted.
Students: http://www4.uwm.edu/current_students/military_call_up.cfm
Employees: http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S40.htm

Incompletes. A notation of “incomplete” may be given in lieu of a final grade to a student who has carried a subject successfully until the end of a semester but who, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond the student’s control, has been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of term work. http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S31.pdf

Discriminatory conduct. Discriminatory conduct will not be tolerated by the University. It poisons the work and learning environment of the University and threatens the careers, educational experience, and well-being of students, faculty, and staff. http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S47.pdf

Academic misconduct. Cheating on exams or plagiarism are violations of the academic honor code and carry severe sanctions, including failing a course or even suspension or dismissal from the University.
http://www4.uwm.edu/acad_aff/policy/academicmisconduct.cfm

Complaint procedures. To be addressed by the academic unit in which the complaint occurred or the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy.
http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S49.7.htm

Grade appeal procedures. Procedures are available in writing from the respective department or the Academic Dean of the College/School.
http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S28.htm

Final exam requirements. http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S22.htm
Course Schedule

Week 1 - January 27
Introduction

No required reading this week!

We will spend time covering the syllabus, and I’ll give a 30-minute lecture covering ongoing water policy problems on which you may want to focus the paper: Water diversions from the Great Lakes to other basins, invasive species, nutrient overload in Lake Erie and Green Bay, water use in Agriculture, fracking, to name a few.

Week 2 - February 3
Defining Public Policy-Typologies-Incrementalism

Required reading:


Contaminate Candidate List. Visit the EPA’s website for Contaminant Candidate List and familiarize yourself as much as possible with the process of designing the CCL. [http://water.epa.gov/scitech/drinkingwater/dws/ccl/]

Suggested reading:


**Week 3 - February 10**

**Multiple Streams Theory**

**Required reading:**

Sabatier (chapter 2).


**Suggested readings:**


**Week 4 - February 17**

**Advocacy Coalition Framework**

**Required reading:**

Sabatier (chapter 6).


**Suggested readings:**


**Week 5 - February 24**

**The Narrative Policy Framework**
Required reading:

Sabatier (chapter 7).


Suggested readings:


Week 6 - March 3
Institutional Analysis and Development Framework

Required reading:

Sabatier (chapter 8).


Suggested reading:


**Week 7 - March 10**

*Tanya Heikkila’s Visit*

**Required reading:**


Dr. Heikkila will visit the class for about an hour. All students are expected to attend her research talk later in the day at SFS.

**Week 8 - March 17**

*Spring Recess - No class!*

**Week 9 - March 24**

*Collaborative Management and Natural Resources*

**Required reading:**


Suggested reading:


**Week 10 - March 31**

**Stakeholders Analysis**

**Required reading:**


**Week 11 - April 7**  
Research Proposal - Workshop I

**Required reading:**


**Week 12 - April 14**  
Research Proposal - Workshop II

**Week 13 - April 21**  
Presentation of Stakeholder Analysis

Presenters will have 15 to 20 minutes to present their stakeholder analysis. Further instructions will be available in D2L.

**Week 14 - April 28**  
Discussion on Research Proposals

Each student will make a short presentation about their research proposals (10 minutes), which will include:

- Problem to analyze (including research question if it has been made explicit)
- Main theoretical framework to be utilized in the analysis (explaining why it has been chosen)
- Subjects for study
- Measurement
- data-collection methods

The goal for the day will be to discuss the research proposals, and provide useful guidance on how to improve the final product.
Week 15 - May 5
Presentation Research Proposals

Presenters will have 15 to 20 minutes to present their proposals. Further instructions will be available in D2L.