Public Policy 201 (Sec. 12): Politics & the Policy Process  
Mondays, 3:30-6:00, MPA 305  
Fall 2005, George Washington University

Required Books

Exams
The course features two take-home exams. The first will be distributed in class on October 17 and due in class October 24. The second will be distributed in class on December 7 and will be due by noon on December 19. Do not email me exams.

Papers
The paper assignment this semester will be a case study applying some particular theoretical approach, or set of approaches, to a specific policy issue. We will discuss the papers in detail early in the semester. A brief summary of your topic (~1 page) is due in class on October 17. Topics must be approved by me beforehand. Be prepared to briefly discuss your topic in class on October 24. The paper is due in class on December 7. Do not email me papers.

Grading
Your course grade will be based on the paper, two exams, and participation as follows:

First Exam: 30%  
Second Exam: 30%  
Paper: 30%  
Participation: 10%.

Academic Integrity
All examinations, papers, and other graded work products and assignments are to be completed in conformance with the George Washington University Code of Academic Integrity.
Course Schedule

You should be prepared to discuss each reading at each class. Excepting the two texts, all readings are available on Blackboard or on J-STOR (which can be accessed through ALADIN).

September 12
COURSE INTRODUCTION

September 19
STAGES OF THE POLICY PROCESS
• Anderson, chs. 1-7

ARENAS OF POWER

September 26
MULTIPLE STREAMS
• Kingdon, all

October 3
BIG N COMPARATIVE STUDIES

INCREMENTALISM
October 10

PUNCTUATED EQUILIBRIUM


October 17

CONSTRUCTIVISM


ADVOCACY COALITION FRAMEWORK


TOOLS OF GOVERNMENT


*Exams distributed at the end of class. Paper summaries due in class.*

October 24

Exams due in class. Discussion of exam and term papers.
October 31

INNOVATION AND DIFFUSION


COMPETITION IN A FEDERAL SYSTEM


November 7

CONGRESS

November 14

PRESIDENCY


November 21

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH


November 28

MACRO-POLITICS AND POLICY CHANGE

- Mayhew, David. 1991 *Divided We Govern* New Haven: Yale University Press, chs. 1, 3-4 (Blackboard)
December 7

JUDICIARY


Paper due in class.

Exam distributed in class, due by noon December 19.