



**PPOL 507 - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR FOR SECOND YEAR MPP STUDENTS
FALL TERM 2020 (1 CREDIT)
MONDAYS, 3:00-3:50 PM, ON ZOOM/REMOTE LEARNING**

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Office Hours: By appointment via Zoom or phone

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to help you successfully complete your MPP: plan your second year, think about policy and theoretical frameworks for your essay, finalize a strong committee, develop and get committee approval for a project abstract, and think about “what happens next” – looking for and finding a good job. The class will include a mixture of professional development topics (e.g., creating abstracts, developing project timelines, job searching,) and application of theories and frameworks to a variety of projects.

If you have not already identified a topic for your essay, now is the time. Work closely with your major advisor this term to nail down the subject and scope of your essay. It is always possible (and very typical) to modify your essay as you move through the analysis – you’ll find better or tighter questions, new ideas, etc. as you work through this term. But, you need to start somewhere, and now is the time to start.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Be able to apply at least one theoretical framework to your own work to help you formulate appropriate policy recommendations resulting from your project. This will be assessed through Policy Framework Assignment and your draft abstract.
- Have the ability to communicate with others regarding policy in general and with your project’s policy recommendations in particular. This will be assessed through your participation in class, presentation of your own ideas, and a sample Powerpoint slide describing the theoretical basis of your essay project.

MPP LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a nationally accredited program, the Master of Public Policy (MPP) program must comply with three sets of learning outcomes: program outcomes, OSU Graduate School outcomes, and the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) required competencies. More specifically the learning outcomes are:

OSU GRADUATE SCHOOL LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR MPP

- Conduct research or produce some other form of creative work
- Demonstrate mastery of subject material
- Be able to conduct scholarly or professional activities in an ethical manner

NASPAA UNIVERSAL REQUIRED COMPETENCIES FOR MPP:

- To lead and manage in public governance
- To participate in and contribute to the policy process
- To analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make decisions
- To articulate and apply a public service perspective
- To communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry

MPP PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- The ability to conduct original policy research that extends the knowledge of both policy and other social science disciplines.
- Substantive knowledge in an area of concentration that allows for immediate immersion in a relevant policy arena.
- Experience in the practice of policy analysis, development, and implementation through an appropriate professional practicum.
- A commitment to both domestic and international diversity, which will allow our students to navigate an increasingly interconnected world, and to work with stakeholders from various backgrounds, and address policy fields that are relevant to a variety of different populations. In this, we also follow OSU's Mission statement, which supports an education in diversity "because it enhances our education and provides tools to be culturally respectful, professionally competent, and civically responsible."
- Skills and experience in designing and presenting in both formal and informal venues with students, practitioners, and community members.
- High ethical standards in public policy research, teaching, and service.
- The development of a public service ethic resulting in student understanding of the significance of working collectively, in collaboration with the public and prioritizing the desires of citizens, communities, and society at large.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| • Participation | 15% |
| • Individual Development Plan | 10% |
| • Resume and Cover Letter | 10% |
| • Theoretical Framework Assignment | 20% |
| • Presentation | 20% |
| • Proposed Essay Abstract | 25% |

GRADING SCALE

- | | |
|------|-----------|
| • A | [95-100%] |
| • A- | [90-94%] |
| • B+ | [87-89%] |
| • B | [83-86%] |
| • B- | [80-82%] |
| • C+ | [77-79%] |
| • C | [73-76%] |
| • C- | [70-72%] |
| • D+ | [67-69%] |
| • D | [63-66%] |
| • D- | [60-62%] |
| • F | [0-59%] |

ASSIGNMENTS

- **Participation.** Come to all classes, do preparatory reading, participate in discussions, have assignments done on time. Attendance is required for all classes. If you must miss a session, please let the instructor know prior to class – assignments are still due by the due date.
- **Individual Development Plan and Outline for your Second Year. Due October 12 (Week 3).** Use the Individual Development Plan form and the Calendar to articulate goals and a timeline for completing your MPP degree this year. Make sure that the two documents match up.
- **Theoretical Framework Assignment. Due October 19 (Week 4) .** Choose one of these frameworks and use your research interest to discuss an idea for a project that could apply and "test" the framework: (a)

Social Construction; (b) Institutional Analysis and Development; (c) Advocacy Coalition; or (d) Narrative Policy. You don't have to use one of these frameworks in your own research. This is an exercise in thinking theoretically. In 1-2 pages, address these three questions:

1. What is the general research question?
 2. What variables does the framework point you toward?
 3. What is the hypothesized relationship among those variables?
- **Resume and Cover Letter. Due November 16 (Week 8)** . Find a job that you would like to have after you earn your degree. Check usajobs.gov; idealist.org; indeed.com; interaction.org; oregon.gov/jobs; or other sites you know of. Create a resume and write a cover letter applying for that job.
 - **Presentation. Due November 23 or 30 (Week 9 or 10)**. Create 1-3 slides that depict a theoretical or policy framework as it is applied to your proposed project. The slides should make your work as memorable and understandable as possible. The slides could depict a conceptual model, visuals of some kind, or whatever you think is the best possible presentation of your research and the theoretical or policy framework you will apply.
 - **Proposed Abstract for your Essay. Due November 30 (Week 10)**. Working with your major advisor, develop an abstract of your proposed project: statement of the problem, data collection and analysis methods, and theoretical framework you will use to analyze the data. ***This abstract must be signed by your major advisor and all committee members to be complete.*** An abstract form is included at the end of this syllabus as Appendix B.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Tasks/Due</i>
1	September 28	Introduction – Planning Your Year	None
2	October 5	Your Committee	None
3	October 12	Thinking Theoretically	Individual Development Plan
4	October 19	Research/Essay Topics	Theoretical Framework Assignment
5	October 26	Writing an MPP Essay	None
6	November 2	Abstract Workshop	Draft Essay Abstract
7	November 9	Professional Development	None
8	November 16	Job Search and Applications	Resume and Cover Letter
9	November 23	Presentations	Slides
10	November 30	Presentations	Slides; Signed Abstract

ZOOM LOGIN INFORMATION

Every Monday from September 28 through November 30, 2020
3:00 PM Pacific Time

Link to Join Zoom Meetings

<https://oregonstate.zoom.us/j/96163309079?pwd=SjdMZVBuc3UyK0txK2Z2dXRpRDJ3Zz09>

Meeting Password: 349542

Meeting ID: 961 6330 9079

Phone Dial-In Information: 971-247-1195

STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by Disability Access Services (DAS). If you, as a student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098 or at <http://ds.oregonstate.edu>. DAS notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Expectations regarding student conduct at OSU apply and may be referenced here: <https://studentlife.oregonstate.edu/studentconduct>.

REACH OUT FOR SUCCESS

University students encounter setbacks from time to time. If you encounter difficulties and need assistance, it's important to reach out. Consider discussing the situation with an instructor or academic advisor. Learn about resources that assist with wellness and academic success at <https://counseling.oregonstate.edu/reach-out-success>. If you are in immediate crisis, please contact the Crisis Text Line by texting OREGON to 741-741 or call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

APPENDIX A: INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN



INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
OSU School of Public Policy

1. Name (Last, First, MI)		2. Current Year in Program		3. Supervisor's Name		4. Academic Year	
THREE-YEAR PLAN & GOALS							
5. Year 1 Developmental Goals				6. Year 2 Developmental Goals			7. Year 3 Developmental Goals (PhD students only)
8. DEVELOPMENTAL OBJECTIVES		9. PURPOSE		10. PRIORITY	11. DESCRIPTION OF PLANNED DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITY		12. EVIDENCE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT
Student Signature and Date				Committee Chair Signature and Date			

(This form is available on Canvas so you can have the full page to fill out.)

APPENDIX B: ESSAY ABSTRACT APPROVAL



Oregon State
University

A DRAFT ABSTRACT FOR THE MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY (MPP) ESSAY

Student Name:

Essay Title:

Abstract:

Draft Abstract Approved:

Name, Major Advisor

Signature

Date

Name, Committee Member

Signature

Date

Name, Committee Member

Signature

Date