

**School of Public Policy
New Course Descriptions
Spring 2016**

MPP 607.01 Policy Seminar (Capstone): International Relations/National Security (See catalog for full description.)

James Coyle

Capstone – Group

This course represents the capstone experience of the master's program here at Pepperdine. The expectation is that students will prepare a detailed, sophisticated regional U.S. national security strategy for the President and the National Security Council. The policy analysis will not only provide a detailed assessment of American foreign policy and the issues surrounding it, but also provide the client with a detailed implementation analysis for the future. The details of the assignment and process will be provided under the "timeline" section of the syllabus.

MPP 607.02 Policy Seminar (Capstone): Major Issues in Public Policy (See catalog for full description.)

Robert Kaufman

Capstone – Individual

The Major Issues in Public Policy Capstone course will provide the student to the opportunity to generate a rigorous, well-argued research paper, with policy implications. The subjects and methodologies are open. Students will develop a clear, cogent, research design, choosing a topic that is significant but manageable within the confines of a semester. The professor will review at least two drafts of the paper, which each student will have to defend publicly in the final week of class in a point-counterpoint format, paired with a fellow student. In this way, the course hopes to refine the student's capacity to write a worthy policy paper within at least hailing distance of publishable quality.

MPP 607.03 Policy Seminar (Capstone): Where Markets and Government Fail (See catalog for full description.)

Sean Jasso

Capstone – Individual

This capstone course is designed for the student to research a policy domain of their choice culminating with a rigorous policy analysis and presentation. The overarching aim is that the student's policy analysis becomes a high-valued document (much like a master's thesis) showcasing intellectual prowess for a wide audience, yet more directly, a future employer. The traditional rationale for public policy is upheld by the theoretical context of "market failure" and/or "government failure"—each a central pillar of study in this capstone course through key readings and case studies in the field. The learning outcomes include advanced practice in critical thinking, expository writing, and public policy analysis skills preparing the student nearing their commencement for success in the competitive market.

MPP 647.01 Seminar in American Politics: History of the American Welfare State

William Voegeli

American Politics or State and Local Policy

Every modern, prosperous nation has a "welfare state," or "safety net": a set of policies and programs designed to alleviate poverty, bolster economic security, and expand both opportunities and people's ability to take advantage of them. To give students a better understanding of American social welfare policy, this course will consider it in contexts. How is the U.S. welfare state unique, and how is it similar to others around the world? How have American political principles and cultural norms shaped the debates over welfare costs, benefits, and eligibility? Led by a visiting professor who is a magazine editor in his day job, the course will call upon students to assess academic and political writings in class discussions, and to produce a carefully reasoned and clearly written essay about some aspect of social welfare policy.

MPP 651.01 American Democratic Culture: Inequality and Alienation

Ted McAllister

American Politics

“Public Policy and American Democratic Culture” concentrates on the relationship among culture, society, and politics. As such we are interested in history, in interpreting cultural expressions, in understanding changing social forms and institutions, and in understanding better the complex relationship between a democratic culture and its political expression.

This year the focus of the class is inequality and alienation in America. The course will examine equality and inequality in American thought and philosophy; it will examine contemporary and historical forms of inequality as expressed through empirical data; it will explore the political implications of different forms of inequality; and it will place the dominant discourse about inequality, social justice, and fairness in the context of various forms of alienation. Inequality and alienation come in myriad forms so this course will range widely over social, political and economic conditions, raising serious and open-ended questions about income, wealth, race, gender, and the most basic assumptions of American democratic identity.

Students will examine a wide array of material and they will generate their own projects meant to connect philosophical, historical and political inquiries with a wide array of social policies. This is question driven course and is best suited for self-directed students who wish to examine ideas, assumptions, and evidence in ways that advance the inquiry.

MPP 665.01 Region Specific Studies: Eastern Europe

Alexei Shevchenko

International Relations

This course focuses on domestic and foreign policies of the post-communist European states (including European successor states that emerged from the break-up of the Soviet Union) with a particular emphasis on the crucial case study of Russia. The major themes in this course concern the problems of democratizing authoritarian regimes, building nations and states, reforming command economies and responding to new security threats. The course utilizes basic concepts and major alternative models of politics, economics and international relations. The course is comparative, drawing parallels and contrasts both among the states of the region and between these and states of other regions.

MPP 668.01 Seminar in International Relations: Energy Policy from Global to Local

Steven Hayward

International Relations, American Politics, or State and Local Policy

This course will equip students with the tools for advanced analysis of energy issues from the global scale down to the state level. The course will emphasize four major aspects of energy: basic technical understanding of different sources and uses of energy; economic analysis of different kinds of energy and energy distribution systems; externalities, tradeoffs and limitations of various energy sources; and major energy policies, both current and prospective, on the global, national, and state level. Special attention will be paid to California’s ambitious climate and energy policy.

MPP 687.01 Seminar in Regional Policies: Media, Technology, and Public Policy

Brian Calle

State and Local Policy or American Politics

From America’s Founding the relationship between journalism on public opinion and public policy has been profound. And through every generation, this influence has been seen differently as technology has changed the ways Americans receive (and can now, create) information. This dynamic has become particularly powerful in the last decade as the Internet has provided a platform where citizens can quickly generate and distribute information meant to affect public policy. In this class, students will not only learn about these developments, but also how they can understand the creation of public policy in this new world of prospective policy influencers, and opinion-makers. The class will involve guest lecturers by major policy leaders from around California.

New Faculty/Lecturer Biographies

Brian Calle

Brian Calle is opinion editor for the *Orange County Register* and the *Press-Enterprise* and the co-host of Fox 11's special election broadcast "You Decide SoCal 2014." He is also editor-in-chief of CalWatchdog.com and a Presidential Fellow at Chapman University. His commentary has appeared in *Forbes*, *Bloomberg News*, *Fox News*, *Real Clear Politics*, *Real Clear Markets*, *Human Events*, *City Journal*, the *Daily Caller*, *Fox and Hounds Daily*, *California Political Review* and numerous other publications. Calle served as vice president of the public policy think-tank, the Claremont Institute; managing director of Gambit Consulting Group, and was director of sales and marketing for Sally Ride Science. He graduated from the University of Southern California with a bachelor of arts in communication studies and received a master of arts in communication studies at California State University, Los Angeles.

William Voegeli

William Voegeli is a senior editor of the *Claremont Review of Books* and the author of *Never Enough: America's Limitless Welfare State* (Encounter Books), and *The Pity Party: A Mean-Spirited Diatribe Against Liberal Compassion* (Broadside Books). A visiting scholar at Claremont McKenna College's Henry Salvatori Center, his work has appeared in the *Christian Science Monitor*, *City Journal*, *Commentary*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *National Review*, *The Weekly Standard*, and other publications. Voegeli received his PhD in political science from Loyola University in Chicago and worked as a program officer for the John M. Olin Foundation from 1988 to 2003.

All other faculty biographies are available at: <http://publicpolicy.pepperdine.edu/academics/faculty/>.