

**School of Public Policy
New Course Descriptions
Spring 2018**

MPP 607.01 Policy Seminar (Capstone): International Relations/National Security (4 units) (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): Where Markets and Government Fail (4 units) (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 607.03 Policy Seminar (Capstone): Economics and International Relations (4 units) (see catalog for full description)

Luisa Blanco and James Prieger

Capstone – Group or Individual

This capstone course is designed for the student interested in self-motivated research in economics or international relations. Papers can be developed as quantitative papers, case studies, or policy analyses, although econometric projects are particularly well suited for this capstone. Projects can be completed in a group or individual setting. Examples of research may include the importance of private-sector entrepreneurship for the growth of developing countries, the vital role private-sector research and development plays in the growth of the United States, private-sector innovation, unintended consequences of governmental regulation of private industry, among others. Students should already have a topic for policy research prior to registration.

MPP 645.01 Public Policy and Religion: Religious Liberty (3 units) (see catalog for full description)

Jeff Sikkenga

American Politics

This course examines the relationship between public policy and religion in the United States, with a special focus on the foundation, extent, and limits of religious liberty. We will read and try to think through some foundational texts and primary historical documents of the American regime, including writings of John Locke and the American Founders. We will also study and discuss (and probably argue about) some important and controversial US Supreme Court decisions on the establishment and free exercise clauses of the First Amendment. Our fundamental question will be: What is religious liberty, and how can government regulate it consistent with the Constitution?

MPP 647.01 Seminar in American Politics: Advanced Topics in Politics and Budgeting (3 units)

Michael Shires

American Politics or State and Local Policy

This course will explore the intersection between politics, policy and budgeting as it uses four unfolding political dialogues to deepen students' understanding of fiscal budgeting processes and how institutions, interests, and politics intersect to shape the options, choices and outcomes in the American governmental landscape. The four cases to be explored include the Affordable Care Act, the tax reform debate, the federal budget, and the pension crisis faced by state and local governments. Students will be asked to immerse themselves in the details of each debate and to engage actively the issues surrounding them.

MPP 651.01 American Democratic Culture: American Public Philosophy and the Crisis of the Ruling Class (3 units)

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 our focus will be on two related themes: the need for and the nature of a “public philosophy” in a republic and the failure of the contemporary ruling class to articulate, defend, and support a public philosophy appropriate to the norms and self-understanding of the American people.

A self-governing people need to recognize a common authority that both governs their actions and that gives the nation (the public) a sense of shared identity and purpose. Authoritarian regimes can impose policies on their subjects, but republics and other self-ruling regimes must possess a culturally potent set of ideas, “self-evident” truths, practices and habits (that is, “public philosophy”), in order to judge or assess the appropriateness of specific policies. Culture and religion are prior to, and higher than, politics or policy-making. No republic can withstand a complete collapse of its public philosophy for the simple reason that no power can last in a republic if it lacks authority.

Public philosophy properly emerges from the experiences, beliefs and customs of the vast majority of the citizens but it cannot express itself as part of a public identity for a large, abstract entity like a nation without a refining process by which various elites of that society give shape to, and help refine, these broad norms. When a nation has an elite that

understands, and is deeply sympathetic with, the broad values of the nation then it is possible to construct a national public philosophy that both expresses the views of the citizens and yet takes a more principled and systematic form through the institutions governed by various elites. By contrast, if these elites have contempt for the norms of the citizens and wish to use their influence to change, transform, or otherwise undermine these widespread values, that society will experience a crisis of authority.

In the United States, the messages of collective purpose and identity that emerge from Hollywood, the media, the leaders of the political parties, globalized capitalists, universities, and other institutions that shape public opinion and influence the conditions under which people conduct their daily lives, are often openly hostile to a vast swath of the American public. Opinion polls show unprecedented distrust and even hostility to these institutions, suggesting that many people experience a hostile power structure. In short, the powerful institutions of our nation, and the class that governs them, have lost authority even if they still exercise power.

These circumstances are a classic expression of the collapse of a public philosophy and one that, potentially, threatens the public trust in all our governing structures. In this class we want to understand how this collapse of authority happened and dig into economic forces, philosophical currents, alterations in living patterns, and concrete changes in the institutions that are now suspect. We will try to understand how this crisis of public philosophy poses a challenge for public policy and, more basically, to the very idea that the nation constitutes a public.

In this class students will be responsible for continuous and thorough examination of contemporary trends. Our goal is to understand. Many of us will have strong partisan objectives and all of us will have to engage with the evidence of this class in a way that causes us to assess morally what we are studying. Yet, the primary goal is understanding and to gain a measure of clarity on a most complex political problem.

MPP 665.01 Region-Specific Studies: Middle East (3 units) (see catalog for full description)

James Coyle

International Relations

This course will focus on the Middle East with attention given to the region's history: its economic, political and social institutions; and its relationship to the United States and other nations. Special focus will be on the implications of the regions needs and characteristics for the formation of public policy.

MPP 665.02 Region-Specific Studies: China in International Politics (3 units) (see catalog for full description)

Alexei Shevchenko

International Relations

China is the world's most important rising power and the engine of global economic growth. Its grand strategy in international politics increasingly influences every continent. The rise of China and its consequences for the geopolitics of Asia and the world is the greatest challenge to global peace and prosperity over the next decades. The seminar focuses on China's pursuit of "comprehensive power" in international politics and assesses China's role and influence in contemporary world and regional affairs. In our analysis of China's global emergence special attention will be devoted to Sino-American relationship, as well as China's interactions with Japan, North Korea, Russia, and India.

MPP 668.01 Seminar in International Relations: European Union Economic and Policy Framework (3 units)

Marlon Graf

International Relations

In this course, students will receive an in-depth introduction to the political and historical development of the European Union. In the beginning of the Semester, we will review the history of Europe and its expansion to a major world player. We will then proceed to cover the various institutions and roles in the complex European policy system. After the initial focus on European processes and institutions, we will turn our attention to various case studies on key topics on the European and international policy agenda. Specifically, we will spend at least one week discussing the following issues: EU expansion, Brexit and separatist movements, immigration, common agricultural policy, single market and common monetary policy, common defense and foreign policy, as well as data security and privacy. Moreover, there might be room for students to choose additional case studies of interest. Throughout the semester, students will be exposed to a variety of methods and analysis techniques commonly used in policy and will gain further experience in working with both quantitative and qualitative data. The deliverables for this course will include a detailed, step-by-step analysis of a policy problem in an area of each student's choice in the form of a final memo and presentation, as well as several problem sets that will test their knowledge of the methods and concepts covered in class.

MPP 687.01 Seminar in Regional Policies: Public Policy for Criminal Justice, Cannabis, and other Drugs (3 units)

Brad Rowe

State and Local Policy or American Politics

This course is designed to improve general knowledge, foster the student's sense of ethics and cultural diversity, and improve an understanding of policy research as a tool to solving problems in the real world. The course has four main purposes: 1) to encourage students to think critically about contemporary crime, cannabis, and other drug policy, 2) to introduce foundational ideas about the control of substance abuse, crime, and violence, 3) to familiarize students with public policy and its role in achieving public safety and public health objectives, and 4) to illustrate techniques of policy analysis through the lens of crime, cannabis and other drugs. The goal of the course is to enable the student to formulate responsible opinions on cannabis, drug and crime policy issues, to defend them with good analysis, and to understand the logic behind opinions that may differ from their own. Guest lectures by instructors, academics, and practitioners may be featured along with readings from academic literature and policy reports will be expected.

New Faculty/Lecturer Biographies

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



Brad Rowe

Brad Rowe is the Chief Executive Officer of BOTEK Analysis. He has recently overseen the completion of projects on violence reduction for the Mississippi Office of the Attorney General, cannabis and hemp policy for Jamaica, community supervision for the Office of the Commissioner of Probation of Massachusetts, medical cannabis market measurement for the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board, field research in lower income neighborhoods for Uber Technologies, and the Cannabis Science and Policy Summit for NYU. Rowe is an MPP alumnus from the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs master's degree program where he was awarded the Ann C. Rosenfield Fellowship for his work with the United Way of Greater Los Angeles on educational attainment. He studied, taught, and worked in Sevilla, Spain from 1990 – 1992. Rowe had a multi-faceted career in the entertainment industry for seventeen years with a filmography that includes almost 100 titles. Rowe's content production spanned multiple platforms, including serving as producer and host of MIPTalk.com's "Conversations with the World's Most Interesting People" and producing two dozen documentary tribute films for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and philanthropic organizations.



Jeffrey Sikkenga

Jeffrey Sikkenga is professor of political science and co-director of the Ashbrook Scholar Program at Ashland University, adjunct fellow of the John M. Ashbrook Center and senior fellow in the Program on Constitutionalism and Democracy at the University of Virginia. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in political thought, the American Founding and American constitutional law. He has published articles and reviews in journals such as *American Journal of Political Science*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Political Theory*, *History of Political Thought*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Journal of Markets and Morality and Religion and Liberty*. He co-edited *History of American Political Thought* (Lexington Press, 2003), edited *Transforming American Welfare* (1999) and co-wrote *The Free Person and the Free Economy* (2002). He is currently working on a book on *John Locke's A Letter Concerning Toleration*. During 2017-18, he will be a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University's Hoover Institution and William E. Simon Distinguished Visiting Professor at the School of Public Policy at Pepperdine University.

Primo Tapia

Primo Tapia is a professional environmental permitting, regulatory compliance, and entitlement consultant with over 27 years of experience. He is the Vice President of Envicom Corporation, a Southern California-based professional services consulting firm that specializes in environmental impact assessment, urban planning and design, real estate development and entitlement, land valuation, and habitat restoration. He has extensive experience in the preparation of environmental constraints analyses and development impact analyses pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as well as in the acquisition of resource entitlements and permits and in the implementation of mitigation compliance programs during construction and operational phases of projects. Tapia has served as analyst, lead author, and project manager for several complex, large-scale CEQA projects that require the coordination of diverse, multidisciplinary teams that include scientists, planners, engineers, and environmental attorneys, as well as Federal, State, and local agency personnel. Paramount among these are his work on the Pepperdine University Campus Life Project and Malibu Institute Development. Tapia has also processed residential, commercial, and utility infrastructure projects located on Federal, State, and privately-owned land throughout California. Additionally, he has successfully coordinated the acquisition of resource permits from various agencies, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the California Coastal Commission. Tapia holds a bachelor of arts in geography from California State University, Northridge. He is a member of the California Association of Environmental Professionals. His academic interests include: environmental impact assessment, analysis and land use, habitat restoration, permissions and compliance, real estate development and entitlement, urban planning and design, and land valuation.