PUBAFRS 5890 - US Food Policy

Monday and Wednesday 11:10am-12:30pm   Page Hall 060
Office Hours Monday and Wednesday 1:00pm-2:30pm   Page Hall 210R

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Course Description: An examination of national food affairs; the policy and practice of food. The approach is to introduce institutions, tools and topics. The numerous federal public and private agencies such as the FDA, USDA, CDC and others are described. Common policy tools such as information-based, process versus performance standards, and interactions with market-based public-private partnerships will be placed within their motivating theory and discussed in a supply-chain context. Attention will focus on contemporary policy issues including; food insecurity, health claims, obesity, novel crops, ingredients and processing techniques, sustainability, corporate consolidation, food advertising, and foodborne illness.

The major **learning objectives** are:

1. Identify the range of **institutions** which target modern-day food policy problems.
2. Evaluate the use of policy **tools** to address social, economic and environmental aspects of food.
3. Track the development of key federal food policy **topics**, such as the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans,* the Farm Bill and *Food Safety Modernization Act*.
4. Conduct independent in-depth work to enhance research and communication skills.

Readings:
Parke Wilde. 2013. *Food Policy in the United States: An Introduction.* Earthscan/Routledge. ISBN-10: 1849714290; ISBN-13: 978-1849714297
Additional readings to be assigned through the course and added to the Carmen page.

Carmen: Lecture slides, news and interesting links, announcements, grades, and other information as needed. You will need a pdf/adobe reader.

Expectations: Your attendance and involvement in class is vital, ***be prepared to discuss the material assigned***. This is a discussion-heavy course. Cheating and plagiarism will be punished to the full extent of OSU's Code of Student Conduct http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/csc/. In particular, Section 3335-23-04 regards prohibited conduct, which is subject to disciplinary action. Files are to be uploaded to Carmen by ***5:00pm on the due date***. Doctors notes are required if exam or other key deliverables are missed.

Grades:

Individual journal article review (10%), presentation (5%) and discussion board posts (5%)	20%	90% +	A or A-
Exam	40%	80% +	B+ B or B-
Individual presentation of paper	10%	70% +	C+ C or C-
Final individual paper	30%	60% +	D+ or D
TOTAL	**100%**	50%+	E

Instructions for Individual *Food Policy* Article Critique, Presentation and Discussion Board Posts

This assignment is designed to get you critically evaluating research about a contemporary **US** food policy issue and understanding the theory (tool) upon which the policy is based and the institutions impacted. It is also intended to have you read articles in a key academic journal to start your final paper. Select a recent (2010 on) article from *Food Policy*. Prepare a summary and presentation of the institution, tool and topic -- approximately 1,000 words and 4 slides of a Powerpoint presentation. You will lead a Q&A discussion in class about what you have learned from the paper and its limitations. Following the presentation, the student will continue the discussion about the article via the discussion board. Each student will post at least 5 questions/comments and the lead student will respond to each. Upload your paper and the review to dropbox. You should choose a topic that you will focus on in your final paper so you can include this discussion as part of your literature review.

Presentation
5% of your grade
5 minutes of presentation + 2 minutes Q&A

Discussion Board
5% of your grade
Students are to post at least 5 questions/answers or comments on each other's journal article and presentation.

Instructions for Individual Paper

Final Paper   5,000 words
- Select a contemporary federal food policy topic and describe the evolution of institutions and tools over time.
- Be clear about what problem(s) the policy is trying to solve.
- Include data that describes the policy environment – how big of a problem is this? For whom?
- Review previous studies that assess the policy.
- Recommend a new policy or changes to the existing policy.

Presentation	10% of grade
Criteria	*Points*
Non-verbal communication	10
Verbal	20
Timing	10
Content	40
Q&A	20
Total	**100**
Paper	**30% of grade**
Criteria	*Points*
Grammar	50
Organization	50
Literature review	150
Recommendation	50
Total	**300**

Class Schedule

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading
1	8/24/2016	Introduction	Wilde 1
2	8/29/2016	Institutions: US	Wilde 2 & 3
	8/31/2016		
3	9/7/2016	Institutions: Global	Wilde 4
4	9/12/2016	Institutions: Supply Chains	Wilde 5 & 6
	9/14/2016		
5	9/19/2016	Tools: Guidelines	Wilde 8
	9/21/2016		
6	9/26/2016	Tools: Standards	Jensen and Sumner
	9/28/2016		
7	10/3/2016	Tools: Labels and Communications	Wilde 9
	10/5/2016		
8	10/10/2016	Topics: Food Safety and Traceability	Wilde 7, Souza-Monteiro and Hooker
	10/12/2016		
9	10/17/2016		
	10/19/2016		
10	10/24/2016	Topics: Nutrition, Food Insecurity and Obesity	Wilde 10 & 11
	10/26/2016		
11	10/31/2016		
	11/2/2016		
12	11/7/2016	Topics: Sustainability - Local, Organic and Natural	NRDC
	11/9/2016		
Upload Article to be Reviewed Due November 11, 5pm			
13	11/14/2016	Individual presentations, journal article critiques	
	11/16/2016		
Journal Review Due November 18, 5pm			
14	11/21/2016	**No class Take-home Exam Due November 21, 5pm**	
	11/23/2016	**No class**	
15	11/28/2016	1-on-1 meetings about paper	
	11/30/2016	Where from here?	Wilde 12
16	12/5/2016	Individual presentations, paper	
	12/7/2016		
Paper Due December 9, 5pm			

Accommodation for Disabled Students

Paper

Overview

There are different purposes and audiences for policy analysis or issue papers, and thus different formats. In this class, the purpose of the paper is to *inform* stakeholders about a policy issue including strategic recommendations that can be implemented by local, state, federal or international government organizations.

The content of your paper will be derived from a literature review of related research and applied best practices supporting a food policy recommendation – whether a new policy or a change to an existing policy.

The Policy Context

Be clear about what the policy is, what it is try to do, and who might care about the "success" of the policy.

Literature Review of Related Research and Best Practices

Provide a review of the literature and practice related to your policy issue. This includes previous academic and applied research on your policy issue, historical development of the issue and recent events (such as new or pending legislation), and best practices previously identified as they relate to your issue. Any *consistent* citation format is acceptable. A good paper will incorporate ~10 references, including a mix of scholarly and practitioner sources. The article you discuss in the *Food Policy* critique is a good starting point of this review.

Linking to a Recommendation

Drawing from the literature review and contemporary practical discussions suggest a policy recommendation that would improve or solve the food policy problem you are researching. This can be a new policy or a change to an existing policy. The recommendation needs to be evidence-based.

Outline

Feel free to change the headings below, and/or add sub-headings as appropriate. This outline provides the "framework" that should be used to shape your paper which should be about 5,000 words.

1) Title
   - Descriptive yet catchy; hooks the reader.
2) Aim/Summary
   - 2-4 short paragraphs
   - Provides the punch-line for the rest of the paper; describes the policy issue, identifies the analytical approach taken in this paper, and highlights the recommendations. All of the pertinent information should be clearly communicated in this "elevator" summary.
   - No statistics or data provided here; no citations of previous research.
3) Issue Context
   - Defines the issue of relevance to key stakeholders.
   - Convinces the target audience that this is an issue that they should care about.
4) Literature Review
   - Reviews previous literature (research, news articles, policy briefs) on the issue.
   - Visual aids such as tables and graphs can be used to replace text, where appropriate.
   - Clearly identifies the policy implications of this issue. Conveys a sense of urgency.
5) Recommendations & Conclusion
   - Communicates specific, actionable implications.
   - Concludes re-emphasizing the importance and relevance of the issue to key stakeholders.
6) Key Sources
   - Cite all sources including weblinks.

Final Presentations

10% of your final grade
10 minutes of presentation + 2 minutes Q&A

Content of your presentation:

1. **Institution**. Which decision-makers are you targeting? Who is affected by this problem? Who should care?
2. **Topic**. Why is it a POLICY problem?
3. **What do we already know?** Best practices, literature review of prior research.
4. **Recommendation**. What is your proposed policy solution? Why this?
5. **Critique** of your solution. No solution is without its disadvantages/trade-offs or limitations. Discuss these.

Grading: 10% of your overall grade. The break-down for the grading of the briefing will be as follows, out of 100 points:

Non-verbal	Excellent 10 pts	Good 8 pts	Satisfactory 6 pts	Poor 2 pts	No points
Eye contact, body language, use of visual aids & poise	No room for improvement	Some room for improvement	Needs improvement	Needs much improvement	Needs major improvement
Verbal	Excellent 20 pts	Good 15 pts	Satisfactory 10 pts	Poor 5 pts	No points
Articulate; proper volume; steady rate; enthusiasm; confidence; practiced	No room for improvement	Some room for improvement	Needs improvement	Needs much improvement	Needs major improvement
Timing	Excellent 10 pts		Satisfactory 5 pts		No points
Complete presentation on time	Completes briefing on time		1 minute too long		More than 2 minutes too long
Content	Excellent 40 pts	Good 30 pts	Satisfactory 20 pts	Poor 10 pts	No points
Institution, Topic, Background, Tool, Limitations	Meets all content requirements with no room for improvement	Meets most all content requirements with some room for improvement	Does not meet a few of the requirements and needs much improvement	Does not meet a many of the requirements and needs major improvement	Does not meet any of the requirements and needs major improvement
Q&A	Excellent 20 pts		Satisfactory 10 pts		No points
Demonstrates a comprehension of project	Engages with audience in open discussion		Has difficulty completing answers		Does not answer questions

A Book Reading List

Good "next steps"

Josling, Roberts and Orden. (2004). *Food Regulation and Trade: Towards a Safe and Open Global System.* Institute for International Economics. Washington, D.C.

Still a good review of transition to WTO and economic basis of interventions which influence food trade

Armbruster and Knutson (eds). (2013). *US Programs Affecting Food and Agricultural Marketing.* Springer.

Expensive, contributed article reference which surveys history and current practice

Lang, Barling and Caraher. (2009). *Food Policy: Integrating Health, Environment & Society.* Oxford

Great European focus, interdisciplinary rather than just economics

Southgate, Graham and Tweeten. (2010). *The World Food Economy.* Second Edition. Wiley

Development economics based, excellent comparative background studies of regions

Summer Reading!?

Dorfman. (2014). *Economics and Management of the Food Industry*. Routledge.

Otte Hansen. (2013). *Food Economics: Industry and Markets*. Routledge.

Nestle. (2007). *Food Politics: How the Food Industry Influences Nutrition and Health*. Revised Issue. Uni. Of CA. Press

Mazzocchi, Traill and Shogren. (2009). *Fat Economics: Nutrition, Health, and Economic Policy*. Oxford

Westhoff. (2010). *The Economics of Food: How Feeding and Fueling the Planet Affects Food Prices*. Pearson

Brouwer, Fox and Jongeneel (eds.). (2012). *The Economics of Regulation in Agriculture: Compliance with Public and Private Standards.* Cabi

Social Justice

Paarlberg. (2010). *Food Politics: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford

McWilliams. (2009). *Just Food: Where Locavores get it Wrong and how we can Truly Eat Responsibly*. Hachette

Gottlieb and Joshi. (2010). *Food Justice*. MIT Press

Journals with Significant Food Policy Content			
General	**Safety**	**Nutrition**	**Sustainability/Other**
Food Policy	Journal of Food Protection	Journal of the Association of Nutrition and Dietetics	Agriculture and Human Values
Journal of Public Policy & Marketing	Foodborne Pathogens and Disease	Journal of Nutrition	Land Use Policy
British Food Journal	Food Control	Appetite	Rural Sociology
Food and Drug Law Journal		Food Quality and Preference	Geoforum
Critical Reviews in Food Science and Nutrition		American Journal of Public Health	Journal of Rural Studies
Journal of Food Science		American Journal of Clinical Nutrition	Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics
Choices/EuroChoices		American Journal of Health Behavior	
Journal of Agricultural Economics		Public Health Nutrition	
European Review of Agricultural Economics		Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior	
American Journal of Agricultural Economics		Journal of Hunger and Environmental Nutrition	
Applied Economics Perspective and Policy			
Journal of Food Products Marketing			