The Washington Academic Internship Program (WAIP) is composed of three components: the internship, the policy seminar, and the policy paper. Students in the program, also known as John Glenn Fellows, must take all three courses concurrently. This is the syllabus for the policy seminar.

**Course Description**

This is the signature course of the Washington Academic Internship Program consisting of our weekly class discussions, common readings, guest speakers, and study tours. The purpose of this seminar is to bring together upper-division students from a number of disciplines to study the questions of civic engagement, civic participation and the intricacies of domestic and foreign policy making. The course exposes you to various professional and career opportunities by inviting experts in various fields to address the seminar, as well as focused discussion. Your purchased, common readings will expose you to topical and historical concerns facing the United States, and will introduce you to the tools and research with which you may analyze various problems and issues in the broad and diverse world of policy formation, and the political environment in which it takes place.

**Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes**

Each student will gain extensive exposure to serious, intellectual contributions in the field of politics across a range of current issues of political debate, and the various competing interests and actors that play roles in the creation of legislation and policy. In particular, the readings, writing, and discussion for this class will focus on several issues that shape modern political discourse, by looking at some of the most current and thoughtful treatments of a particular issue. Students will gain the opportunity to study in an inter-disciplinary environment and will have the opportunity and challenge to reflect on how our national identity and ideals can be advanced or diminished by various policy compromises. By the end of this course, students should be able to: thoughtfully articulate an analysis of the policy environment; develop and apply skills to break down complex policy concerns into discrete, intelligible parts and processes, and
demonstrate those skills in written and verbal forms. The successful student will come out of the course a more subtle and sophisticated thinker and citizen.

Attendance Policy

As with most educational ventures, the benefit one derives from WAIP will be commensurate with what one puts into it. You should regard all seminar-related events as mandatory.

Assignments and Grading Guidelines

- Students will make brief classroom presentation and write two five-page papers based on assigned, common readings. Grading for this course will be determined by the quality of your weekly discussion and questions you ask of each other (25% of final grade), at least four of the brief presentations (25% of your grade) and the two written analytical essays (each paper’s grade contributing 25% to your final course grade).
- Each weekly seminar gives opportunity to refine oral skills and verbal engagement with others. I place a premium on thoughtful discussion, active listening, and respectful demeanor.
- For two of the scheduled seminars, you will write a 5-page reaction paper to the readings and turn that paper in to me (electronically) before the class meets. The purpose of the paper is to analyze and critique rather than to summarize, and the papers will be graded on the presence and quality of the argument made. I will make a schedule of which weeks you will write your papers based on your preferences.
- Grades will follow the standard scale:

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Relevant Deadlines

Readings assigned for each session should be completed prior to their discussion in class. Written assignments, submitted to me by email, are due before the beginning of the day’s class session. The first 5-page reaction paper, which is to be prepared by all students, is due on 15 September. All other assignments will be scheduled throughout the semester.

Readings

For Purchase

Students can access textbook information via the Barnes & Noble bookstore website: www.shopOhioState.com as well as from their BuckeyeLink Student Center. This information is disseminated by B&N to all area bookstores. You may buy from a store of your choice and/or shop for books (always use ISBN# for searches) on line.


Other Readings, TBA, will be assigned.

Your contributions to the ongoing conversation will be better informed by regular monitoring of a daily newspaper, preferably The Washington Post, The New York Times, or one of the Washington-oriented periodicals such as Roll Call, Politico, The Hill, National Journal Daily, or CQ Weekly.

**Resources and Support**

Tapping out 140 characters based on a Google search is mistakenly believed by too many people to be sufficient explication and exploration of immensely complicated policy issues and ideas. We will discuss appropriate resources in greater detail throughout the semester. The following resources are strongly recommended to help you identify appropriate research materials, and communicate your ideas.

**Writing** Students wishing to have additional help with the writing of their papers can consult with a consultant at the Writing Center ([https://cstw.osu.edu/writing-center](https://cstw.osu.edu/writing-center)). Writing counselors get busy early, so plan accordingly, and schedule an initial consultation early in the semester.

**Library Assistance** The Glenn College has a dedicated librarian at OSU Libraries, David Lincove (lincove.1@osu.edu), who can help provide research assistance. In a few weeks, Mr. Lincove will join us by Skype to discuss the policy paper, but you are encouraged to reach out to him throughout your research process. For more information and links to some common public affairs resources, see - [http://go.osu.edu/8gx](http://go.osu.edu/8gx).

**Disability Services**

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform me as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; voice,
Academic Misconduct

I do not expect this to be a problem. If it is, the following will guide any resolution:

The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM), and I expect that all students have read and understand the University’s Code of Student Conduct, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University’s Code of Student Conduct may constitute “Academic Misconduct.” Sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

In the Ohio State University’s Code of Student Conduct, Section 3335-23-04 defines academic misconduct as: “Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process.” Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, collusion, unauthorized collaboration, copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University’s Code of Student Conduct never excuses for academic misconduct.

If you need more information, see the following:

- The Committee on Academic Misconduct web page: http://oaa.osu.edu/coam.html.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.
Tentative Class Schedule

**Tuesday, 1 September**  
Introduction to Policy Analysis  
Part I of Bardach, A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis

**8 September**  
Introduction to Policy Analysis cont’d.  
Parts II and III of Bardach, A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis  
Charles E. Lindblom, The Science of “Muddling Through”

**15 September**  
Introduction to Policy Analysis cont’d.  
Schuck, Why Government Fails So Often, Ch. 1-6

**MONDAY, 21 September**  
Introduction to Policy Analysis cont’d.  
Schuck, Why Government Fails So Often, Ch. 7-12  
Research Question Due

**29 September**  
Policymaking in Legislatures  
Golden, Unlock Congress, Part 2

**6 October**  
Policymaking in Legislatures, cont’d  
Golden, Unlock Congress, Part 2  
Outline and Annotated Bibliography Due

**Week of 13 October**  
Individual meetings to discuss research proposals

**20 October**  
Policymaking in the Executive  
Rothkopf, National Insecurity (chapters 1-5)

**27 October**  
Policymaking in the Executive cont’d.  
Rothkopf, National Insecurity (chapters 6-11)

**3 November**  
Policymaking in Agencies  
Irwin, The Alchemists (parts 1-2)  
Paper Rough Draft Due
10 November
Individual meetings to discuss rough drafts

17 November
Policymaking in Agencies cont’d.
Irwin, The Alchemists (parts 3-4)

MONDAY, 23 November
Policymaking by the Courts
Coyle, The Roberts Court (parts 1 and 2)

1 December
Policymaking by the Courts cont’d.
Coyle, The Roberts Court (parts 3 and 4)

8 December
Paper Presentations

Final Paper Due, Friday, 11 December, 6 PM