

# Public Policy

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## 1. Description

Humans live in a world of scarce, exploitable resources: clean air, potable water, food, medical supplies, money, time, and many other goods that humans depend on are limited. In addition, many of these resources do not respect national borders or, alternatively, may be adversely affected by the behavior of actors in other countries (e.g., pollution). This poses important public policy problems that challenge traditional notions of national policy autonomy. We examine the fields of economic and environmental policymaking to gain insights into the conditions under which public policy can successfully govern collective resources. Our substantive focus will be on democracy, elections, globalization, climate change, and economic crises.

## 2. Prerequisites

Students should have taken a first course in comparative politics, international economics, public economics, international law, public law, or political economy and should have basic research design and methods skills.

## 3. Requirements and Coursework

This is a highly interactive course to facilitate learning and the development of transferable skills. The final grade is computed as follows:

- Case Study Report: up to 50 points
- Exam: up to 50 points
- Bonus points:
  - Pre-Survey and Post-Survey bonus: 1 point each
  - Course evaluation survey: up to 1 point
    - 0.5 bonus points if 80% of all enrolled students participate in the survey.
    - 0.75 bonus points if 90% of all enrolled students participate in the survey.
    - 1 bonus point if 100% of all enrolled students participate in the survey.

Grade	Point Total
1,0	95-100
1,3	90-94
1,7	85-89
2,0	80-84
2,3	75-79
2,7	70-74
3,0	65-69
3,3	60-64

3,7	55-59
4,0	50-54
5,0	< 50

Case Study Report: Each student proposes a country or international organization that he/she would like to study. After approval by the TA, the student will prepare a full report (up to five pages) that answers the following questions based on the available academic literature and publicly available data.

Country Reports:

1. Provide a short background of the history of globalization by identifying up to three key landmark globalization decisions. Explain why they are important.
2. What are/were the key domestic pro-/anti-globalization cleavages (up to two)?
3. What explains their globalization preferences?
4. Bonus question: to what extent do your answers to the above questions vary by type of globalization (political, social, cultural)?

International Organization Reports:

1. Provide a short background of the history of the international organization (IO) by identifying up to three key landmark international agreements/reforms. These must include the initial agreement that formed the IO.
2. Explain which cooperation problem(s) the IO was meant to solve.
3. Which countries support the IO and which oppose it? Does support for the IO vary? Why?
4. Bonus question: to what extent do your answers to the above questions vary by issue area (e.g., environmental IOs, economic IOs, ...)?

The proposal should be submitted through Ilias (Assignments) by uploading your Word or PDF file. The file should be named “CS2\_Proposal\_studentname”.

Formatting rules for all written work: Times New Roman, 12pt, single spacing, 2cm margins (top, bottom, left, right), full justification, page numbers, Harvard citation system (<https://www.mendeley.com/guides/harvard-citation-guide>).

Final Exam: There will be an electronic in-presence exam at the end of the semester. The exam covers the mandatory readings and the material discussed in class. Students will have 60 minutes to complete the exam. The exam date is July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. Students must register for the exam on Klips by April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the latest in order to be eligible to obtain ECTS from this course. There is a reserve exam date on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

Pre- and Post-Surveys: We administer a mini-survey before the first session and a second mini-survey at the end of our final session to enhance engagement with the substantive content of the course, to learn more about students’ backgrounds, and to identify their substantive interests. This information is important for improving learning experience. Students receive bonus points for participation in each survey.

The Pre-Survey can be accessed at: [\[URL HERE\]](#). The link to the Post-Survey will be made available at the end of the semester.

Course evaluation survey:

To encourage students to participate in the centralized course evaluation survey for this class, each student will receive bonus points conditional on the survey participation rate.

**4. Time and Room**

Estimated enrollment: 40

Lecture: Mondays 10am-1.30pm (IBW building, seminar room S100)

## Tutorials:

Group 1: Wednesdays 2pm-3.30pm

Group 2: Wednesdays 4pm-5.30pm

Both tutorials will take place in IBW building, seminar room S103.

## **5. Aims of the Course**

The specific aims of this course are as follows: Students...

- know and understand basic theories in public policy.
- apply theories in pre-structured contexts (e.g., case studies) in a solution-oriented way in public policy.
- know and understand common methods in public policy.
- can critically engage with empirical research designs.
- communicate continuously and purposefully within teaching and learning groups.
- establish and evaluate independently developed positions.
- present and/or discuss results with teaching staff and other students.
- communicate in English.
- develop an understanding of the impact of decisions that take into account environmental, economic, social or ethical criteria.
- question and critically reflect on current social developments.
- design their learning and working processes independently.
- reflect their own performance and implement feedback constructively.
- use under guidance techniques of scientific work and good scientific practice.

## **6. Key Skills**

The course seeks to develop or enhance the following key skills:

- Communication: writing clearly and to the point, writing to deadlines, presenting ideas and arguments orally
- Working with others: making/challenging contributions, listening to others, exchanging interpretations, respectful discussions
- Improving learning and performance: discriminating reading, essay preparation, accepting and responding to criticism, developing own opinions
- Information technology: word processing, library searches, use of the internet for research
- Problem-solving and networked thinking: conceptualization of issues, identification and evaluation of research designs, analysis and synthesis of evidence and argumentation, evaluation of the credibility of evidence, assessing the validity of conclusions
- Research design and research logic: experimental reasoning, observational research designs, regression analysis, statistical inference

## **7. Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism, cheating, fabrication of data and records, and other types of dishonesty and misconduct constitute breaches of academic integrity. For violations such as cheating on an exam, the grade penalty is failure of the course.

## **8. Diversity and Inclusiveness**

The best learning environment—whether in the classroom, studio, laboratory, or fieldwork site—is one in which all members feel respected while being productively challenged. The course is dedicated to fostering an inclusive atmosphere, in which all participants can contribute, explore, and challenge their own ideas as well as those of others. All interactions in class will be civil, respectful, and supportive of an inclusive learning environment for all students. These rules are reciprocal, i.e, students are also expected to interact with instructors and teaching assistants in a civilized and respectful manner. Students are encouraged to speak to the

instructor about any concerns they may have about classroom participation and classroom dynamics. Every participant has an active responsibility to foster a climate of intellectual stimulation, openness, and respect for diverse perspectives, questions, personal backgrounds, abilities, and experiences.

## 9. Resources for Students

The Institute for Political Science at the University of Cologne offers informational documents and recommendations on writing, good scientific practice, plagiarism, and assessment criteria. See: <https://cccp.uni-koeln.de/de/teaching/information-for-students>.

The University has several institutions offering support for students in various potential areas (e.g., general study guidance, administration, discrimination, sexualized violence, and bullying). See for an overview: <https://wiso.uni-koeln.de/en/studies/service-wiso-faculty/central-guidance-services>.

The WiSo Student Service Point (WiSSPo) is the first, central point of contact for questions about studying at the WiSo Faculty and bundles services and advice in one place. This also includes questions about examination matters. See: <https://wiso.uni-koeln.de/en/studies/service-wiso-faculty>.

## 10. Textbooks

Hinich, Melvin J./Munger, Michael C. (1997). Analytical Politics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Morton, Rebecca B. (1999). Methods and Models: A Guide to the Empirical Analysis of Formal Models in Political Science. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Shepsle, Kenneth/Boncheck, Mark S. (1997): Analyzing Politics. Rationality, Behavior, and Institutions. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

### Recommended resources for building up your methods skills:

Angrist, Joshua D., and Jörn-Steffen Pischke (2009). “Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist’s Companion.” Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Angrist, Joshua D., and Jörn-Steffen Pischke (2015). “Mastering Metrics.” Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Cunningham, Scott. 2021. “Causal Inference: The Mixtape.” New Haven, CT: Yale University Press. [freely available at: <https://mixtape.scunning.com/>]

Fahrmeir, Ludwig, Thomas Kneib, Stefan Lang, and Brian Marx. 2013. Regression. Models, Methods and Applications. Heidelberg: Springer.

Pearl, Judea, and Dana Mackenzie. (2018). “The Book of Why: The New Science of Cause and Effect.” Basic Books.

## 11. Schedule and Reading List

See readings below.

Date	Lecture	Tutorial
15 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction</li> <li>• The Science of Public Policy: Research Design and Research Logic</li> </ul>	
17 Apr		Experimental and Quasi-experimental Research Designs
24 Apr		Regression and Statistical Inference

29 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Globalization</li> <li>• Democracy</li> </ul>	
13 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Voting Behavior</li> <li>• International Bargaining</li> </ul>	
15 May		Exercises
5 June		Case Study Clinic
10 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Finance and Economic Openness</li> <li>• Economic Crises</li> </ul>	
19 June		Exercises
24 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trade</li> <li>• Immigration</li> </ul>	
28 June	<u>Deadline Case Study Report</u>	
3 July		Exercises
8 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Organizations</li> <li>• Climate Politics</li> </ul>	
17 July		Exam Preparation
22 July	<u>Exam</u>	

**\* Marks mandatory readings/readings for student presentations**

**PART I – THEORY AND FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS**

1. Introduction

Berger, Suzanne. 2000. Globalization and Politics, in: Annual Review of Political Science 3: 43-62.

Weber, Max. 1905/1949. “Objectivity” in Social Science and Social Policy, in: Shils, Edward A. and Henry A. Finch (eds.). Max Weber on the Methodology of the Social Sciences. Glencoe, Illinois.

2. Globalization

Dreher, Axel, Noel Gaston, and Pim Martens. 2008. Measuring Globalisation – Gauging its Consequences. Springer: New York.

\* Ladewig, Jeffrey W. 2006. Domestic Influences on International Trade Policy: Factor Mobility in the United States, 1963 to 1992, in: International Organization 60 (1): 69-103.

\* Milner, Helen. 1999. The Political Economy of International Trade, in: Annual Review of Political Science 2: 91-114.

### 3. Democracy

Acemoglu, Daron and James A. Robinson. 2001. A Theory of Political Transitions. *American Economic Review* 91 (4): 938–963.

Boix, Carles (2011). Democracy, Development, and the International System, in: *American Political Science Review* 105 (4): 809-828.

Bonica, Adam, Nolan McCarty, Keith T. Poole, and Howard Rosenthal. 2013. Why Hasn't Democracy Slowed Rising Inequality?, in: *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 27 (3): 103-124.

\* Freeman, John R. and Dennis P. Quinn. 2012. The Economic Origins of Democracy Reconsidered, in: *American Political Science Review* 106 (1): 58-80.

Downs, Anthony. 1957. An Economic Theory of Political Action in a Democracy, in: *Journal of Political Economy* 65 (2): 135-150.

\* Lipset, Seymour Martin. 1959. Some Social Requisites of Democracy: Economic Development and Political Legitimacy, in: *American Political Science Review* 53 (1): 69-105.

### 4. Voting

Bartels, Larry M. 2000. Partisanship and Voting Behavior, 1952-1996, in: *American Journal of Political Science* 44(1): 35-50.

\* Bartels, Larry M. 2005. Homer Gets a Tax Cut: Inequality and Public Policy in the American Mind, in: *Perspectives on Politics* 3(1): 1-31.

Healy, Andrew and Neil Malhotra. 2013. Retrospective Voting Reconsidered, in: *Annual Review of Political Science* 16(1): 285-306.

Margalit, Yotam 2011. Costly Jobs: Trade-related Layoffs, Government Compensation, and Voting in U.S. Elections, in: *American Political Science Review* 105(1): 166-188.

\* Duch, Raymond M. and Randy Stevenson. 2010. The Global Economy, Competency, and the Economic Vote. *Journal of Politics*, 72(1): 105-123.

### 5. International Bargaining

Bechtel, Michael M. and Johannes Urpelainen. 2015. All Policies Are Glocal: International Environmental Policy Making with Strategic Subnational Governments, in: *British Journal of Political Science* 45 (3): 559-582.

Dai, Xinyuan. 2006. The Conditional Nature of Democratic Compliance, in: *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 50 (5): 690-713.

\* Fearon, James D. 1998. Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation, in: *International Organization* 52 (2): 269-305.

\* Putnam, Robert D. 1988. Diplomacy and Domestic Politics: The Logic of Two-Level Games, in: *International Organization* 42 (3): 427-460.

## PART II – DEMOCRACY, ECONOMIC POLICY, AND FINANCIAL CRISES

### 6. International Finance

\* Snowberg, Erik, Justin Wolfers, and Eric Zitzewitz. 2007. Partisan Impacts on the Economy: Evidence from Prediction Markets and Close Elections, in: *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 122 (2): 807-829.

\* Sattler, Thomas. 2013. Do Markets Punish Left Governments?, in: *Journal of Politics* 75 (2): 343-356.

Oatley, Thomas. 1999. How Constraining is Capital Mobility? The Partisan Hypothesis in an Open Economy, in: *American Journal of Political Science* 43 (4): 1003-1027.

### 7. Economic Openness

Garrett, Geoffrey. 1995. Capital Mobility, Trade, and the Domestic Politics of Economic Policy, in: *International Organization* 49 (4): 657-687.

\* Rodrik, Dani. 1998. Why Do More Open Economies Have Bigger Governments?, in: *Journal of Political Economy* 106 (5): 997-1032.

Garrett, Geoffrey and Deborah Mitchell. 2001. Globalization, Government Spending and Taxation in the OECD, in: *European Journal of Political Research* 39 (2): 145-178.

\* Hays, Jude C., Sean D. Ehrlich, and Clint Peinhardt. 2005. Government Spending and Public Support for Trade in the OECD: An Empirical Test of the Embedded Liberalism Thesis, in: *International Organization* 59 (2): 473-494.

Iversen, Torben and Thomas R. Cusack. 2000. The Causes of Welfare State Expansion: Deindustrialization or Globalization?, in: *World Politics* 52 (3): 313-349.

### 8. Economic Crises

Alt, James, David Dreyer Lassen, and Joachim Wehner. 2014. It Isn't Just about Greece: Domestic Politics, Transparency and Fiscal Gimmickry in Europe. *British Journal of Political Science* 44 (4): 707-716.

Bansak, Kirk, Michael Bechtel, and Yotam Margalit. 2021. Why Austerity? The Mass Politics of a Contested Policy, in: *American Political Science Review* 115 (2): 486-505.

\* Barnes, Lucy and Timothy Hicks. 2018. Making Austerity Popular: The Media and Mass Attitudes toward Fiscal Policy, in: *American Journal of Political Science* 62 (2): 340-354.

Bechtel, Michael M., Jens Hainmueller, and Yotam Margalit. 2014. Preferences for International Redistribution. The Divide Over the Eurozone Bailouts, in: *American Journal of Political Science* 58 (4): 835-856.

\* Rüdiger, Wolfgang and Georgios Karyotis. 2013. Who Protests in Greece? Mass Opposition to Austerity. *British Journal of Political Science* 44 (3): 487-513.

Hübscher, Evelyne and Thomas Sattler. 2017. Fiscal Consolidation under Electoral Risk, in: *European Journal of Political Research* 57(1): 151-168.

Song: Emmaline: The Stimulus Check Song:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_mG8M\\_MUTSc&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mG8M_MUTSc&feature=youtu.be)

### PART III – TRADE, IMMIGRATION, AND CLIMATE POLICY

#### 9. Trade

Dutt, Pushan and Devashish Mitra. 2005. Political Ideology and Endogenous Trade Policy: An Empirical Investigation. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 87(1), 59–72.

\* Owen, Erica and Noel Johnston. 2017. Occupation and the Political Economy of Trade: Job Routineness, Offshorability and Protectionist Sentiment, in: *International Organization* 71(4): 665-699.

\* Scheve, Kenneth F. and Matthew J. Slaughter. 2001. What Determines Individual Trade-Policy Preferences?, in: *Journal of International Economics* 54 (2): 267-292.

#### 10. Immigration

\* Fitzgerald, Jennifer, David Leblang, and Jessica C. Teets. 2014. Defying the Law of Gravity: The Political Economy of International Migration, in: *World Politics* 66 (3): 406-445.

\* Hainmueller, Jens and Michael J. Hiscox. 2010. Attitudes toward Highly Skilled and Low-skilled Immigration: Evidence from a Survey Experiment, in: *American Political Science Review* 104 (1): 61-84.

Malhotra, Neil, Yotam Margalit, and Cecilia Hyunjung Mo. 2013. Economic Explanations for Opposition to Immigration: Distinguishing between Prevalence and Conditional Impact, in: *American Journal of Political Science*, 57(2), 391-410.

Ward, Dalston. 2019. Public Attitudes toward Young Immigrant Men, in: *American Political Science Review* 113(1), 264–269.

#### 11. International Organizations

\* Baccini, Leonardo and Johannes Urpelainen. 2012. Strategic Side Payments: Preferential Trading Agreements, Economic Reform, and Foreign Aid, in: *Journal of Politics* 74 (4): 932-949.

Bechtel, Michael M. and Thomas Sattler. 2015. What Is Litigation in the World Trade Organization Worth?, in: *International Organization* 69 (2): 375-403.

\* Gabel, Matt, Clifford J. Carruba, Caitlin Ainsley, and Donald M. Beaudette. 2015. Of Courts and Commerce, in: *Journal of Politics* 72 (4): 1125-1137.

Heermann, Max, Koos, Sebastian, and Dirk Leuffen. 2023. Who Deserves European Solidarity? How Recipient Characteristics Shaped Public Support for International Medical and Financial Aid during COVID-19, in: *British Journal of Political Science* (forthcoming).

#### 12. Climate Politics

Aldy, Joseph E., Krupnick, Alan J., Newell, Richard G., Parry, Ian W. H., and Willam A. Pizer. 2010. Designing Climate Mitigation Policy, in: *Journal of Economic Literature* 48 (4): 903-934.



Bergquist, Parrish and Christopher Warshaw. 2018. Does Global Warming Increase Public Concern about Climate Change, in: *Journal of Politics* 81 (2): 686-691.

Bechtel, Michael M., Kenneth F. Scheve, and Elisabeth van Lieshout. 2020. Constant Carbon Pricing Increases Support for Climate Action Compared to Ramping Up Costs over Time, in: *Nature Climate Change* 10: 1004-1009.

Cao, Xun, Helen V. Milner, Aseem Prakash, and Hugh Ward. 2013. Research Frontiers in Comparative and International Environmental Politics, in: *Comparative Political Studies* 45(9): 1075-1103.

\* Egan, Patrick J. and Megan Mullin. 2012. Turning Personal Experience into Political Attitudes: The Effect of Local Weather on American's Perceptions about Global Warming, in: *Journal of Politics* 74 (3): 796-809.

Hughes, Llewelyn and Phillip Y. Lipsy. 2013. The Politics of Energy, in: *Annual Review of Political Science* 16: 449-469.

Keohane, Robert O. 2015. The Global Politics of Climate Change: Challenge for Political Science, in: *PS: Political Science and Politics* 48 (1): 19-26.

Keohane, Robert O. and David Victor. 2016. Cooperation and Discord in Global Climate Policy, in: *Nature Climate Change* 6: 570-575.

\* Tingley, Dustin and Mike Tomz. 2014. Conditional Cooperation and Climate Change, in: *Comparative Political Studies* 74 (3): 344-368.