

University of Georgia
Office hours:
Course home page:

Dr. Andrew Whitford
Wednesday, 2-4 PM, or by appointment
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412 Baldwin

PADP 8650 – Public Policy Seminar: Business and Government Spring 2023

Description This course will help you develop a deeper understanding of the major analytical techniques and theoretical approaches to the study of business and government. PADP 8650 is a Public Policy Seminar and has a unique structure that involves intensive academic research culminating in a research paper; see the official description for this course at <http://bulletin.uga.edu/CoursesHome> by entering the course number and clicking on “view with course objectives and topical outline”. 8000-level courses are “advanced graduate courses and seminars which provide educational experiences at the highest level in a graduate student’s program of study”; see <https://grad.uga.edu/graduate-bulletin/enrollment-policy/>.

This course contributes to our Competency 2: To participate in the public policy process: “Students in the Master of Public Administration program at The University of Georgia will understand the public policy process at the federal, state, and local levels, including formulating, implementing, and evaluating policy. They will develop the ability to interpret and persuasively communicate information regarding policy alternatives through memoranda and presentations. Additionally, students will analyze policy alternatives using quantitative and qualitative tools to evaluate decisions and explain potential ramifications for diverse constituencies. They will learn to manage financial resources and develop a comprehensive budget proposal to achieve organizational goals.”

Teaching Approach I will help you identify the key concepts discussed in the material. This course has a seminar format, which centers on extended discussions of advanced readings. Because this is an 8000-level course, readings and assignments include complex and difficult concepts in economics and statistics taught at a higher level than is covered in core public administration and public policy courses at the 6000 and 7000-levels.

This course requires intensive seminar participation and writing.

Evaluation Components

- 20% Attendance, class leadership, participation, including peer edits and discussion.
- 15% Academic literature review 1 (**ALR1**).
- 15% Academic literature review 2 (**ALR2**).
- 10% Regulator history/biography (**RHB**).
- 30% Final (long) research paper (**RP**).
- 10% Final paper presentations (**P1 and P2**).

An A will be awarded to anyone with 93 or more points, an A- to those with 90-92.99 points, a B+ to those with 87-89.99 points, a B to those with 83-86.99 points, a B- to those with 80-82.99 points, a C+ to those with 77-79.99 points, a C to those with 73-76.99 points, a C- to those with 70-72.99 points, a D to those with 60 to 69.99 points, and an F to anyone receiving fewer than 60 points in the course.

This course has two parts. The first part involves advanced readings, several lectures, and extensive seminar discussions. In some sessions, I will lead the discussion of our readings, posing questions and facilitating critical inquiry. **All students are expected to be proactively engage in all seminar activities.** Students will be assigned to **lead discussions of the materials one time** during the term. It is imperative that you attend class, complete all readings, and contribute to group discussions. Typically, class sessions will have three parts: student-led (1 hour), lecture/discussion (1 hour), and learning activities (1 hour).

You will complete two **academic literature reviews** as a member of a small group. Details about group assignments and this brief report (e.g., length, topic, format) will follow. You will peer edit the first literature review in class on **February 22**. The final version is due on **March 1**. You will peer edit the second literature review in class on **March 15**. The final version is due on **March 22**.

Over the course of the term, you will complete a **regulator history/biography**. Details about this history/biography (e.g., length, topic, format) will follow. Your proposal (name and description) for this history/biography is due **February 15**. This biography is due on **May 9**.

The second part of the course will operate as an independent study in which **small groups will develop long research papers**. After Spring Break, we will use class time to facilitate the completion of this long paper. Each group will make **two in-class presentations** on **April 12 and April 26 during class**. Details about group assignments and the report (e.g., length, topic, format) will follow. The long research paper is due on **May 9**.

Text and Materials:

- All readings will be distributed online.

Instructor Availability If you would like to speak with me outside of class, feel free to stop by my office during scheduled office hours. Occasionally I have meetings during the day and may be unavailable. To ensure that I am available on a given day, email me at least 24 hours in advance to set a specific time to meet.

Class Attendance/Participation Students are expected to participate through asking questions and answering inquiries raised in class. You cannot participate if you are not physically present. To adequately prepare for class, all assigned readings should be completed by the dates indicated on the course schedule. Not all assigned readings may be discussed in class; nonetheless you are responsible for familiarizing yourself with them.

Prohibition on Recording In the absence of written authorization from the UGA Disability Resource Center, students may not make a visual or audio recording of any aspect of this course. Students who have a recording accommodation agree in writing that they:

- Will use the records only for personal academic use during the specific course. Understand that faculty members have copyright interest in their class lectures and that they agree not to infringe on this right in any way.
- Understand that the faculty member and students in the class have privacy rights and agree not to violate those rights by using recordings for any reason other than their own personal

study.

- Will not release, digitally upload, broadcast, transcribe, or otherwise share all or any part of the recordings. They also agree that they will not profit financially and will not allow others to benefit personally or financially from lecture recordings or other course materials.
- Will erase/delete all recordings at the end of the semester.
- Understand that violation of these terms may subject them to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct or subject them to liability under copyright laws.

Special Needs and Academic Honesty Students with special needs that require accommodation should notify the Office for Disability Services and me as soon as possible so the appropriate arrangements can be made. All information as well as documentation is considered confidential. All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The link to more detailed information about academic honesty can be found at: http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm.

Religious Holidays Students who are absent from academic or social activities because of religious observances will not be penalized. If you desire to be excused from class to observe a religious holiday, notify me in advance. You are still responsible for any material covered during the excused absence, but will be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up any work missed. If an event is scheduled during the class at which you are excused for a religious observance, you should make arrangements with me as soon as possible for an alternate time or be given a comparable assignment.

Miscellaneous No “extra credit” will be assigned in this course under any circumstances. Keep in mind that final grades may only be changed in the event of a clerical error (e.g., points summed incorrectly). Also, for privacy reasons, information pertaining to course grades cannot be discussed over the telephone or via email. A final grade of “Incomplete” will only be given in this course under extraordinary circumstances and is solely at the discretion of the instructor. The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. Please silence devices while in class. Devices and laptops may only be used in-class with my permission. I accept late work after the due date only by prior arrangement. You must type any grade appeals and attach supplemental information as appropriate.

Campus resources: There are many resources on campus that offer support during your time here at UGA. They are here for you, so please take advantage of them.

Academic support

- The Division of Academic Enhancement Academic Coaching:
 - <https://dae.uga.edu/services/academic-coaching/>
- The Presentation Collaboratory:
 - https://dae.uga.edu/services/presentation_collaboratory/
- Student Success Workshops:
 - <https://dae.uga.edu/services/student-success-workshops/>
- Tutoring through the Academic Resource Center:

- <https://dae.uga.edu/services/tutoring/>
- Resources for academic success at UGA:
 - https://dae.uga.edu/resources/academic_success_resources/
- First Generation Student Resources:
 - https://dae.uga.edu/resources/first_generation_student_resources/
- International Student Resources:
 - <https://dae.uga.edu/resources/international-student-resources/>
- Intensive English Program
 - <https://dae.uga.edu/iep/intensive-english-program/>

Technology support

- If new to campus:
 - https://eits.uga.edu/support/new_to_campus/
- Mobile App Warehouse
 - <https://dae.uga.edu/resources/mobile-app-warehouse/>
- Enterprise Information Technology Services
 - <https://eits.uga.edu>
- EITS Support
 - <https://eits.uga.edu/support/>
- Site-licensed Software
 - https://eits.uga.edu/hardware_and_software/
- Vlab
 - <https://eits.uga.edu/support/vlab/>
- Printing Kiosks
 - https://eits.uga.edu/support/printing_kiosks/
- Accessibility Group
 - http://www.amacusg.gatech.edu/wag/Main_Page

Personal support

- Graduate Student Financial Aid
 - <https://dae.uga.edu/iep/intensive-english-program/>
- Aid for Student Veterans and Military-Connected Students
 - https://osfa.uga.edu/types-of-aid/DoD_tuition_assistance/
- Student Veterans Resource Center
 - <https://svrc.uga.edu>
- Dean of Students
 - <https://dos.uga.edu>
- Counseling Center
 - <https://www.uhs.uga.edu/caps/welcome>
- Disability Resource Center
 - <https://drc.uga.edu/site>
- Financial Hardships Support Gateway

- https://financialhardship.uga.edu/content_page/uga-resources-funding-and-employment
- Women's Resource Center
 - <https://women.uga.edu>
- LGBT Resource Center
 - <https://lgbtcenter.uga.edu>
- Student Care and Outreach
 - <https://sco.uga.edu>
- UGA Police
 - <https://www.police.uga.edu>
 - 911 or 706-542-2000

Coronavirus Information for Students

I will adhere to the guidance given by the Office of the Vice Provost for Instruction. You can find this guidance here: <https://coronavirus.uga.edu>.

Schedule of Topics: see <https://uga.view.usg.edu>