

Course syllabus
PPGC67 H3
PUBLIC POLICY IN CANADA
Winter 2020

Lecture:
Tuesdays 11 – 1pm, HW 215

Instructor: Matt Wilder
Email: matt.wilder@mail.utoronto.ca
Office Hours: Tues, Thur 1 – 2pm, HL 568

Tutorials:
TUT0002: 2 – 3pm, HW 402
TUT0003: 3 – 4pm, HW 308
TUT0001: 4 – 5pm, BV 355

Teaching Assistant:
Victor Bruzzone
Email: v.bruzzone@mail.utoronto.ca

Course description: PPGC67 covers issues pertinent to public policy in Canada and explores the processes by which policy is made. Students will develop an understanding of cabinet decisionmaking, the legislative process, judicial activism, the role of bureaucracy and partisan staff in policy formulation and implementation, and issues related to stakeholder participation.

Format: PPGC67 consists of eleven two hour lectures, a two-part research essay, ten mandatory one hour tutorials, a one-page reading summary, and two ninety minute closed-book examinations. Students are encouraged to comment on the material and ask questions during lectures and tutorials. The reading summary and research essay provide students with an opportunity to think and write like professional policy scholars.

Readings: All readings are posted to the PPGC67 Quercus page. Students are expected to come to class having reviewed the required readings.

Grading Scheme and Course Requirements:

Essay outline and annotated bibliography (due 23 February)	10%
Reading summary	15%
Midterm exam (25 February)	20%
Term paper (due 29 March)	20%
Final exam (15 April)	25%
Tutorial attendance	10%

Exams: The midterm will be administered during class on 25 February. The final exam will take place on 15 April from 9 – 11am in SW 309. Both exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions based on material covered in lecture. The final exam is cumulative, but will emphasize material covered after the midterm. Both are closed-book examinations.

Research essay assignment: Discuss how well one or more of the theories covered in Week 2 explains a case of public policy in Canada. Assess whether Canadian institutions affect the case in ways not predicted by the theory. The assignment consists of two parts: a 3-5 page outline and annotated bibliography (due 25 February) and a 2500-3500 word essay (due 29 March). The outline and annotated bibliography should include a tentative abstract, research question, tentative thesis or hypothesis, summaries of three sources students have already consulted and a list of at least three additional sources with a note about how students think these sources will be helpful or informative for their papers. Students are not bound by their outlines and may opt to change course for the final paper. Both the outline/annotated bibliography and final paper may be single or double spaced, employ one inch or three quarter inch margins, times new roman 12-point font, Chicago or APA in-text citations. Both assignments should be submitted via the *Turnitin* application on Quercus unless other arrangements have been made at least one week prior to the due date. Word counts are inclusive (i.e., inclusive of title page, abstract, bibliography, notes, tables and figures, etc). Assignments are due by 11:59pm on the due date. Late assignments will be penalized five percentage points per day late beginning at 12:00am. Detailed instructions and grading rubrics for both parts of the assignment are posted to the course Quercus page. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the evaluation criteria well in advance, and to discuss the assignment with the instructor during office hours.

Reading response: Students are required to submit one summary of a tutorial discussion reading that correctly specifies the research question, thesis or hypothesis, and findings. Assignments should be 500-750 words, may be single or double spaced, employ one inch or three quarter inch margins, and times new roman 12-point font. The assignment should be submitted via the *Turnitin* application on Quercus by 11am on the day of the tutorial in which the reading is to be discussed. Late submissions will not be accepted and extensions will not be granted for the reading response assignment. Detailed instructions and a grading rubric for the assignment are posted on the course Quercus page. Students may submit multiple reading summaries throughout the term, but only the highest scoring response will count toward the final grade.

Assignment submission: Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site. Submission to Turnitin is voluntary. Students who wish to submit written assignments by other means must make arrangements with the instructor at least one week prior to the assignment due date.

Missed tests, late assignments, extensions and absences: Extensions will be granted, and absences excused, only in the event of documented necessity. Late assignments will be penalized five percentage points per day late. No assignments will be accepted after 7 April, except under extenuating circumstances. If a student must submit an assignment after 7 April, a petition through the faculty administration may be required.

Grade appeals: Grades for assignments may be appealed, first, to the course instructor and, subsequently, to the department. Students should be advised that regraded assignments may receive a lower mark than the one given by the original evaluator.

Accessibility needs: The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require assistance or have any accessibility concerns, please visit: <https://www.utoronto.ca/~ability/>

Academic misconduct: Make sure the information in your essays is in your own words. Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and will be handled according to the rules in the university's Code of Behaviour. For further information, see the University of Toronto's policy on academic integrity at: <https://www.utoronto.ca/aacc/academic-integrity>

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

7 January: introduction

Topics covered: the Canadian policymaking system, macropolitical institutions, policy subsystems

14 January: theoretical perspectives on Canadian public policy

Topics covered: political influence, power, pluralism, agenda-setting, the advocacy coalition framework, punctuated equilibrium theory, policy paradigms

Required reading:

Pross, Paul (1986). Models of representation: pluralism and post pluralism. In *Group politics and public policy*. (pp. 227-47). Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Swigger, Alexandra & Timothy Heinmiller (2014). Advocacy coalitions and mental health policy. *Politics and Policy*, 42(2): 246-70. (pp. 251-53 only).

Skogstad, Grace (2008). Introduction. In *Internationalization and Canadian agriculture: policy and governing paradigms*. (pp. 3-42). Toronto: University of Toronto Press. (pp. 9-16 only).

Howlett, Michael (1997). Issue-attention and punctuated equilibria models reconsidered: an empirical examination of the dynamics of agenda-setting in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 30(1): 3-29. (pp. 10-11 only).

Further reading:

Baumgartner, Frank & Jones, Bryan (1991). Agenda dynamics and policy subsystems. *Journal of Politics*, 53(4): 1044-74.

Hall, Peter (1993). Policy paradigms, social learning, and the state: the case of economic policymaking in Britain. *Comparative Politics*, 25(3), 275-96.

Mawhinney, Hanne (1993). An advocacy coalition approach to change in Canadian education. In P. A. Sabatier & H. C. Jenkins-Smith (Eds.), *Policy change and learning: an advocacy coalition approach* (pp. 59-82). Boulder, CO: Westview.

Montpetit, Eric (2016). Introduction: shouts, shoes, and insults. In *In defense of pluralism: policy disagreement and its media coverage*. (pp. 1-27). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Pralle, Sarah (2003). Venue shopping, political strategy, and policy change: the internationalization of Canadian forest advocacy. *Journal of Public Policy*, 23(3), 233–60.

Sabatier, Paul (1988). An advocacy coalition framework of policy change and the role of policy-oriented learning therein. *Policy Sciences*, 21(2/3), 129–68.

Savoie, Donald (2010). The setting or the individual. In *Power: where is it?* (pp. 231–41). Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.

Soroka, Stuart (2002). Issue attributes and agenda-setting by media, the public, and policymakers in Canada. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 14(3), 264–85.

Train, Andrew & Snow, Dave (2019). Cannabis policy diffusion in Ontario and New Brunswick: coercion, learning, and replication. *Canadian Public Administration*, 62(4), 549–72.

Wilder, Matt (2017). Comparative public policy: origins, themes, new directions. *Policy Studies Journal*, 45(S1), 47-66

Tutorial discussion:

Pross, Paul (1986). Models of representation: pluralism and post pluralism. In *Group politics and public policy*. (pp. 227-47). Toronto: Oxford University Press.

21 January: policy representation in the Canadian federation

Topics covered: Canadian pluralism, the Canadian party system, clientelism, regionalism, local politics, the “first minister as autocrat” thesis

Required reading:

Savoie, Donald. J (1999). Introduction. In *Governing from the centre* (pp. 3–16). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Johnston, Richard (2008). Polarized pluralism in the Canadian party system. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 41(4), 815–34.

Further reading:

Cochrane, Christopher & Parella, Andrea (2012). Regions, regionalism and regional differences in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 45(4), 829–53.

Coleman, William D (1988). State institutions and business associations. In *Business and politics: a study of collective action* (pp. 238–60). McGill-Queen's University Press.

Coleman, William D, & Skogstad, Grace (1990). Policy communities and policy networks: A structural approach. In W. Coleman & G. Skogstad (Eds.), *Policy communities and public policy in Canada* (pp. 14–33). Mississauga, ON: Copp Clark Pitman.

Conteh, Charles (2013). Introduction. In *Policy governance in multi-level systems: Economic development and policy implementation in Canada* (pp. 3–17). Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.

Good, Kristin (2009). Linking urban regime theory, social diversity, and local multiculturalism policies. In *Municipalities and multiculturalism: the politics of immigration in Toronto and Vancouver* (pp. 16–46). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Hale, Geoffrey E (2018). Business, government, and the politics of mutual dependence. In *Uneasy partnership: the politics of business and government in Canada* (2nd ed., pp. 1–12). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Pross, Paul A (1986). Groups in action: influencing the policy community. In *Group politics and public policy* (pp. 130–54). Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Skogstad, Grace (1985). Interest groups, representation and conflict management in the standing committees of the House of Commons. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 18(4), 739–72.

Smith, Miriam (2014). Introduction. In *Group politics and social movements in Canada* (2nd ed., pp. xi–xxxi). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Tutorial discussion:

Savoie, Donald J (1999). Introduction. In *Governing from the centre* (pp. 3–16). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

28 January: cabinet decisionmaking

Topics covered: cabinet procedure, central agencies, line departments, cabinet committees, ministers and ministries, the “first minister as autocrat” thesis

Required reading:

Johnson, David (2017). Ministers and cabinet decision-making systems. In *Thinking government: public administration and politics in Canada* (4th ed., pp. 119–56). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Bakvis, Herman (2001). Prime minister and cabinet in Canada: an autocracy in need of reform? *Journal of Canadian Studies*, 35(4), 60–79.

Further reading:

White, Graham (2005). Cabinet government in Canada: an executive summary. In *Cabinets and first ministers* (pp. 29–63). Vancouver: UBC Press.

Bakvis, Herman & Juillet, Luc (2004). *The horizontal challenge: line departments, central agencies and leadership*. Ottawa: Canada School of Public Service.

Lewis, J.P. (2013). Elite attitudes on the centralization of power in Canadian political executives: a survey of former Canadian provincial and federal Cabinet ministers. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 46(4), 799–819.

Tutorial discussion:

Bakvis, Herman (2001). Prime minister and cabinet in Canada: an autocracy in need of reform? *Journal of Canadian Studies*, 35(4), 60–79.

4 February: parliamentary committees and the legislative process

Topics covered: the legislative process, orders in council, parliamentary committees, legitimacy

Required reading:

Chenier, John, Dewing, Michael, & Stillborn, Jack (2005). Does parliament care? Parliamentary committees and the estimates. In B. Doern (Ed.), *How Ottawa spends* (pp. 200–24). Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press.

Skogstad, Grace (2003). Who governs? Who should govern? Political authority and legitimacy in Canada in the twenty-first century. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 36(5), 955–73.

Further reading:

Kam, Christopher J. (2009). Introduction. In *Party discipline and parliamentary politics* (pp. 1–20). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cochrane, Christopher, Blidook, Kelly, & Dyck, Rand (2017). Parliament. In *Canadian politics* (8th ed., pp. 569–610). Toronto: Nelson.

Malloy, Jonathan. (1996). Reconciling expectations and reality in House of Commons committees: the case of the 1989 GST inquiry. *Canadian Public Administration*, 39(3), 314–35.

Godbout, Jean-François, & Hoyland, Bjørn (2011). Legislative voting in the Canadian parliament. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 44(2), 367–88

Tutorial discussion:

Skogstad, Grace (2003). Who governs? Who should govern? Political authority and legitimacy in Canada in the twenty-first century. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 36(5), 955–73.

11 February: bureaucracy

Topics covered: bureaucracy, the “public sector bargain”, policy advice, advisory systems

Required reading:

Marland, Alex, & Wesley, Jared J (2019). Review of core concepts. In *The public servant's guide to government in Canada* (pp. 1–18). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Craft, Jonathan (2013). Appointed political staffs and the diversification of policy advisory sources: theory and evidence from Canada. *Policy and Society*, 32(3), 211-23.

Further reading:

Tupper, Alan (2000). The contested terrain of Canadian public administration in Canada's third century. *Journal of Canadian Studies*, 35(4), 142–160

Marland, Alex & Wesley, Jared J (2019). The public sector bargain. In *The public servant's guide to government in Canada* (pp. 19–29). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Siu, Bobby (2014). Public policy developers. In *Developing public policy* (pp. 9–34). Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press.

Howlett, Michael (2008). Managing the hollow state: procedural policy instruments and modern governance *Canadian Public Administration*, 43(4): 412-31.

Tutorial discussion:

Craft, Jonathan (2013). Appointed political staffs and the diversification of policy advisory sources: theory and evidence from Canada. *Policy and Society*, 32(3), 211-23.

25 February: **MIDTERM EXAM**

3 March: policy formulation and implementation in Canada

Topics covered: policy formulation, policy implementation, ABCs (agencies, boards, commissions), P3s (public-private partnerships)

Required reading:

Johnson, Daniel. (2017). Organizational design and management decision making. In *Thinking government: public administration and politics in Canada* (4th ed., pp. 157–200). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Elson, Peter R (2014). Third wave, third sector: a comparative provincial analysis of the governance of third sector relations. *Canadian Public Administration*, 57(4), 527–47.

Further reading:

Siu, Bobby (2014). Formulating policy options and recommendations. In *Developing public policy* (pp. 149–70). Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press.

Lucas, Jack (2013). *Hidden in plain view: local agencies, boards, and commissions in Canada*. Toronto: Institute on Municipal Finance and Governance.

Inwood, Gregory, & Johns, Carolyn (2016). Commissions of inquiry and policy change: comparative analysis and future research frontiers. *Canadian Public Administration*, 59(3), 382–404.

Tutorial discussion:

Elson, Peter R (2014). Third wave, third sector: a comparative provincial analysis of the governance of third sector relations. *Canadian Public Administration*, 57(4), 527–47.

10 March: the judiciary

Topics covered: judicial review, judicial activism, the notwithstanding clause, Oakes test

Required reading:

Morton, F. L., & Knopff, Rainer (2000). Introduction. In *The charter revolution and the court party* (pp. 13–32). Toronto: Broadview Press.

Radmilovic, Vuk (2013). Governmental interventions and judicial decision making: the Supreme Court of Canada in the age of the Charter. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 46(2), 323–44

Further reading:

Choudhry, Sujit & Hunter, Claire E (2003). Measuring judicial activism on the Supreme Court of Canada. *McGill Law Journal*, 48(3), 526–62.

Manfredi, Christopher & Kelly, James (2004). Misrepresenting the Supreme Court's record? A comment on Sujit Choudhry and Claire E. Hunter, "Measuring judicial activism on the Supreme Court of Canada" *McGill Law Journal*, 49(3), 741–64.

Hausegger, Lori, Riddell, Troy & Hennigar, Matthew (2013). Does patronage matter? Connecting influences on judicial appointments with judicial decision making. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 46(3), 665–90.

Tutorial discussion:

Morton, F. L., & Knopff, Rainer (2000). Introduction. In *The charter revolution and the court party* (pp. 13–32). Toronto: Broadview Press.

17 March: Canadian pluralism

Topics covered: policy influence and representation in Canada

Required reading:

Smith, Miriam. (2002). Ghosts of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council: group politics and Charter litigation in Canadian political science. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 35(1), 3–29.

Knopff, Rainer., & Morton, F. L. (2002). Ghosts and straw men: a comment on Miriam Smith's "Ghosts of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council." *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 35(1), 31–42.

Smith, Miriam. (2002). Partisanship as political science: a reply to Rainer Knopff and F. L. Morton. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 35(1), 43–48.

Further reading:

Thurlow, W. Scott (2010). Some observations on the state of lobbying in Canada. *Canadian Parliamentary Review*, 33(2), 43–45.

Rheault, Ludovic (2013). Corporate lobbying and immigration policies in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 46(3), 691–722.

Simeon, Richard (1987). Inside the Macdonald Commission. *Studies in Political Economy*, 22(1), 167–79.

Simeon, Richard (1976). Studying public policy. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 9(4), 548–80.

Wilder, Matt. (2016). Whither the funnel of causality? *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 49(4), 721–41.

Bashevkin, Sylvia (2000). In the shadow of free trade: nationalism, feminism and identity politics in contemporary English Canada. *Journal of Canadian Studies*, 35(2), 109–127.

Tutorial discussion:

Smith, Miriam (2002). Ghosts of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council: group politics and Charter litigation in Canadian political science. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 35(1), 3–29.

24 March: intergovernmental relations

Topics covered: fiscal federalism, first ministers conferences, federal-provincial relations, interprovincial-relations, domestic and international treaties

Required reading:

Simmons, Julie & Graefe, Peter (2013). Assessing the collaboration that was “collaborative federalism” 1996-2006. *Canadian Political Science Review*, 7(1), 25–36.

Miljan, Lydia & Jackson, Taylor (2018). Electoral rules and fiscal policy outcomes in British Columbia. In *The consequences of electoral reform in British Columbia* (pp. 73–90). Vancouver: Fraser Institute.

Further reading:

Inwood, Gregory, Johns, Carolyn M, & O'Reilly, Patricia. (2011). Intergovernmental policy capacity: A new perspective. In *Intergovernmental policy capacity in Canada* (pp. 3–31). McGill-Queen's University Press.

Harrison, Kathryn (2006). Provincial interdependence: Concepts and theories. In K. Harrison (Ed.), *Racing to the bottom? Provincial interdependence in the Canadian federation* (pp. 1–24). Vancouver: UBC Press.

White, Graham (2002). Treaty federalism in Northern Canada: Aboriginal-government land claims boards. *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, 32(3), 89–114.

Oates, Wallace E (2005). Toward a second-generation theory of fiscal federalism. *International Tax and Public Finance*, 12(4), 349–73.

Irvine, Sandy (2011). Internationalization of Canadian refugee policy: Understanding the role of international bureaucratic networks in domestic paradigm change. In G. Skogstad (Ed.), *Policy paradigms, transnationalism and domestic politics* (pp. 171–201). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Gotlieb, Allan. (1998). Negotiating the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. *International Journal*, 53(3), 522–538.

Tutorial discussion:

Miljan, Lydia & Jackson, Taylor (2018). Electoral rules and fiscal policy outcomes in British Columbia. In *The consequences of electoral reform in British Columbia* (pp. 73–90). Vancouver: Fraser Institute.

31 March: applications

Topics covered: applications in Canadian public policy

Required reading:

Bradford, Neil (2003). Public-private partnership? Shifting paradigms of economic governance in Ontario. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 36(5), 1005–34.

Tsebelis, George (2002). Macroeconomic policies. In *Veto players: how political institutions work* (pp. 187–207). Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Further reading:

Swigger, Alexandra & Timothy Heinmiller (2014). Advocacy coalitions and mental health policy: the adoption of community treatment orders in Ontario. *Politics and policy*, 42(2): 246-70.

Skogstad, Grace (2008). Introduction. In *Internationalization and Canadian agriculture: policy and governing paradigms*. (pp. 3-42). Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Howlett, Michael (1997). Issue-attention and punctuated equilibria models reconsidered: an empirical examination of the dynamics of agenda-setting in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 30(1): 3-29.

Mawhinney, Hanne (1993). An advocacy coalition approach to change in Canadian education. In P. A. Sabatier & H. C. Jenkins-Smith (Eds.), *Policy change and learning: an advocacy coalition approach* (pp. 59–82). Boulder, CO: Westview.

Pralle, Sarah (2003). Venue shopping, political strategy, and policy change: the internationalization of Canadian forest advocacy. *Journal of Public Policy*, 23(3), 233–60.

Soroka, Stuart (2002). Issue attributes and agenda-setting by media, the public, and policymakers in Canada. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 14(3), 264–85.

Wilder, Matt (2015). Ideas beyond paradigms: relative commensurability and the case of Canadian trade-industrial policy, 1975–95. *Journal of European Public Policy*, 22(7), 1004–21.

Montpetit, Éric (2016). Appreciating the pluralist politics of policy-making. In *In defense of pluralism* (pp. 148–175). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Tutorial discussion:

Tsebelis, George (2002). Macroeconomic policies. In *Veto players: how political institutions work* (pp. 187–207). Princeton: Princeton University Press.