

**GLOBAL PUBLIC POLICY  
POLSCI 705 / GLOBALST 705  
Term 2, Winter 2019**

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**Lecture:** Thursdays, 2:30-5:20pm  
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## **Course Description**

Few policy areas are truly either national or global. Most demonstrate some degree of interaction between global and national regimes. This course examines the increasingly tense dynamics of global-national interaction in a variety of policy areas drawn from issues like austerity, the welfare state and social policy, economic management, trade and investment, privatization, un/employment, migration, and health. Debates around the role of ideas, structures and institutions, and issues of policy continuity and change frame discussions around global governance, the re-focusing of the state, and its response to crises.

## **Course Objectives**

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Understand and discuss the main theoretical and empirical debates about the interaction of global and state-level public policy.
- Complete a significant research paper on the topic.
- Constructively comment on and critique academic writings and peer papers.

## **Required Materials and Texts**

There is no required textbook. Students will have assigned readings as listed under the Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings section.

## **Class Format**

The course will use a seminar format.

## **Course Evaluation – Overview**

1. Seminar Participation – 20%
2. Short Reports (2 @ 10%) – 20%
3. Research Proposal - 20%, due Friday, **February 15<sup>th</sup>**.
4. Final Research Paper – 40%, due two weeks after class presentation

## **Course Evaluation – Details**

### **Seminar Participation (20%)**

The success of any graduate class depends on the active participation of students. So, of course, you are expected to attend all sessions and to show that you have prepared for the seminar discussion, by drawing out questions and issues from the assigned materials and giving your own reflections on the significance of the points made by authors of those materials.

In the first part of the course this will be through taking part in discussions of the assigned readings and in the last part of the course, it will be through discussion of other students' papers, which will have been circulated electronically in advance of the seminar. Constructive criticism and suggestions for improvement are especially

appreciated as these papers are drafts with opportunities to revise and improve them before the final version is submitted.

### **Short Reports (2 @10%) 20%**

Each student will be responsible for the preparation and presentation to the seminar of two reports (max. length 750 words each).

Each report will be presented orally in class with a written version being handed in the same day.

Report 1 will deal with **one of the “recommended” readings** – a journal article or book chapter.

The written report will present a summary and critique of the article/chapter. It should: summarise the main argument; then make a critique. The critique might: comment on its strengths/ weaknesses, relationship to other readings, for the week, say whether it seems to make a significant argument, point to obvious criticisms that could be made of its contents, perspective, methodology etc.

In particular, the oral presentation of the written report should make connections with other course readings and draw out questions or issues that are deserving of discussion by the class as a whole. In some cases it may also be necessary to update the empirical content of the article via brief web research.

Report 2 will involve each student serving as chief ***discussant for another student’s paper*** in the second part of the course. This is modelled on the procedure used at many academic conferences. The paper will be received in advance and the discussant will prepare a review (not unlike that in *Report 1*) but focused on identifying weaknesses and on suggesting improvements. This will be presented orally after the paper-giving student has finished an in-class presentation of his/her paper.

A copy of the report will be given to ***both*** the instructor and to the paper-giver.

### **Research Proposal (20%), due Friday, February 15th**

The paper should be on some aspect of global public policy as considered in the course. The topic should be developed in consultation with the instructor. Papers will be expected to address some of the theoretical and empirical concerns that are reflected in the course readings.

***There are a number of distinct stages in the development of the research papers for this course – some very brief and casual, other more substantial and formal.***

**1. During the first three to four weeks of class** each student should identify a general topic. It’s a good idea to check with instructor that the topic is acceptable. This can be done in a casual conversation or by a brief email exchange.

**2.** Each student will be expected to schedule a 5-10 minute meeting with me during the week of **January 28th, or earlier**, to discuss ideas for the essay, agree on a precise topic etc.

3. Following that meeting students will prepare a research proposal and may engage in some discussion with the instructor, either in person or by email, about the development of the proposal. ***The formal Research Proposal will be due, by email attachment (in WORD not pdf) on Friday February 15th.*** It should contain: a title, a description of the topic or question to be investigated; the main theoretical issues raised by the research topic or question; a preliminary thesis statement; a very short literature review; an identification of types of evidence to be used in investigating the topic; and a bibliography (maximum length of the proposal, not including the bibliography = 750 words). ***Written feedback will provided during the week of February 18th***

4. On the basis of this research proposal and feedback received, students will then prepare a draft research paper which will be presented in one of the seminars in the last part of the course (***Scheduling*** of the order of presentations, and assignment of a discussant for each paper, will be done ***by February 18th*** and circulated to all class members by email). The presentations themselves will be during the last 3 weeks of class – ***March 21, 28, and April 4.***

5. ***DRAFT PAPER DUE: Authors will electronically circulate the draft paper to all members of the class by 10 am on the Monday prior to the day the paper will be presented.***

### **Final Research Paper (40%), due two weeks after in-class presentation**

Length Guideline: 5000 words (not including bibliography or Appendix 1 – see below).

As an *Appendix to the paper*, each student will include a 750 word response to comments, criticisms, and suggestions received during the presentation of their paper. This might include reasons why particular criticisms/ suggestions were accepted or rejected in the writing of the final paper.

*(Note: You will receive written comments from your discussant and the instructor but will need to take notes of comments by your peers).*

## **Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings**

### **Week 1 (Jan 10) Introduction**

**Topic: Course Organization and Introduction**

### **Week 2 (Jan 17) Policy Change**

**Topic: Policy Changes: Structures, Crises and the Big Picture**

Required Readings:

- Kari Polanyi Levitt, "From Mercantilism to Neoliberalism and the Financial Crisis of 2008", Chapter 10 in Polanyi Levitt, *From the Great Transformation to the Great Financialization* (Halifax: Fernwood, 2013).
- Peter Gourevitch, "Explaining Policy Choices", Chapter 2 in Gourevitch, *Politics in Hard Times: Comparative Responses to International Economic Crises* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1986).

- Kevin Farnsworth and Zoe Irving, "Varieties of Crisis" Chapter 1 in Farnsworth and Irving, (eds.) *Social Policy in Challenging Times: Economic Crisis and Welfare Systems* (Bristol: Policy Press, 2011).
- Daniel Drache, "Systemic Challenges To Global Trade Governance – No Way Out?" (Transnational Law Institute, King's College London, 2017).

Recommended:

- Amin Samman, "Crisis Theory and the Historical Imagination" *Review of International Political Economy* Vol. 22:5 (March, 2015) pp. 966-995.
- G. Esping-Anderson, "The Three Political Economies of the Welfare State" *Canadian Review of Sociology* Vol 26:1 (February, 1989), pp. 10-36.
- Peter Burnham, "Globalization, Depoliticization, and 'Modern' Economic Management" in Werner Bonefeld and Kosmas Psychopedis *The Politics of Change: Globalization, Ideology and Critique* (Hampshire: Palgrave, 2000), Chapter 2.
- Bob Jessop, "Narratives of Crisis and Crisis Response: Perspectives from North and South" in Peter Utting, *et.al.* *The Global Crisis and Transformative Social Change* (London: Palgrave Macmillan/UNRISD, 2000), Chapter 1.

### **Week 3 (Jan 24) Economic and Other Crises**

#### **Topic: Economic and Other Crises**

Required Readings:

- Michael Hill, "The economic crisis and paradigm change", in Farnsworth and Irving, eds., *Social Policy in Challenging Times: Economic crisis and welfare systems* (Bristol: Policy Press, 2011), Chapter 2.
- John Peters, "Post-Democracy and the Politics of Inequality: Explaining Policy Responses to the Financial Crisis and the Great Recession", in Stephen McBride and Bryan M. Evans, (eds.) *The Austerity State* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017), Chapter 3.
- Simon Rushton, "Global Health Security: Security for Whom? Security from What?" *Political Studies* Vol 59:4 (December, 2011), pp. 779-796.
- David Held, "Climate Change, Migration and the Cosmopolitan Dilemma", *Global Policy* Vol 7:2 (May, 2016), pp. 237-246.

Recommended:

- Joseph E. Stiglitz, "Rethinking Macroeconomics: What Went Wrong and How to Fix It", *Global Policy* Vol 2:2 (May, 2011), pp. 165-175.
- Scott Sinclair and Stuart Trew, "International Constraints on Green Strategies: Ontario's WTO Defeat and Public Sector Remedies", in Carla Lipsig-Mumme and Stephen McBride, (eds.) *Working in a Warming World* (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2015), Chapter 1.
- Peter A. Hall, "Varieties of Capitalism and the Euro Crisis", *Western European Politics* Vol 37:6 (August, 2014), pp. 1223-1243.

## **Week 4 (Jan 31) Global Policy: Ideas, Interests, Institutions**

### **Topic: Global Policy: Ideas, Interests, Institutions**

#### Required Readings:

- Peter A. Hall, "Policy Paradigms, Social Learning, and the State: The Case of Economic Policymaking in Britain" *Comparative Politics* Vol 25:3 (April, 1993), pp. 275-296.
- Damien Cahill and Martijn Konings, "Neoliberalism in Historical Perspective", in *Neoliberalism* (Cambridge: Policy Press, 2017), Chapter 1.
- Vivien A. Schmidt and Mark Thatcher, "Theorizing Ideational Continuity: The Resilience of neo-liberal ideas in Europe", in Schmidt and Thatcher, (eds.) *Resilient Liberalism in Europe's Political Economy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013), Chapter 1.
- Panagiotis Sortiris, "The Authoritarian and Disciplinary Mechanism of Reduced Sovereignty in the EU: The Case of Greece" in Cemal Burak Tansel *States of Discipline* (London: Rowman & Littlefield, 2017), Chapter 9.

#### Recommended:

- Liam Stanley, "We're Reaping What We Sowed: Everyday Crisis Narratives and Acquiescence to the Age of Austerity" in *New Political Economy* Vol 19:6 (January, 2014), pp. 895-917.
- Tony Porter and Michael Webb, "Role of the OECD in the Orchestration of Global Knowledge Networks" in Rianne Mahon and Stephen McBride, (eds.) *The OECD and Transnational Governance* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2008), Chapter 2.
- William K. Carroll, "Introduction" and "Conclusion" in William K. Carroll *The Making of a Transnational Capitalist Class: Corporate Power in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (London: Zed Books, 2010).
- Jonathan Kirshner, "Keynes, capital mobility and the crisis of embedded liberalism", *Review of International Political Economy* Vol 6:3 (Autumn, 1999), pp. 313-337.

## **Week 5 (Feb 7) Curious Politics of Austerity**

### **Topic: The Curious Politics of Austerity Policies**

#### Required Readings:

- "Fiscal Consolidation: How much, how fast and by what means?" *An Economic Outlook Report OECD Economics Policy Paper*, No. 1 (Paris: April, 2012).
- Mark Blyth, *Austerity: The History of a Dangerous Idea* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), pp. 1-20 and pp. 205-226.
- John Clarke and Janet Newman, "The alchemy of austerity", *Critical Social Policy* Vol 32:3 (August, 2012), pp. 299-319.

- Wolfgang Streeck, “Neoliberal Reform: From Tax State to Debt State” in Streeck *Buying Time: The Delayed Crisis of Democratic Capitalism* (London: Verso Books, 2014), Chapter 2.

Recommended:

- Armin Schäfer and Wolfgang Streeck, “Introduction: Politics in the Age of Austerity”, in Schäfer and Streeck, (eds.) *Politics in the Age of Austerity* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2013).

## **Week 6 (Feb 14) Issues in Global Governance**

### **Topic: Issues in Global Governance: Health/Migration**

Required Readings:

- James Ricci, “Global Health Governance and the State: Premature Claims of a Post-International Framework” *Global Health Governance* Vol 3:1 (Fall, 2009), pp. 1-18.
- Owain David Williams and Simon Rushton, “Are the ‘Good Times’ Over? Looking to the Future of Global Health Governance” *Global Health Governance* Vol 5:1 (November, 2011), pp. 1-16.
- Kathleen Newland, “The Governance of International Migration: Mechanisms, Processes, and Institutions” *Global Governance* Vol 16:3 (July-September, 2010), pp. 331-343.
- Susan Barrass and John Shields, “Immigration in an Age of Austerity: Morality, the Welfare State and the Shaping of the Ideal Migrant”, in Bryan M. Evans and Stephen McBride, (eds.) *Austerity: the Lived Experience* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017), Chapter 9.

Recommended:

- Wolfgang Hein and Lars Kohlmorgen, “Global Health Governance: Conflicts on Global Social Rights” *Global Social Policy* Vol 8:1 (April, 2008), pp. 80-108.

## **Week 7 (Feb 21) Winter mid-term recess, NO CLASS**

## **Week 8 (Feb 28) Privatization & de/reregulation**

### **Topic: Privatization and de/reregulation (national and global)**

Required Readings:

- David Harvey, “Accumulation by Dispossession” in *The New Imperialism* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003), Chapter 4.
- Graeme A. Hodge, *Privatization: an international review of performance* (USA: Westview Press, 2000)

**AND**



- Dieter Bos, “Arguments on Privatization”, in *Privatization: A Theoretical Treatment* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1991).
- Heather Whiteside, “Profiting Off Austerity: Private Finance for Public Infrastructure”, in Stephen McBride and Bryan M. Evans, (eds.) *The Austerity State* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017).

Recommended:

- John Loxley, “Public-Private Partnerships After the Global Financial Crisis: Ideology Trumping Economic Reality” *Studies in Political Economy* Vol 89:1 (March, 2016), pp. 7-38.
- Stefan Andreasson, “Stand and Deliver: Private Property and the Politics of Global Dispossession” *Political Studies* Vol 54:1 (March, 2006), pp. 3-22.
- Terence J. Byres, “Neoliberalism and Primitive Accumulation in Less Developed Countries”, in Saad-Filho and Johnston, (eds.) *Neoliberalism: A Critical Review* (London: Pluto Press, 2005), Chapter 8.

## **Week 9 (Mar 7) Policy Restructuring**

### **Topic: Policy Restructuring: Labour Markets**

Required Readings:

- Guy Standing, “The Pursuit of Flexibility: in Standing *Global Labour Flexibility: Seeking Distributive Justice* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 1999).
- Stephen McBride and Sorin Mitrea, “Internalizing Neoliberalism and Austerity” in Stephen McBride and Bryan M. Evans, (eds.) *The Austerity State* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017), Chapter 5.
- John Heyes, “Flexicurity in Crisis: European labour market policies in a time of austerity” *European Journal of Industrial Relations* Vol 19:1 (January, 2013), pp. 71-86.
- Christophe Hermann, “From Austerity to Structural Reform: The Erosion of the European Social Model(s)” in *Austerity: The Lived Experience* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017), Chapter 11.

Recommended:

- Wayne Lewchuk, et.al., *Its More than Poverty: Employment Precarity and Household Well-being* (PEPSO, February 2013).
- Stephen McBride, Kathleen McNutt and Russell A. Williams, “Policy Learning? The OECD and Its Jobs Strategy” in Rianna Mahon and Stephen McBride in *The OECD and Transnational Governance* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2008), Chapter 8.
- Ross Fergusson and Nicola Yeates, “Business, as usual: the policy priorities of the World Bank’s discourses on youth unemployment, and the global financial crisis” *Journal of International and Comparative Social Policy* Vol 29:1 (June, 2013), pp. 64-78.

- Scott Greer, "Structural adjustment comes to Europe: Lessons for the Eurozone from the conditionality debates" *Global Social Policy* Vol 14:1 (December, 2013) pp. 51-71).

## **Week 10 (Mar 14) Global Governance**

### **Topic: Global Governance and Limited Democracy**

#### Required Readings:

- Stephen McBride, "The New Constitutionalism: International and Private Rule in the new Global Order" in Gary Teeple and Stephen McBride, (eds.) *Relations of Global Power: Neoliberal Order and Disorder* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2011).
- Alexander E. Kentikelenis, Thomas H. Stubbs and Lawrence P. King, "IMF Conditionality and Development Policy Space, 1985-2014" *Review of International Political Economy* Vol. 23:4 (May, 2016), pp. 543-582.
- Rorden Wilkinson, "Measuring the WTO's Performance: An Alternative Account" *Global Policy* Vol 2:1 (January, 2011), pp. 43-52.
- Neil Burron, "Austerity and Political Crisis: The Radical Left, the Far Right and Europe's New Authoritarian Order" in Bryan M. Evans and Stephen McBride, (eds.) *Austerity: The Lived Experience* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017), Chapter 14.

#### Recommended:

- Richard W. Mansbach and Ellen B. Pirro, "Putting the Pieces Together: International and EU Institutions After the Economic Crisis" *Global Governance* Vol 22:1 (Jan-Mar, 2016), pp. 99-115.
- Gus Van Harten, "Private authority and transnational governance: the contours of the international system of investor protection" *Review of International Political Economy* Vol 12:4 (August, 2006), pp. 600-623.
- Robert H. Wade, "After the crisis: industrial policy and the development state in low-income countries" *Global Policy* Vol 1:2 (May, 2010), pp. 150-161.
- Ricardo Grinspun and Robert Kreklewich, "Consolidating Neoliberal Reforms: 'Free Trade' as a Conditioning Framework" *Studies in Political Economy* Vol 43:1 (Spring, 1994), pp. 33-61.

## **Week 11 (Mar 21) Presentations**

### **Topic: Presentation and Peer Discussion of Draft Papers**

## **Week 12 (Mar 28) Presentations**

**Topic: Presentation and Peer Discussion of Draft Papers**

## **Week 13 (Apr 4) Presentations**

**Topic: Presentation and Peer Discussion of Draft Papers**

## **Course Policies**

### **Submission of Assignments**

Written work must be submitted in hard copy in class and cannot be accepted electronically or by fax.

### **Grades**

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

<b>MARK</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
69-0	F

### **Late Assignments**

Late papers will be accepted, but will be subject to a late penalty of 1 per cent per weekday to a maximum of 5 days, after which they will not be accepted and a mark of 0 will be recorded. In the interest of fairness to all students, there will be no exceptions to this unless you have arranged with me in advance for an extension. Papers submitted after deadlines (including excused late papers) will be marked, but comments will not be provided.

### **Absences, Missed Work, Illness**

Please inform me of any absences or problems with the course.

## **University Policies**

### **Academic Integrity Statement**

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behavior can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

### **Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities**

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca). For further information, consult McMaster University’s Policy for [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#).

### **Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy**

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student’s own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

### **Course Modification**

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.