CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the art of policy analysis by exploring its normative nature through a diversity of theoretical and practical approaches. Students will explore various policy analysis models within the social, political, economic, and legal contexts that situate the action and inaction that is social policy.

Note: This course is offered as SOC 352 and POSC 352. Students may take only one of these for credit.

PREREQUISITES: 45 university-level credits, to include at least six credits of Sociology and/or Political Science.

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):
(a) Replaces: 
(b) Cross-listed with: POSC 352
(c) Cannot take: POSC 352 for further credit.

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: 60

STRUCTURE OF HOURS:

Lectures: 45 Hrs
Seminar: 15 Hrs
Laboratory: Hrs
Field experience: Hrs
Student directed learning: Hrs
Other (specify): Hrs

OTHER:

Maximum enrolment: 25
Expected frequency of course offerings: (every semester, annually, every other year, etc.)

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only) Yes No
WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department) X Yes No
TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE: X Yes No

Course designer(s): Martha Dow
Department Head: Stephen Piper
Supporting area consultation (Pre-UEC) Date approved: February 24, 2012
Curriculum Committee chair: Tetsuomi Anzai Date of meeting: March 2, 2012
Dean/Associate VP: Jacqueline Nolte Date approved: March 2012
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval Date of meeting: March 30, 2012
LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Evaluate the key theoretical and practical approaches to policy analysis;
- Critically engage in the problem identification and construction discourse;
- Critically examine the social context within which policy implementation and analysis occur;
- Apply various models of analysis to particular social policies; and,
- Critically explore the political and institutional context in which public policy is made.

METHODS: (Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)
Lectures, group discussions, case studies.

METHODS OF OBTAINING PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):
- Examination(s)
- Portfolio assessment
- Interview(s)
- Other (specify): Methods will be considered on a case-by-case basis

PLAR cannot be awarded for this course for the following reason(s):

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS: [Textbook selection varies by instructor. Examples for this course might be:]
Course pack with selected readings

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:
No unusual supplies are required

STUDENT EVALUATION: [An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]
Assignment 1: Selected Reading Presentation 10%
Assignment 2: Reflection Paper on Problem Construction in the Media 15%
Assignment 3: Major Paper: A Critical Examination of a Public Policy Issue 25%
Participation 15%
Final exam 35%

COURSE CONTENT: [Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]
Week 1 Introduction to course
Week 2 What is Policy Analysis?
Week 3 The Policy “Movement” and Modern Governance
Week 4 Conceptual Foundations for Problem Analysis (Part I)
Week 5 Conceptual Foundations for Problem Analysis (Part II)
Week 6 “Solving” Social Problems: Policy Instruments and Design (Part I)
Week 7 “Solving” Social Problems: Policy Instruments and Design (Part II)
Week 8 Understanding Policy Implementation
Week 9 Timing is Everything: Examining Policy Windows, Networks and Communities (Part I)
Week 10 Timing is Everything: Examining Policy Windows, Networks and Communities (Part II)
Week 11 What Do We Want To Know?: Selecting and Utilizing a Model of Analysis (Part I)
Week 12 What Do We Want To Know?: Selecting and Utilizing a Model of Analysis (Part II)
Week 13 Where do we go from here?