

POL20008 Public Policy Making

Credit Points:	12.5
Level:	2 (Undergraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2015, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 2, Parkville - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: Thirty contact hours per semester. Two x 1-hour lectures and one x 1-hour tutorial per week for 10 weeks. The lecture and tutorial programs are staggered and cover the 12 weeks of semester. Total Time Commitment: Total of 170 hours
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	Politics and International Studies at Level 1
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Description, Subject Objectives, Generic Skills and Assessment Requirements of this entry. The University is dedicated to provide support to those with special requirements. Further details on the disability support scheme can be found at the Disability Liaison Unit website: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/
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Subject Overview:	This subject focuses on one of the tangible outcomes of the political process, with public policy often at the centre of contests for and over political power. Public policy has traditionally been designed and implemented by governments but increasingly market actors, non-government organisations, policy communities and networks are key actors, while many policy problems are global issues and beyond the purview of a single national government. Within governments, political advisors, lobbyists and interest groups are arguably usurping the influence of public servants, while politicians are answerable through the media and to the party and cabinet rooms, and less so to the parliament. Finally, the 'public' is not a homogenous group and certain forms of action privilege some groups over others. Using cases of both innovative and failed policies, this subject considers how problems are effectively framed and how ideas and evidence can be practically applied to policy solutions. The aim of this subject is to provide a professional grounding for future policy officers and analysts, political advisors and government relations practitioners as well as preparing students for undertaking internships.
Learning Outcomes:	On completion of this subject students should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # be able to explain, deconstruct and evaluate policy debates in terms of political interests, forms of evidence and media agendas; # be able to structure policy problems to resonate with different publics and politicians; # be able to assess and critique the power and influence of a range of political actors and institutional structures and how they can impede or facilitate effective policy making; # be able to identify, examine and appraise competing theories and models of policy making; # be able to design innovative policies and identify implementation challenges.
Assessment:	One 1,500 word policy brief (40%) due mid-semester, and a policy research paper of 2,500 words (60%) due in the examination period. Hurdle Requirement: This subject has a minimum

	Hurdle Requirement of 75% tutorial attendance. Regular participation in tutorials is required. Assessment submitted late without an approved extension will be penalised at 10% per working day. In-class tasks missed without approval will not be marked. All pieces of written work must be submitted to pass this subject.
Prescribed Texts:	Althaus, C., Bridgman, P. & Davis, G. (2012) The Australian Policy Handbook (Fifth edition), Sydney, Allen & Unwin.
Breadth Options:	<p>This subject potentially can be taken as a breadth subject component for the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Bachelor of Biomedicine (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2015/B-BMED) # Bachelor of Commerce (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2015/B-COM) # Bachelor of Environments (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2015/B-ENVS) # Bachelor of Music (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2015/B-MUS) # Bachelor of Science (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2015/B-SCI) # Bachelor of Engineering (https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2015/B-ENG) <p>You should visit learn more about breadth subjects (http://breadth.unimelb.edu.au/breadth/info/index.html) and read the breadth requirements for your degree, and should discuss your choice with your student adviser, before deciding on your subjects.</p>
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Notes:	Available as a Breadth subject to non-Bachelor of Arts students.
Related Course(s):	Bachelor of Arts(Media and Communications)
Related Majors/Minors/Specialisations:	<p>Development Studies Political Science Major Politics and International Studies Politics and International Studies Politics and International Studies</p>