PAD 6721  Policy Research Seminar
Instructor: Rick Feiock
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Course Description:
This class will be conducted as a seminar/workshop on the policy research and the policy research process. Students will present a research paper the third week of class that will be revised throughout the semester. At least one additional project should be used for the assignments in the workshop. You will produce a manuscript based on this work suitable for journal submission as well as a research proposal.

Students are required to read the assigned materials, participate fully in class and online, prepare written research assignments, make presentations, and write a final examination. For each class some students will be assigned to make presentations on the assigned readings. The purpose of these presentations is not to summarize the content. Each presentation will indicate how ideas in that particular reading relate to others in the same week. Presentations will raise critical issues and questions regarding the readings and their application to practice and/or other theories, literature and empirical research. Presenters who fail to follow these guidelines will be stopped by the instructor. Each presenter will post on the Web Board a couple of pages of commentary on the readings that highlights the major arguments of his or her presentation. This must be posted at least 48 hours prior to class. All other students will post a brief response to this commentary within 24 hours of class. This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advanced notice. Additional individual and group reading assignments will be developed based on the substantive and methodological content of student interests, papers, and projects.

Required Texts:


**Recommended Texts:**

Cook, Claire Kehrwald Claire Kehrwald. *Line by Line: How to Edit Your Own Writing* Houghton Mifflin. 1994


Strunk, W., Jr., & White, E. B. *The Elements of Style* (3rd ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon. 1979

1. **Introduction to Policy Research** 1/11

Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba, *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*, Chapter 1


2. **Policy Research, Social Science and the Scholarly Enterprise** 1/18 (alternative time)

Kim Quail Hill, “In Search of Policy Theory” *Policy Currents* 1997


Gary King, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba, *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research* Chapter 1 [again].


3. **Presentation of Research**  1/25
Submit paper by 1/22
Submit powerpoint by 1/24 (noon)
Post comment on class papers by 1/25 (noon)

Tom Carsey and Rick Feiock’s powerpoint “Preparing a Research Presentation/Job Talk”

4. **The Welfare Economics Base of Policy Research**  2/1


5. **Policy Models**  2/8


6. **DMC Symposium: Coordination of Fragmented Authority**  2/15
Symposium papers available at [https://www.fsu.edu/~dmc/](https://www.fsu.edu/~dmc/)

7. **Policy Tools**  2/22


8. **Policy Analysis and Policy Instrument Choice**  3/1


9. **Spring Break**  3/8
10. **Policy Network Studies**  3/15


11. **Social Network Analysis**  3/22


NetMiner, Users Manual, 2005


T. A Snijders “Models for Longitudinal Network Data.”

Lab workshop: The use UCINET, NetMiner and SIENA

12. **Analysis and Interpretation of Statistical Results**  3/29


Gary King, Michael Tomz; and Jason Witten. “Clarify: Software for Interpreting and Presenting Statistical Results” http://gking.harvard.edu/clarify/docs/clarify.html

Svend Juul, “Introduction to Stata 8”

Lawrence C. Hamilton 2006. Statistics with Stata.

Aaron Wildavsky, 1993. Craftways: On the Organization of Scholarly Work, Chapters 4, 6, 7

Lab workshop: The use of Clarify Software

13. **Time and Space** 4/5

David Darmofol, “Spatial Econometrics and Political Science”

Anselin, Luc. 1990. Spatial Econometrics

Jan Breuckner, Strategic Interaction Among Governments


Bear F. Braumoeller, research note on hypothesis testing and interaction terms, in International Organization.

14. **MPSA Meeting** 4/12


15. **Professional and Normative Issues in Policy Research and Analysis** 4/19


16. Presentation of Papers 4/26