COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department: Social Sciences and Humanities

Programme: Economics
International Relations
Political Science

***FHEQ* Level**:   6

Course Title: Policy Making in a Globalized World

Course Code: PLT 6102

Student Engagement Hours: 160

Lectures: 22.5
Seminar / Tutorials: 22.5
Supervision   40
Independent / Guided Learning: 75

Credits: 16 UK CATS credits
8 ECTS credits
4 US credits

Course Description:
This course investigates the process of policymaking in modern states. It explores the role of ideas and institutions in policymaking, how in the new globalized world governments "import" and "borrow" policy ideas from each other, while analyzing how the different actors (i.e. states, bureaucrats, think-tanks, policy-networks, lobby groups, global civil society, and citizens) participate and influence the policy-making process. Through active learning activities (such as mapping the agenda-setting of ideas, identifying policy networks, advising a President) students will understand the complexities of policy-making and the challenges that the modern state faces in the era of globalization.

Pre-requisites: INR 4100 or PLT 4102 or ECN 4110

Aims and Objectives:
- To help students to develop a systematic understanding of public policy and policy-transfer processes in theory and practice.
- To help students develop systematic understanding of policy-making in a globalized world, including the changing roles of both states and non-state actors and networks
- To provide a background for eventual careers in fields pertaining to development studies and beyond which require articulate, clear thinking individuals with a grasp of public policy.
- To provide a framework to assist concerned citizens to think critically about issues that will be of increasing importance in the 21st century.
- To promote critical engagement with a wide range of literature, and the development of writing skills, and the ability to present complex arguments orally.

Programme Outcomes:
At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme outcomes.

Political Science: 6A(ii); 6A(iii); 6B(i); 6B(ii); 6C(ii); 6C(iii); 6D(ii); 6D(iii)
Economics: A5, B4, C5, C7
International Relations: 6Aii, 6Aiii, 6Bi, 6Bii,

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification.
This is maintained by Registry and located at:
https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/

Learning Outcomes:
At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following learning outcomes.
- Demonstrates the ability to develop critical responses to concepts being used to explain how policy-making processes are being transformed in a globalized world
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of the different theoretical approaches used in public policy
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of policy making processes in practice at multiple levels
- Demonstrates a systematic and comparative insight into contexual factors that impact upon the policy making process
- Takes responsibility for their own learning, and completes assigned work with a degree of clarity, contextualisation, critical thinking, and reflexive normative understanding appropriate for a 6000-level course
- Demonstrates flexible writing and analytical skills that translate directly into the workplace, including the ability to adapt work to different contexts, audiences, and levels of complexity

Indicative Content
- Theories of the state
- The role of ideas and institutions in the policy-making process
- Policy transfer and lesson drawing
- Policy Networks
- Actors inthe policy-making process: the state, international institutional, bureaucracies, think-tanks, pressure groups, global civil society and citizens
- Globalization and multilevel governance
- Policy formulation & implementation
- Policy continuity and change

Assessment
This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/

Teaching Methodology:
This course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminar-type activities, including group work, sub-group activities, classroom discussion, and the showing of documentaries. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of an interactive and participatory learning program. Audio-visual aids, study materials and electronic learning resources will be used as appropriate.

Lectures provide a framework for the course, and are designed to ensure students have an overview of main issues and concerns on a particular topic, receive clarification on the major points of debate understand the broad dimensions of core problems, and are aware of relevant literature in the specific area of concern. It is essential that lectures are supplemented with assigned readings; together, the readings and the lectures are designed to provide guidance for seminar discussion.

Seminar classes are based on the principle of active and student-directed learning, and are designed to be Safe, Enjoyable, Managed, Inclusive, Necessary, Academic, Respectful & Stimulating. The seminars provide an opportunity for discussion of contentious issues, addressing questions and exploring academic debates in more depth, group and sub-group discussion. They are encouraged to share their opinions freely but must also maintain respect for the opinions of others. It is expected that students will participate regularly in discussions in a creative, competent and critical way, as the formulation of their own thoughts and clarification of their assumptions, often in contradiction to other students' thoughts and assumptions, form a crucial part of the learning process. Students are expected to come to seminar classes <u>prepared</u>.

Bibliography:

- Cairney, P. (2020) *Understanding Public Policy: Theories and Issues.* 2nd ed. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Coyle, D. (2020) *Markets, State and People*. Oxford: Princeton University Press.
- Hill, M. and F. Varone (2016) *The Public Policy Process.* 7th ed. London: Routledge.
- Parsons, W. (1996) *Public Policy: An Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis*. Edward Elgar.

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Revision – annual update	May 2023	