

## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

## *Theories in Public Policy - 59912*

*Last update 22-09-2023*

*HU Credits: 2*

*Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)*

*Responsible Department: Public Policy*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 1st Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Inbal Hakman*

*Coordinator Email: [inbal.hakman@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:inbal.hakman@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday, 6PM-7PM*

*Teaching Staff:*

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Dr. Inbal Hakman

Course/Module description:

Public policy refers to the intricate processes through which government entities (such as parliament, the government, and bureaucracy) and external stakeholders address public issues. Policy research centers on comprehending how a public agenda is formulated, policy decisions are rendered, and policy implementation is extended across various concerns and contexts.

The present course offers a critical examination of selected theories, models, and conceptual frameworks that facilitate the comprehension and analysis of the policy-making process. It enables students to grasp the intricacies of this process. The course will delve into these theories and the hypotheses they generate, all while addressing the practical challenges of applying these theories. The objective is to equip students with a comprehensive toolkit that will enable them to assess real-world policy processes from multiple perspectives and at various stages of the policymaking continuum.

Course/Module aims:

The course will explore the resulting theories and hypotheses, all the while addressing the challenges of applying these theories. This will provide the students with a versatile toolkit, enabling you to evaluate policy processes in the real world from various perspectives and at different stages

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Evaluating real-world policy processes from diverse perspectives.
- Acquiring a comprehensive understanding of the various stages of the policy process.
- Proficiency in articulating and contrasting core theories within the field of policy.
- Conducting a rigorous analysis of policy concepts and proposals.

Attendance requirements(%):

80

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: In-class lectures and home assignments

Course/Module Content:

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1. *An Introduction to the Policy Process*
  2. *Bounded Rationality*
  3. *The Multiple Streams Framework*
  4. *The Advocacy Coalition Framework*
  5. *Punctuated Equilibrium Theory*
  6. *The Institutional Analysis and Development (IAD) framework*
  7. *Innovation and diffusion in policy research*
  8. *Policy Feedback*
  9. *Ideas as coalition magnets*
  10. *Policy Entrepreneur*
  11. *Policy Learning and Policy Change*
  12. *The Narrative Policy Framework*

Required Reading:

Weible, Christopher M. and Sabatier Paul A. (2017) *Theories of the Policy Process*. Routledge

Birkland, T.A. (2020). *An Introduction to the Policy Process*. New York: Routledge, pp. 373-414

Jones, B. D. (2003). "Bounded Rationality in Political Science: Lessons from Public Administration." *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* 13: 395-412.

Béland, D., and Cox R. H. (2016). "Ideas as coalition magnets: coalition building, policy entrepreneurs, and power relations. *Journal of European Public Policy*, 23(3), pp. 428-445.

Mintrom M. (2019). "So you want to be a policy entrepreneur?." *Policy Design and Practice*, 2(4), 307-323

Bennett Colin J., and Holett Michael. (1992). "The Lessons of Learning: Reconciling Theories of Policy Learning and Policy Change." *Policy Sciences*. 25, pp. 275-294

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 70 %  
Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture/ Seminar / Pro-seminar / Research proposal 10 %  
Active Participation / Team Assignment 5 %  
Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports

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*/ Forum / Simulation / others 10 %*  
*Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 5 %*

*Additional information:*