

**WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY**  
**BASIC COURSE INFORMATION**

**COURSE TITLE:** Analysis of Public Policy

**TERM:**

**COURSE NUMBER:** POL 402

**FACULTY MEMBER:**

**OFFICE HOURS/METHOD OF CONTACT:**

**40 TOTAL HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:** 35 Contact Hours

5 Hours of Structured External Assignment

**TEXTBOOK:** Public Policymaking, 8th Edition, by James E. Anderson

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**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course combines theory and application. From a theory perspective, it evaluates the processes through which policy is created and the dynamics of power and access to the policy process. Measurements of policy success and ways to improve both policy quality and the efficiencies of its implementation are evaluated and explored. From an application perspective, each student selects a hypothetical new law that is of interest. Students conduct research, using primary as well as secondary sources, to justify and design their potential laws. They also analyze potential allies and foes, and develop strategies to get their issues on the "public agenda."

**II. RATIONALE:**

Students take this course in order to explain policy issues and assess alternative policy choices.

**III. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:**

**GOAL A:** Define, describe, and assess public problems.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

A-1 Explain the problem

A-2 Identify the major stakeholders involved with  
the problem

A-3 Examine alternative solutions for the problem

**GOAL B:** Identify policy goals and criteria to assess possible solutions.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

B-1 Assess the tradeoffs involved with each alternative solution

B-2 Examine difficulties in implementing the various alternative solutions

**GOAL C:** Develop appropriate policy options by borrowing, adapting, and creating.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

