

PubPol 475/PubPol 750 Syllabus

A Special Bicentennial Course Offering for Fall Term, 2016

PubPol 475 002: The University of Michigan: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Instructor: James J. Duderstadt, President Emeritus
University Professor of Science and Engineering

Time/Place: Tuesday, Thursday 2:30 to 4:00 pm
1230 Weill Hall

Requirements: Upper Division or Graduate Standing in Any Major

SUBJECT: In 2017-2018, the University of Michigan will celebrate its Bicentennial, two hundred years of leadership in American higher education. The study of Michigan's history- its current challenges, opportunities, and responsibilities, and its future possibilities-illustrates not only many of the key policy issues that have shaped American higher education but also suggests those that will challenge both the University and the nation in the years ahead. This course will consider the University of Michigan as an exemplar both of the evolution of higher education and the forces that will shape it in the future. Included will be subjects such as the cost, price, and value of a college education (e.g., who benefits, who pays), the ability to serve an increasingly diverse population, and the critical role of university research in determining the prosperity, security, and public welfare of the nation. Current issues such as student activism, diversity, faculty tenure, the financing of higher education, college sports, and the political environment characterizing higher education will be considered. Of particular importance will be a consideration of the future of the university, considering issues such as changing demographics, globalization, and the rapid evolution of key technologies such as cyberinfrastructure, artificial intelligence, and gene editing, again using the University of Michigan as a case study.

BACKGROUND: This course will be taught by James J. Duderstadt, President *Emeritus* of the University. For the past several decades, Dr. Duderstadt has not only served as a faculty member in various university programs (including Engineering, Public Policy, Information, and LS&A), but he has also chaired, served on, or been responsible for a broad array of major policy studies concerning higher education by groups such as the National Academies, the Brookings Institution, an array of federal agencies (e.g., Education, NSF, Energy, NASA, Defense, Intelligence), and advisory councils to many leading universities. Dr. Duderstadt currently chairs both the National Academies Division of Policy and Global Affairs and the Glion Colloquium (an organization of

university presidents from around the world). In 2017 he will be leading a major new project by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine to address the challenges facing the American university. This course will be heavily based on his experience both in leading the University of Michigan and his participation in national and global policy development in higher education. It will involve guest participants with expertise and experience in these areas.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS: This course will be conducted in a manner appropriate for students from a broad array of undergraduate and graduate degree programs including the arts and sciences, public policy, and professional schools such as education, law, business, engineering, and health sciences, since all are characteristic of the degree programs characterizing the modern research university. Student participation will include both individual assignments (e.g., reaction papers on particular topics), as well as team projects to analyze particular issues and propose specific policies and practices.

STUDENT READINGS: Most of the reading assignments for this course will consist of university histories and contemporary policy reports that are openly available from federal agencies, foundations, international institutions, and higher education. Occasional readings will also be assigned from the writings of prominent leaders of American higher education.