

Syllabus

PUBPOL 496: Senior Colloquium
Wednesday 4:00-6:00 pm, 1220 Weill Hall
Professor Kathryn Dominguez

Purpose: This course will allow students in public policy to engage with faculty and practitioners on a broad range of policy topics. Speakers will be invited to present on these topics, their own policy-related research and/or an overview of others', and students will probe these topics themselves through reading, in-class interaction with the speakers, and contributions to an online conversation.

Syllabus: This syllabus will evolve through accretion, as the speakers provide topics and associated readings. Reading assignments and topics will be announced in class and via CTools – please check CTools regularly for these updates. Students are responsible for all materials on this syllabus as it evolves unless instructed otherwise.

Assigned participation: For each class session, one student will be assigned to introduce the speaker and one or more other students will be assigned to prepare questions for the speaker after each presentation.

In-class participation: Speakers will present to the class during only a portion of each class session, with the remainder being a conversation between the students and the speaker. In addition to the students who are assigned to prepare questions beforehand, all students should engage with the materials during class and participate actively in that discussion.

Online participation: After each class session, students will engage in discussion of the topic online, using the Wiki Tool on our CTools site.

Readings: Readings will be available on the course CTools site. Students should do all assigned readings before class and come prepared to discuss them.

Grading: Grades will be based on all of the above forms of class participation. All students will be graded P/F.

Class meetings: Wednesdays 4-6 PM
1220 Weill
January 7 – February 25

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2015 Schedule:**Jan 7:** Introduction**Jan 14:** Susan Waltz, "US Weapons for Syrian Rebels"**Readings:**

Waltz, S. "Arms Transfers and the Human Rights Agenda" in Andreopoulos and Arat, Uses and Misuses of Human Rights: A Critical Approach to Advocacy Palgrave, 2014.

Human Rights Watch, Syria Country Summary, January 2014.

<http://www.hrw.org/world-report/2014/country-chapters/syria?page=3>

Hudson, J. "Congress Approves Arming of Syrian Rebels," Foreign Policy, Sep 18, 2014.

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2014/09/18/congress-approves-arming-of-syrian-rebels/>

Mazzetti, M. "C.I.A. Study of Covert Aid Fueled Skepticism About Helping Syrian Rebels," New York Times, Oct 14, 2014.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/10/15/us/politics/cia-study-says-arming-rebels-seldom-works.html>

Jan 21: Helen Levy, "Health Policy and the Affordable Care Act"**Readings:**

Ayanian, Clark and Tipirneni, "Launching the Healthy Michigan Plan – the First 100 Days," The New England Journal of Medicine, 371:1573-1575, October 23, 2014. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMp1409600

Ayanian, "Michigan's Approach to Medicaid Expansion and Reform," The New England Journal of Medicine, 369:1773-1775, November 7, 2013.

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMp1310910

Jan 28: Mara Ostfeld, "Race, Research and Representation"**Readings:**

Dávila, A., "The Focus (or Fuck Us) Group: Consumers Talk Back, or Do They?" chapter 6 in Latinos Inc.: The Marketing and Making of a People, University of California Press, 2012 edition.

Feb 4: Alan Deardorff, "Free Trade Agreements"

Readings: tba

Feb 11: Lisa Stowe, "US Monetary Policy and Financial Markets"

Lisa Stowe is a Ford School MPP Alumna who works in the Markets Group at the NY Fed. She is responsible for a team that manages the FOMC cycle driven Survey of Primary Dealers, as well as high frequency market monitoring of short term money markets and other fixed income markets (with an eye to extracting expectations for the path of the fed funds rate, among other policy expectations related themes). She will talk about her own career experiences at the Fed as well as more generally about Fed policies related to financial markets.

Feb 18: Shobita Parthasarathy, "Regulating Genetic Medicine"

Readings: tba

Feb 25: Joy Rohde "Drones and the Ethics of War"

Readings:

Joel H. Rosenthal, "Three Questions to Ask about U.S. Drone Strikes," Christian Science Monitor March 18, 2013.

Scott Shane, "The Moral Case for Drones," New York Times July 14, 2012

And choose one of the following:

Daniel Brunstetter and Megan Braun, "The Implications of Drones on the Just War Tradition," Ethics and International Affairs 25.3 (Fall 2011), 337-358.

Bradley Strawser, "Moral Predators," Journal of Military Ethics 9 (2010): 342-68.