

Short Course Agenda

*XVIII Biannual Short Course
September 26 - 28, 2014
Hotel Benidorm, Mexico City, Mexico*

Policy Analysis for Environmental Economics

Instructor:
Nancy Olewiler
School of Public Policy, Simon Fraser University
Vancouver, Canada

Introduction:

Using a 'learning by doing' process, I focus on practical aspects of policy analysis and build on the theoretical foundations provided by the disciplines of economics, political science, and research methods. The goals of the training are to help you think critically about policy analysis, develop policy analysis skills using current policy issues as examples, and incorporate policy analysis in a systematic and rigorous way in environmental economics research.

Steps in policy analysis

The pragmatic approach to policy analysis follows a series of 10 steps around which the short course is structured.

1. Define and frame a public policy problem (also known as problem definition or identification)
2. Use a variety of policy models to research the policy problem
3. Identify key stakeholders and stakeholder perspectives
4. Identify relevant criteria and measures to evaluate policy options (alternatives)
5. Establish possible policy options including the status quo
6. Collect additional evaluative data to assess policy options
7. Assess the outcome of each policy option according to each criterion
8. Assess the possible tradeoffs among options, and rank options
9. Recommend an action based on your policy analysis
10. Communicate your recommendation and reasoning to decision-makers

Course format

Class sessions combine lectures, discussion, class exercises, presentations, and interactive group work. A high level of student participation is essential during in-class work, group work, and presentations.

Short Course Agenda

Rivera Meeting Room

Friday September 26, 2014

8:30 am - 12:00 pm	Introduction and Overview Defining the Policy Issue
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch: Hotel's Restaurante
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Developing Criteria and Measures

Saturday September 27, 2014

8:30 am - 12:00 pm	Identification of Policy Options
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch: Hotel's Restaurante
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Analysis of Policy Options

Sunday September 28, 2014

8:30 am - 12:00 pm	Implementation and Making Policy Recommendations
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch: Hotel's Restaurante
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Communication of Policy Analysis Research

Departures: according to individual travel plans

Reading List

“Policy Analysis for Environmental Economics”

Professor Nancy Olewiler, School of Public Policy, Simon Fraser University

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Note: The readings that are books may be accessed through university libraries. They are references for future reflection on policy analysis approaches. I have not found a text that covers everything, hence the number of different books listed. The papers attached as pdfs are a sample of master's theses of my students. These would be much longer than a journal article, but illustrate all the steps in a policy analysis. The thesis examples are all on environmental topics.

Bardach, Eugene. *A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis*. Chatham House Publishers, 2000.

Dunn, William. *Public Policy Analysis: An Introduction*, 3rd Ed. Pearson, 2004.

Eric Kimmel (2005) “The Preservation of Wetland Ecological Goods and Services: An Evaluation of Land Conservation Techniques for the Lac La Bish Watershed, Alberta” (pdf attached)

Eric Warren (2013) “A Clear Threat to Conservation: Using Public Policy to Reduce Bird Collisions with Windows” (pdf available from Simon Fraser University Library)

James Knowles (2013) “Whose Driving Alberta's Emissions? Decomposing Greenhouse Gases Emitted by Alberta's Road Transportation Sector” (pdf attached)

MacRae, Duncan Jr. and Dale Whittington. *Expert Advice for Policy Choice: Analysis and Discourse*. Georgetown University Press, 1997.

Musso, J., R. Biller, and R. Myrtle (2000) “Tradecraft: Professional Writing as Problem Solving” *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 19(4): 635-646.

Pal, Leslie A. *Beyond Policy Analysis, Public Issue Management in Turbulent Times*, Nelson, 1997.

Patton, Carl V. and David S. Sawicki. *Basic Methods of Policy Analysis and Planning*. Prentice-Hall, 1993.

Pomme Arros (2013) “Treading Water: Flood Hazard Management and Adapting to Climate Change in BC's Lower Mainland” (pdf available from Simon Fraser University Library)

Smith, Catherine F. (2005) *Writing Public Policy: A Practical Guide to Communicating in the Policy-Making Process*. Don Mills: Oxford.

Stephen Healey (2007) “Putting the Stone back in Capstone: Concrete Solutions for Reducing Mineral Aggregate Consumption in Ontario” (pdf attached)

Weimer, David and Aidan Vining. *Policy Analysis: Concepts and Practice*, 4th ed., Pearson, 2005.

Yin, Robert K. (2003) *Case Study Research, Design and Methods*, 3rd ed., Sage Publications. (May now be a later edition).