

## Term Information

Effective Term Autumn 2014

## General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area Public Affairs, John Glenn Sch  
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org John Glenn Schl of Pbhc Affrs - D4240  
College/Academic Group John Glenn School of Pub Aff  
Level/Career Undergraduate  
Course Number/Catalog 3010  
Course Title Public Policy Evaluation  
Transcript Abbreviation PubPolEvln  
Course Description The purpose of this course is to develop and apply research design and analytic methods for public policy evaluation. The course will enable students to design and perform policy evaluations focused on policy processes and outcomes, using both qualitative and quantitative data.  
Semester Credit Hours/Units Fixed: 3

## Offering Information

Length Of Course 14 Week, 12 Week (May + Summer)  
Flexibly Scheduled Course Never  
Does any section of this course have a distance education component? No  
Grading Basis Letter Grade  
Repeatable No  
Course Components Seminar  
Grade Roster Component Seminar  
Credit Available by Exam No  
Admission Condition Course No  
Off Campus Never  
Campus of Offering Columbus

## Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites Prereq: GE Data Analysis course and Economics 2001.01 or 2001.02  
Exclusions

## Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

## Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 44.0401  
Subsidy Level Baccalaureate Course  
Intended Rank Sophomore, Junior, Senior

## Requirement/Elective Designation

Required for this unit's degrees, majors, and/or minors

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

## Course Details

### Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:
- Identify types of policy evaluation designs and describe their implications for policy evaluation research methods.
- Understand different types of data sets and how their structural characteristics dictate the policy evaluation questions that can be addressed.
- Design and implement different types of policy evaluations using both quantitative and qualitative approaches
- Critically assess existing policy evaluation models.

### Content Topic List

- Policy evaluation in the US; history of policy evaluation; purposes of policy evaluation; types/uses of policy evaluation
- Writing policy evaluations: basic components; approaches to presenting information
- Overview of types and sources of data for policy evaluation (qualitative, quantitative, mixed, extant, new; economic data, survey data); description and presentation of data
- Drawing inferences; internal/external validity; experiments and causality; approximating random application to treatment and control groups
- Ethics and normative approaches
- Monitoring and implementation of programs
- Budgetary and Cost Considerations
- Analyzing and drawing inferences from non-experimental data; the role of statistics/regression
- Evaluation using surveys; designing and administering surveys; analyzing and drawing inferences from survey data
- Meta-analysis using extant research

## Attachments

- PUBAFRS 3010.docx: Syllabus  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Adams, Christopher John)*

## Comments

## Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Adams, Christopher John	01/13/2014 03:59 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Baer, Jillian L	01/13/2014 05:17 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Brown, Trevor Laurence	01/13/2014 05:23 PM	SubCollege Approval
Approved	Brown, Trevor Laurence	01/13/2014 05:24 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Johnson, Jay Vinton Christy, Ann Denise Soave, Melissa A	01/13/2014 05:24 PM	OAA Approval
Pending Approval	Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal	01/14/2014 04:20 PM	Ad-Hoc Approval

John Glenn School of Public Affairs  
Public Affairs 3010  
Public Policy Evaluation  
3010 Semester 20XX  
3 credit hours

Pre-requisites: Statistics 1350 (or equivalent) and Economics 2001 (or equivalent)

Course description and learning objectives

The purpose of Public Policy Evaluation is to develop and apply understanding of research design and analytic methods for public policy evaluation. The course will enable students to design and perform policy evaluations focused on policy processes and outcomes, using both qualitative and quantitative data and using a variety of analytic methods. The knowledge and skills that students acquire in this course will be of value in a wide variety of occupations, particularly those in the public sector.

By the end of the semester, students should be able to think and act like policy evaluators, which entails the following:

1. Understanding different types of policy evaluation questions and their implications for policy evaluation design and methods
2. Understanding different types of datasets and how their structural characteristics dictate the policy evaluation questions that can be addressed
3. Designing and implementing different types of policy evaluations using quantitative and qualitative approaches
4. Understanding the policy claims that specific policy evaluation results validate as well as the claims that those evaluation results cannot validate
5. Critically assessing extant policy evaluations

Textbook

Posavac, Emil J. 2010. *Program Evaluation: Methods and Case Studies (8<sup>th</sup> Edition)*. Pearson. (ISBN # 978-0205804979)

Example assignments

1. *Logic modeling*. The student will devise a series of logic models illustrating the different “theories of change” underlying different public policies and programs.
2. *Policy evaluation design*. The student will design a series of policy evaluation studies aimed at policy processes and outputs and also at discerning the net effects of those processes and outputs.
3. *Policy evaluation implementation*. The student will implement a series of policy evaluation studies using quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods analyses.
4. *Policy evaluation critiques*. The student will identify and critique from a research design and methods perspective extant policy evaluations that use quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods analyses.
5. *Examinations*. The student’s knowledge and skills will be assessed twice during the semester, midway and at the end.

## Course outline

Week 1. Overview of policy evaluation in the US: history of policy evaluation; purposes of policy evaluation; types/uses of policy evaluation.

Week 2. Writing policy evaluations: basic components; approaches to presenting information.

Week 3. Data: overview of types and sources of data for policy evaluation (qualitative, quantitative, mixed, extant, new; economic data, survey data); description and presentation of data.

Week 4. Drawing inferences: internal/external validity; experiments and causality; approximating random application to treatment and control groups.

Week 5. Ethics/normative approaches.

Week 6. Monitoring and implementing programs.

Week 7. Budgetary & Cost Considerations

Week 8. Field experiments: designing and administering field experiments; analyzing and drawing inferences from quasi-experimental data.

Week 9. Analyzing and drawing inferences from non-experimental data. Basic introduction to the role of statistics/regression.

Week 10. Evaluation using surveys: designing and administering surveys; analyzing and drawing inferences from survey data.

Week 11. Meta-analysis using extant research.

Week 12.

Week 13.

Week 14.

(Three weeks are excluded. One is for midterm examination and two are for student presentations.)