

POLICY WORKSHOP

PPL 890
FALL 2010
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Course Objective

This is the final, required course in the MPP Program. Students who are enrolled in the course must have completed (or be in the process of completing) all of the requirements for the MPP program. The aim of this course is to give you the opportunity to *apply* the knowledge and skills you have acquired in the Master's of Public Policy Program at Michigan State to a real-world policy issue, decision, or program.

Class Requirements and Grades

The main requirement of this course is a policy analysis project. In order to fulfill this requirement, you are expected to conduct a suitable amount of research on an appropriate topic, incorporate ideas presented from your MPP classes, conduct a sound analysis of the topic, prepare a written account of your work, and defend your analysis in an oral presentation. Your grade in this course will be determined by upon your performance on the policy analysis project.

Class Format

The course is designed to reinforce the principles which you have acquired in the course-work taken in the MPP program. In order to accomplish this, we will work together to make sure that you are able to select a suitable topic, focus the question, choose an appropriate design and strategies, and conduct your own policy analysis. I will also meet with you at various points throughout the semester to discuss any issues or problems which you might be encountering, to provide general guidance for your analysis, to go over important time-frames/deadlines, and to clarify the format for both the written and oral presentations of your project.

During the last week of the semester (December 6-10), you will be asked to present your project to an audience of peers, faculty, outside site supervisors, and interested scholars and community practitioners. You are to turn in a final written version of your policy analysis project on or before Friday, December 17, 2010.

Tentative Class Schedule and Deadlines

September 14	Submission of tentative topics.
September 28	Submission of <i>firm</i> topics and outlines of projects.
October 26	Draft of written policy projects due.
November 16	Scheduling of oral presentations.
December 6 - 10	Oral presentations of policy analysis projects.
December 17	Final written policy projects due.