Tentative Class Schedule

Genesis 41:33 "And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and wise man and put him in charge of the land of Egypt. 34 Let Pharaoh appoint commissioners over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance. 35 They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food. 36 This food should be held in reserve for the country, to be used during the seven years of famine that will come upon Egypt, so that the country may not be ruined by the famine."

37 The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. 38 So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?"

Harding University Spring 2014

# POLS 306/506

***Public Policy***

Instructor: Lori Klein Office: 208 Ganus Building

Contacts/Office Hours: You can reach me, yea verily, in a multitude of ways: Office phone: 279-4375; Home: 279-0628; Courtney, our ever competent and helpful Departmental Secretary: 279-4427; Facebook; e-mail - lklein@harding.edu ; my website - <http://www.harding.edu/lklein> and the always popular note under the door. I will make my best effort to be in my office for drop-ins on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00-5:00 and on Tuesday and Thursday from 3:45-4:45. I will also be keeping office hours by appointment this semester.

**Course Objective**: What our governments do touches our lives on a daily basis. To be a conscientious, well informed and professional governmental employee is an admirable and achievable goal. This course is designed as an overview of the process of policy development, analysis and evaluation. The primary objective of the course is to develop a knowledge of the process of policy development and to develop good analytical and decision making skills. Good policies yield good government and well run programs. I want you to leave this course with tools to use in developing, implementing and evaluating good policies.

Integrated into the academic process of learning about Public Policy will be the development of certain skills which will be necessary for you to survive and thrive in the profession of Public Administration. Those skills include: personal initiative; information gathering from a variety of sources (lectures, readings, current events and web research); assimilation and analysis of information (tests, papers and discussions); presentation of information and analysis (tests, papers and discussions); time management; and personal organization and discipline.

Text: Tom Dye’s Understanding Public Policy, 14th edition. Pearson Prentice Hall

ISBN-10:**0205238823**| ISBN-13:**978-0205238828**

Tentative Class Schedule (January 11th draft):

**First week’s reading: Chapter 1**

January 14 : Introductions, my class policies, and what IS Public Policy?--

 January 16: Influences and Definitions

**Week two reading: Chapter 2**

January 21: Models

January 23: How to Write the Policy Paper!

**Week three reading: Chapter 3**

January 28: The Public Policy Making System

January 30: Decision Making Activities

**Public Policy Areas:**

**Week four reading: Chapter 6**

February 4: Criminal Justice

February 6: Go to Jail, go directly to Jail, do not pass GO, do not collect $200…

**Week five reading: Chapter 5 + 7**

February 11: Federalism

February 13: Welfare Also February 13 – Col. Carl Grossman, ASI Speaker

 **Week six (and a half) reading: Chapter 8**

February 18: TEST ONE

February 20: Damon Harris on Social Security

February 25: Health Care

**Week seven, Thursday: (You’ve read Chapter 8, right?)**

February 27:  Health Care

**Week eight reading: Chapter 9**

March 4: Education

March 6: Education

**Spring Break!  March 8-16**

**Week nine reading: Chapter 10**

March 18: Economic Policy Also March 18 – Dr. Ben Carson ASI Speaker

March 20: Fiscal Policy

**Week ten reading: Chapter 11**

March 25: Tax Policy

March 27: Tax Policy

**Constitution Extra Credit Quiz – March 31-April 14**

**Week eleven reading: Chapter 13**

April 1: TEST TWO - no foolin’

April 3: Environmental Policies

**Week twelve reading: Chapter 12**

April 8: Trade and Immigration

April 10: Trade and Immigration

**Week thirteen reading: Chapter 15**

April 15:Foreign and Defense Policy

April 17: Foreign and Defense Policy

**Week fourteen reading: Chapter 16**

April 22: Homeland Security

April 24: Homeland Security

**Week fifteen reading: Chapter 4**

April 29: Policy Evaluation

May 1: Review and Question Time. Bonus question: Where is "Question Time" a political institution?

***Final Exam - Wednesday May 7 10:30-12:30***

One final, redundant, harping, begging note about your readings:

If you have ever had me as your teacher before, you know that readings are an important element of my classes. That is especially true in this class. I want you to be well prepared to understand the topics which are being presented and discussed in class; therefore it is very important that you keep up with the readings. Read the assigned chapters BEFORE the scheduled lectures on the topics and you will have an excellent foundation for learning in the classroom. **There are chapter quizzes and** **there will always be a significant number of test questions taken only from the readings.** Did I mention that I want you to do your readings?You’ll be glad you did!