



Code	Subject Title	Cr. Hrs	Semester
SOC-408	Governance & Social policy	3	VIII
Year	Discipline		
4	Sociology		

Objective:

The course will enable the students to learn about the basic concepts, process, theories and function of governance and key actors. The course will depict the public policy and its process, global context of Pakistan's public policy as well as interest and power. It will elaborate the society-centered theories, institutions and state-centered theories.

1 What is Governance

- Processes of governance,
- Theories and principles of improving governance and democracy
- Impact of globalization on global governance
- Institutional reform, capacity building, accountability

2 Public Policy and the Policy-making Process in Pakistan

- Define public policy and discuss the various stages of the policy process.
- Identify the key actors in the policy process.
- Comment on the institutional context of policy-making and discuss the key components of the machinery of government.
- Outline the process by which policy initiatives make their way from government departments, through cabinet and the legislative process in Parliament.
- Discuss the character of the Pakistani welfare state and the main pillars of Pakistani social policy.

3 The New, Globalized Context of Pakistan Public Policy

- Discuss the globalized context of public policy in a manner that distinguishes between economic, political and culture dimensions of globalization.
- Comment on the ways that globalization has altered the power, capacities, goals and purposes of states, including the Pakistan state.

- c. Explain how globalization has altered the character and focus of social movement politics and, as part of your explanation, distinguish between the politics of identity and recognition, on the one hand, and the socially conservative politics of reactive social movements, on the other.
- d. Discuss the main policy imperatives and policy constraints associated with the new globalized context of Pakistan public policy, and explain what is meant by the 'internationalization' or 'globalization' of public policy.

4 Interests, Power and Policy: Society-centre Theories

- a. Define 'explanatory theory' then distinguish between explanatory and normative theories.
- b. Discuss how the following theoretical perspectives explain state and public policy: liberal pluralism, elite theory, and class analysis.
- c. When reading an article that employs one of the society-centre explanatory theories, identify which perspective is being used.
- d. Form an opinion (even a tentative one) on which society-centered theory you find most convincing and useful.

5 Institutions and Policy: State-centered Theories

- a. Define what institutions are and discuss the notion of 'institutional causation'.
- b. Discuss how the following theoretical perspectives approach the tasks of explaining and understanding public policy: structuralist institutionalism, state as an actor theory, and institutional rational choice theory.
- c. Identify which theoretical perspective is being used when reading an article based on one of the state-centered perspectives on public policy.

Recommended Books:

- Bob, Deacon. (2007). Global Social Policy & Governance
- Bob, Deacon. (2009). Global Governance. Regional Integration and Social Policy
- Gail Lewis, Sharon Gewirtz, John Clarke. (2006) Rethinking Social Policy
- Janet Newman. (2005). Remaking Governance: Peoples, Politics and the Public Sphere -
- Policy by Social Administration Association (Great Britain
- Laura Edgar, Jennifer Chandler. (2004). Strengthening Social Policy: Lessons on Forging Government-Civil Society ...
- Milena Buchs. (2007). New Governance in European Social Policy: The Open Method of Coordination
- Phillip W. Jones. (2007). Global Governance, Social Policy and Multicultural Education.