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Spring 2-1-1996

### PSC 200S.01: Issues and Policy Making

Michael J. Laslovich

*University of Montana - Missoula*

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA  
Department of Political Science

PSc 200 American Government:  
Issues and Policy Making  
Spring 1996

M. Laslovich  
Office: LA 414  
Hrs: MW 10-11:00,  
T 1:30-2:30, R 1-2:00,  
and by app't (4901)

Course Description

An introduction to the practice of the American national public policy-making process. Selected current issues will be incorporated into class lectures to enhance the understanding of U.S. government and politics.

Text

Students are required to read the following text which is available at the University Bookstore:

Cochran, Clarke E., Lawrence C. Mayer, T.R. Carr, and N. Joseph Cayer.  
American Public Policy, An Introduction. 5th edition. New York:  
St. Martin's Press, 1996.

Course Requirements - Students will be evaluated upon the following basis:

Exam 1 (Feb 29) Topics I-IV .....	30%
Exam 2 (April 2) Topics V-VIII .....	35%
Final Exam (Fri., May 17, 8:00-10:00) Topics IX-XI .....	35%

Drop/Add and Grading Change Deadlines

March 11 - Last day to drop courses or change grading option.

Makeup Exam Policy

Students excused from a scheduled exam may write a makeup exam. In fairness to all students, exam absences must be approved by the instructor.

The Classroom Learning Environment (authored by Dr. Ronald Perrin, Professor of Political Theory)

Wherever the learning process takes place (for example, in the library or the seclusion of one's study) it does so best when there are a minimum of distractions. This requirement poses special challenges for the learning that takes place in the lecture hall or the classroom, where the possibility of distractions is the greatest.

In order to establish and maintain a supportive learning environment for my students I will not tolerate the few individuals who might be prone to a) come to class late or leave early, b) carry on private conversations during class, or c) use the lecture hall/classroom as an opportunity to read material, such as the Kaimin, that is not relevant to the subject matter under consideration.

The only exception to these conditions concern students whose work schedules or unanticipated appointments require them to arrive for class late or leave early. In these instances I would appreciate knowing of the circumstance before it occurs and, in all such instances, request that students do so as unobtrusively as possible. Thank you.

Lecture Topics and Readings

- I Introduction  
Cochran, et al., chapter 1.
- II Federalism  
Cochran, et al., chapter 2.
- III Government Regulation of the Economy  
Cochran, et al., chapters 3 and 4.
- IV Development v. Environment?  
Cochran, et al., chapter 5.
- V Crime and Criminal Justice  
Cochran, et al., chapter 6.
- VI The Welfare Debate  
Cochran, et al., chapter 7.
- VII Health Policy  
Cochran, et al., chapter 8.
- VIII Education  
Cochran, et al., chapter 9.
- IX Civil Rights  
Cochran, et al., chapters 10 and 11.
- X Foreign Policy  
Cochran, et al., chapter 12.
- XI Conclusion  
Cochran, et al., chapter 13.