

Course # & Title	PMPA 802—Approaches to Policy Analysis	
Course Instructor	Eugene Lang	Email: Eugene.Lang@Queensu.ca
Office	Rm. 330 RSH	
Office Hours	PMPA Weekends by appointment	Phone: 613-371-7638
Format	Lectures, readings, presentations	
Grading Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Problem Definition</b>—two-page issue brief defining/analyzing the policy problem to be addressed—Due at December classes—25%</li> <li>• <b>Ministerial Recommendation</b> – six to seven-page brief outlining the recommended policy option, and two alternative options--Due at January classes--40%</li> <li>• <b>Strategic Communications and Implementation Plans</b>—Two separate two-page briefs detailing strategic communications and implementation issues, advice/recommendations and courses of action--Due at February classes—25%</li> <li>• <b>Group member assessments</b>—At the end of the winter term, each member of each group will provide an anonymous assessment of the performance of each of his/her group colleagues. An average of these scores will form the basis for an individual grade worth 10% of the final grade.</li> </ul>	

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will understand, through experience, the process of effective problem identification, policy design, policy implementation and strategic policy communications.

Students learn to:

- Identify and define a key problem/issue which needs resolution through policy change
- Research and analyze the scope, scale and ramifications of the policy problem
- Identify realistic and implementable policy options to help resolve or mitigate the policy problem
- Think strategically, and frame policy issues and options for government decision-makers
- Develop effective policy argumentation
- Write policy documents in a clear, concise and precise fashion for decision-makers
- Deliver oral briefings suitable for senior decision makers on complex policy issues
- Identify financial implications and risks of their recommendations
- Articulate expected results and how they can be measured (performance indicators)

- Identify communications challenges and opportunities and develop a strategic communications strategy, including key messages
- Identify implementation challenges and develop a Policy Implementation Plan with stages of delivery and expected results

## **COURSE TOPICS**

*What is policy analysis and what makes a good policy analyst?*

*Problem definition, Research sources/strategies.*

*Theory and the role of Ideas*

*Policy and Money*

*Instrument Choice*

*Policy Implementation*

*Strategic Policy Communications*

*Stakeholder Engagement*

*Gender Based Analysis +*

## SELECTED COURSE TEXTS & READINGS

### Required

Leslie A. Pal, *Beyond Policy Analysis: Public Issue Management in Turbulent Times*.

Government of Canada, Privy Council Office, *A Drafter's Guide to Cabinet Documents: Drafting Cabinet Documents*

<http://www.pco-bcp.gc.ca/index.asp?lang=eng&page=information&sub=publications&doc=mc/guide-eng.htm#IV.1>

### Recommended Readings

David L. Weimar and Aidan R. Vining, *Policy Analysis: Concepts and Practice*, New Jersey, Prentice Hall

Chapter 7, "Correcting market and government failures: Generic policies"

Chapter 8, "Landing on your feet: How to confront policy problems"

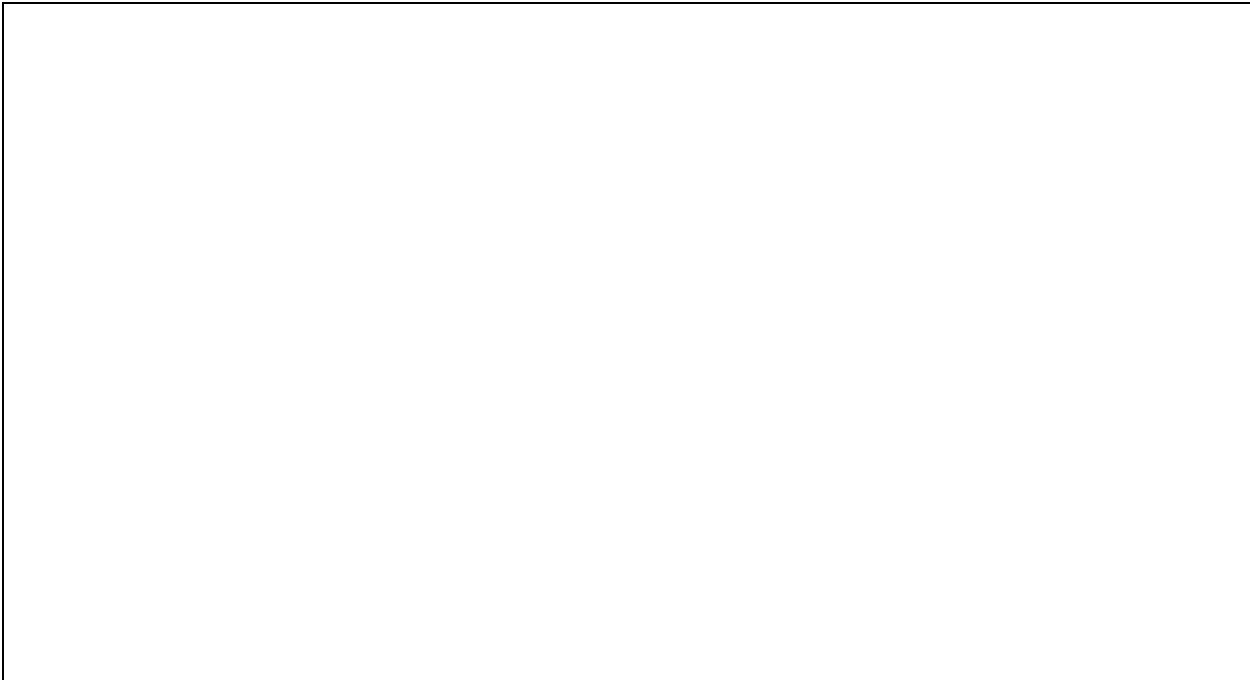
Chapter 9, "Benefit-Cost Analysis"

Chapter 10, "Thinking Strategically About Adoption and Implementation"

Michael Mintrom, *Contemporary Policy Analysis*, Oxford University Press, 2012

Lydia Miljan, *Public Policy in Canada: An Introduction*, Oxford University Press, 2017

Menard, Marc. *Political Argument: A Guide to Research, Writing and Debating*. Oxford University Press, 2015



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Queen's University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you

are strongly encouraged to contact Queen's Student Accessibility Services (QSAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, including important deadlines, please visit the QSAS website at: <http://www.queensu.ca/studentwellness/accessibility-services/>

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