

FALL 2026 POLSC 377 INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC POLICY

DR. ZHIWEI ZHANG
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, & FRIDAY
11:30 AM - 12:20 PM

A political scientist Thomas Dye explains that policy "is whatever government chooses to do or not do." Okay, that seems easy enough.

But why do we have a government in the first place? How do they choose what to do and what not to do? What effects will different policies have on me? This course will try to answer these questions.

This course will provide students with the theoretical and practical tools needed to understand the rationale for government intervention, conceptualize policy problems, identify key players and institutions in policymaking, and have hands-on practice on policy design and policy/program evaluation.



THIS COURSE IS PART OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND SOCIETY & ENVIRONMENT TRACK!