

WOMEN AND PUBLIC POLICY (PSC/WGS 339.7101)
Online Course, Summer, 2019
(June 11-July 11)

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COURSE OVERVIEW

In this class, we will examine a number of public policy areas concerning women. Some policies are directed at women specifically, whereas other supposedly gender-neutral policies affect women differently than men. We will also examine women's roles as shapers of public policy. While women have long been involved in politics and policy via numerous social movements, a more recent trend is the rising number of women in political office. How feminist perspectives and feminism influence policy will be covered as well. The focus is primarily on the United States.

After taking this course, successful students will be able to:

- Recount relevant information about current public policies both directly and indirectly relevant to women
- Analyze the political process of making public policy concerning women, including women's involvement in this process
- Explain the role gender plays in shaping public policy
- Articulate and defend different arguments for how policy problems faced by women ought to be solved
- Understand feminism as it pertains both to gaining an understanding of, and as a shaper of public policy
- Locate and interpret data regarding public policies and women

Required Texts

McBride, Dorothy and Janine A. Parry. 2016. (5th edition) *Women's Rights in the USA: Policy Debates and Gender Roles*. Routledge, New York

Electronic readings and audio & video clips as assigned on the syllabus and posted at the course site.

Please Note

- Political Science Majors: This course counts as a specialized course in the American/Policy subfield.
- Women's and Gender Studies Majors: This course counts toward the "Politics, Justice and Policy" concentration
- Social Science Distribution: The course may (if you are not a PSC or WGS major) count toward the CAS Social Science Distribution requirement