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History 554
Fall 2017
Class time: M 6:00-9:20
Office hours: TBA

**Colloquium in U.S. Policy History:
U.S., 1800- Present
(Government, Law, Policy and Society)**

Course Description

The historical profession has come a long way since the time when history was defined as “past politics.” In recent years, social history has grown in prominence, leading some to question whether there was still a place for the study of our political past. Fortunately, a new generation of scholars has combined political analysis with an appreciation for social and cultural movements in American history. The diverse field of “policy history” looks beyond the surface events of political history to examine the origins, implementations, and consequences of public policies. Policy historians are concerned with explaining how government policies developed in a variety of areas, including labor relations, civil rights, welfare, and women’s issues. Policy historians also examine how private actors interact with public policymakers. These private actors include trade associations, labor unions, women’s groups, environmentalists, consumer activists, foundations, and “think tanks,” among others.

We will also examine how courts and federal administrative agencies—the Postal Service, IRS, Small Business Administration and U.S. Army—act both as initiators of social change and respond to it. The archives for the courts and agencies are rich, with ample opportunities for research into the deep bowels of the government. We will pay less attention to presidential archives but they are a gold mine for those researching a range of topics that you might not think were covered under “presidential history”!

Required readings

We are all responsible for the “Required Readings” (see syllabus). In addition, each student will read and report on *two* supplementary works related to their historiographical review at the end of the semester. This literature review is aimed at forming background knowledge for a research paper in HIST 555 (Spring 2015). The list of suggested readings at the end of this syllabus is a starting point. *The Journal of Policy History* is also a “must” reference for reviews and literature on your topic. NOTE: *JPH* has published special issues, each with a collection of essays on policy history dealing with different topics: constitutional debates, birth control, drug control, immigration, etc. See http://www.psupress.org/books/series/book_SeriesIPh.html or <http://goo.gl/eZdMei>

Assignments

Discussion (25%)

All students are expected to contribute to weekly discussions. Speak up and listen respectfully to others in the group. Convey your understanding of the material, place it in historical context, but also bring your own perspective to bear.

Leading Discussion

Each student will lead one discussion of common readings. Please prepare 3-5 questions about the weekly reading (make these questions available to your colleagues one week prior to our discussion).

Reading Log (15%)

Briefly summarize the main theses of the book, and assess the quality of sources, analysis and presentation. Relate the reading to evolving issues in policy history. **Note:** Journal writing is *informal*, a diary of your reflections on the material, not a simple regurgitation of the main points. You should a) demonstrate *content* mastery (i.e., you've done the reading); b) *reflect* critically on the assignment; and c) list *questions* for discussion and relate the material to other readings in the course. Because journal writing is informal, you may digress by relating the readings to other courses, current events or your life experiences

Government Document Exercises (10%)

This exercise introduces you to the richness of SIUC's Government Document Collection.

Book Reviews (15%):

Choose two books not part of the required (common) readings. Then, write two book reviews and present your findings to the class. Distribute a one-page sheet summarizing the book's main points. The written review is due the following week.

Historiographical Essay (35%):

You will write a 10-15 page essay on a major subject in U.S. history, 1800-present.

You are NOT confined to policy history. Explain the principal schools of thought and discuss recent directions in scholarship. Append a select bibliography of important works in your subfield of history. Which issues continue to divide scholars?

Identify one or more topics that deserve further attention. Discuss potential source material to research these topics. During the last several weeks of the semester, you will present your essay to the group.

SCHEDULE OF READING ASSIGNMENTS

August 24 Introduction

August 31 The Significance of Policy History

Leuchtenberg, "The Pertinence of Political History: Reflections on the Significance of the State in America," *Journal of American History* (1986): 586-600.

Graham, "The Stunted Career of Policy History: A Critique and Agenda," *Public Historian* (Spring 1993): 15-37

Gillon, "The Future of Political History," *Journal of Policy History* 9, no. 2 (1997): 240-55

Critchlow, "Integrating Social History and the State: Policy History through Case Studies," *The History Teacher* 31, no. 4 (August 1998): 459-66

Valelly and Norrell, "Recognizing the True Greatness of Booker T. Washington," *JPH* 22, no. 1 (2010): 110-122.

Mittelstadt, "Stepping into It: Lessons Learned from Entering the History You're Writing," *JPH* 24, no. 1 (2012): 135-154

September 7 Nineteenth Century: Government as Agent of Change

John, *Spreading the News: The American Postal System from Franklin to Morse* (1998)
<http://goo.gl/KJsGh7>

September 14: Path Not Taken (and Why): Wartime Decision Making

Levine, *Confederate Emancipation: Southern Plans to Free and Arm the Slaves during the Civil War* (2007) <http://goo.gl/jz89A6>

September 21 American Exceptionalism? The Welfare State, 1865-1920s

Introduction to Government Documents (meet at Morris Library)

Skocpol, *Protecting Soldiers and Mothers: The Political Origins of Social Policy in United States* (1995) <http://goo.gl/D0RFkT> Parts I and II (discuss next week)
(**ESSAY TOPIC DUE**)

September 28 American Exceptionalism? The Welfare State, 1865-1920s (continued)

Skocpol, *Protecting Soldiers and Mothers* (1992), Part III

(**PRELIMINARY BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE**)

October 5 Reconstruction-Great Depression: Civil Wrongs

Leonard, *Illiberal Reformers: Race, Eugenics and American Economics in the Progressive Era* (2016) <https://goo.gl/flxurD>

October 12 The Law of Unintended Consequences

Gillon, "That's Not What We Meant to Do": Reform and Its Unintended Consequences (2000)

**October 19 Post-World War II: The Origins and Ironies of Affirmative Action
(Annotated Bibliography Due)**

Bean, *Big Government and Affirmative Action: The Scandalous History of the Small Business Administration* (2001) <http://goo.gl/ncXLeF>

Read *one* essay from Skrentny, ed., *Color Lines: Affirmative Action, Immigration, and Civil Rights Options* (2001) [On Reserve in Morris Library]

October 26 The Seventies Onward: The Rise of "America's Army"

Bailey, *America's Army: Making the All-Volunteer Force* (2009) <http://goo.gl/lPrh14>

November 2: Public Policy and Private Armies

Singer, *Corporate Warriors: The Rise of the Privatized Military Industry* (2007)
<http://goo.gl/Mg3Dxw>

November 9: Speaking Truth to Power? The Historian as Bureaucrat

Davis, *Unbridled Power: Inside the Secret Culture of the IRS* (1997), 11-47, 76-99, 163-77, 202-207, 233-63 <http://goo.gl/zrh9Ak>

Harden, "What Federal Historians Do," *Perspectives* (May 1999): 19-24.

November 16 Oral Presentations

November 23 NO CLASS

November 30: Oral Presentations

December 7 Career Tips for Public Policy History [*HISTORIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY DUE*]

As you seek works to include in your literature review and topic proposal, begin by considering these collections of essays (if they pertain to your broader area of interest):

http://www.psupress.org/books/series/book_SeriesIPh.html

- *Civil Rights in the United States* Edited by Hugh Graham
- *The Constitution and Public Policy in U.S. History* Edited by Julian E. Zelizer, and Bruce J. Schulman
- *Drug Control Policy* Edited by William O. Walker III
- *Environmental Politics and Policy, 1960s–1990s* Otis L. Graham
- *The Future of the Democratic Left in Industrial Democracies* Edited by Erwin C. Hargrove
- *Health Care Policy in Contemporary America* Edited by Alan I. Marcus, and Edited by Hamilton Cravens
- *Integrating the Sixties* Edited by Brian Balogh
- *Loss of Confidence* Edited by David Brian Robertson
- *Money and Politics* Edited by Paula Baker
- *New Directions in Policy History* Edited by Julian E. Zelizer
- *New Perspectives on Public Health Policy* Edited by James Mohr
- *The Politics of Abortion and Birth Control in Historical Perspective* Edited by Donald T. Critchlow
- *Refugees and the Asylum Dilemma in the West* Edited by Gil Loescher
- *Ruling Passions* Edited by Richard R. John
- *Urban Public Policy* Edited by Martin A. Melosi

Suggested Readings

Aharoni, Yair. *The No-Risk Society* (1981)

Andrew, *Power to Destroy: The Political Uses of the IRS from Kennedy to Nixon* (2002)

Andrew, *The Other Side of the Sixties: Young Americans for Freedom and the Rise of Conservative Politics* (1997)

Balogh, *A Government Out of Sight: The Mystery of National Authority in Nineteenth-Century America* (2009)

Balogh, ed. *Integrating the Sixties: The Origins, Structures, and Legitimacy of Public Policy in a Turbulent Decade* (1996)

Baumgartner and Jones, *Agendas and Instability in American Politics* (1993)

Bean, *Beyond the Broker State: Federal Policies Toward Small Business, 1936-1961* (1996)

Beito, *From Mutual Aid to the Welfare State: Fraternal Societies and Social Services, 1890-1967* (1999)

Beito, *Taxpayers in Revolt: Tax Resistance during the Great Depression* (1989)

Bensel, *Yankee Leviathan: The Origins of Central State Authority in America, 1859-1877* (1991)

Bernstein, *Rehabilitating Lochner: Defending Individual Rights against Progressive Reform* (2012)

Best, *The Critical Press and the New Deal: The Press vs. Presidential Power, 1933-1938* (1993)

-----, *Pride, Prejudice, and Politics: Roosevelt versus Recovery, 1933-38* (1990)

Brinkley, *Voices of Protest: Huey Long, Father Coughlin, and the Great Depression* (1982)

Brownlee, *Federal Taxation in America: A Short History* rev. ed. (2004) and other works by author.

Burns, *Roosevelt: The Lion and the Fox* (1956)

Campbell, *Growth of American Government* (1995)

Choate. *Disputed Ground: Farm Groups that Opposed New Deal Agricultural Program* (2002)

Clark, *Deliver us from Evil: An Interpretation of American Prohibition* (1976)

Cohen, Lizbeth. *Making a New Deal: Industrial Workers in Chicago, 1919-1939* (1992)

Collins, Robert M., *The Business Response to Keynes, 1929-1964* (1981).

Critchlow, ed. *Politics of Abortion and Birth Control in Historical Perspective* (1996)

Critchlow, *Intended Consequences: Birth Control, Abortion and the Federal Government in Modern America* (1999)

Cuff, *The War Industries Board: Business-Government Relations During WWI* (1973).

Derthick and Quirk, *The Politics of Deregulation* (1985)

Dunlavy, *Politics and Industrialization: Early Railroads in the U.S. and Prussia* (1994)

Fraser and Gerstle, *The Rise and Fall of the New Deal Order, 1930-1980* (1989).

Friedberg, *In the Shadow of the Garrison State : America's Anti-Statism and its Cold War Grand Strategy* (2000)

Gillon, “*That’s Not What We Meant to Do*”: *Reform and Its Unintended Consequences in Twentieth-Century America* (2000)

Golden, *What Motivates Bureaucrats? Politics and Administration during the Reagan Years* (2000)

Graham, ed. *Environmental Politics and Policy, 1960s-1990s* (2000)

Graham, *Losing Time: The Industrial Policy Debate.*(1992)

Graham, *The Civil Rights Era: Origins and Development of National Policy, 1960-1972* (1990)

Graham, *Toward a Planned Society: From Roosevelt to Nixon* (1976).

Haber, *Efficiency and Uplift: Scientific Management in the Progressive Era, 1890-1920* (1964)

Hamburger, *Law and Judicial Duty* (2010)

Hawley, *New Deal and the Problem of Monopoly* (1966)

Hays, *Beauty, Health, and Permanence: Environmental Politics, 1955-1985* (1987)

Higgs, *Crisis and Leviathan: Critical Episodes in Growth of American Government* (1987)

Higgs, *Depression, War and Cold War* (2009) <http://goo.gl/fwvcIk>

Himmelberg (ed.). *Regulatory Issues Since 1964: The Rise of the Deregulation Movement* (1994)

Hoffman, Abraham. *Unwanted: Mexican-Americans in the Great Depression* (1974)

Holtzman, *The Townsend Movement: A Study in Old Age Pressure Politics* (1963)

Howard, *The Hidden Welfare State: Tax Expenditures and Social Policy* (1997)

Hughes, *Governmental Habit Redux* (1990)

Jencks, *Rethinking Social Policy: Race, Poverty and the Underclass*

Johnson, Chalmers (ed.). *The Industrial Policy Debate* (1984)

Jones, *Blue and Gray Diplomacy: A History of Union and Confederate Foreign Relations* (2009)

Keller, *Affairs of State: Public Life in Late Nineteenth Century America* (1977)

Keller, *Regulating a New Economy: Public Policy and Economic Change in America, 1900-1933* (1990)

Kerr, *Organized for Prohibition: A New History of the Anti-Saloon League* (1985)

Kessler-Harris, *In Pursuit of Equity: Women, Men, and the Quest for Economic Citizenship in 20th-century America* (2001)

King, *Separate and Unequal: Black Americans and the U.S. Federal Government* (1996)

Knight, *Confederate Invention: The Story of the Confederate States Patent Office and Its Inventors* (2011)

Leuchtenburg, *Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal, 1932-1940* (1963)

-----, *In the Shadow of FDR: From Harry Truman to George W. Bush* rev. ed. (2001)

Lombardo, *Three Generations, No Imbeciles: Eugenics, the Supreme Court, and Buck v. Bell* (2010)

Lowi, *The End of Liberalism: The Second Republic of the United States* (1979)

Lynch, *The Diversity Machine: The Drive to Change the “White Male Workplace”* rev. ed. (2002)

Martin, *Enterprise Denied: Origins of the Decline of American Railroads, 1897-1917* (1971)

Moreno, *From Direct Action to Affirmative Action: Fair Employment Policy in America, 1933-72* (1997)

-----, *Black Americans and Organized Labor: A New History* (2007)

-----, *The American State from the Civil War to the New Deal: The Twilight of Constitutionalism and the Triumph of Progressivism* (2013)

Patterson, *Congressional Conservatism and the New Deal* (1967)

-----, *The New Deal and the States: Federalism in Transition* (1969)

Richardson, *The Greatest Nation on Earth: Republican Economic Policies During the Civil War* (1997)

Robertson, ed. *Loss of Confidence: Politics and Policy in the 1970s* (1998)

Rodgers, *Atlantic Crossings: Social Politics in a Progressive Age* (1998)

Ryan, *Franklin D. Roosevelt's Rhetorical Presidency* (1988)

Saloutos, Theodore. *The American Farmer and the New Deal* (1982)

Sanders, *Roots of Reform: Farmers, Workers, and the American State, 1877-1917* (1999)

Schlesinger, *Coming of the New Deal* (1958)

Sitkoff, *A New Deal for Blacks* (1978)

Sitkoff, ed. *Fifty Years Later: The New Deal Evaluated* (1985)

Skrentny, *Ironies of Affirmative Action: Politics, Culture, and Justice* (1996)

-----, *The Minority Rights Revolution* (2004)

-----, *After Civil Rights: Racial Realism in the New American Workplace* (2013)

-----, ed. *Color Lines: Affirmative Action, Immigration, and Civil Rights* (2001)

Sloan, *Eisenhower and the Management of Prosperity* (1991)

Smith, *The Idea Brokers: Think Tanks and the Rise of the New Policy Elite* (1991)

Sniderman and Piazza, *The Scar of Race* (1993)

Stanley, *Dimensions of Law in Service of Order: Origins of the Federal Income Tax* (1993)

Stein, *Presidential Economics from Roosevelt to Clinton* (1994)

Stockman, *The Triumph of Politics: The Inside Story of the Reagan Revolution* (1987)

Sugrue, *Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race & Inequality in Postwar Detroit* (1997)

Tarter and Bell, ed. *Buried Lives: Incarcerated in Early America* (2012)

Tate, *Cigarette Wars: The Triumph of the Little White Slaver* (1999)

Taylor, *The New Deal and American Indian Tribalism* (1980)

Vietor, *Contrived Competition: Regulation and Deregulation in America* (1994)

Vogel, *Fluctuating Fortunes: The Political Power of Business in America* (1988)

Vogel, *Kindred Strangers: The Uneasy Relationship between Business and Government in America* (1996)

Ware, *Partner and I: Molly Dewson, Feminism, and New Deal Politics* (1987)

Weiss, *Farewell to the Party of Lincoln: Black Politics in the Age of FDR* (1983)

Wilson, *Bureaucracy: What Government Agencies Do and Why They Do It* (1989)

Wilson, Joan Hoff. *Herbert Hoover: Forgotten Progressive* (1975)

Witte, *The Politics and Development of the Federal Income Tax* (1985)

Zelizer, *Taxing America: Wilbur D. Mills, Congress and the State, 1945-1975* (1999)