

PSC 3252 - Public Policy & Administration in Comparative Perspective

Introduction

This course is designed to enable students to gain knowledge on contemporary trends & issues in public policy and administration. It will also introduce students to the changes in public policy-making processes in relation to economic, social and political changes.

Course Objectives

- i. To introduce students to contemporary trends in public policy and administration in changing national and global contexts, and
- ii. To enable students to critically understand how public administration and policy making has changed in Sri Lanka in response to economic reforms, globalization, ethnic conflict etc.

Expected outcomes

At the end of this course, students will

- i. be familiar with current issues and trends in public policy and administration, and
- ii. gain a critical knowledge in public policy process so that they can critically analyze policy making processes in Sri Lanka.

Course Content

1. New Context of Public Policy & Administration
 - i. Globalization and Macro-economic Re-structuring
 - ii. Re-structuring of State-society-market relations
 - iii. Fall of the Welfare State
 - iv. Crisis of the Nation-state & Conflicts
2. Paradigms of Public Policy and Administration Old and New
 - i. Public Administration in State Centric Development Paradigms
 - ii. Welfare State and Development Administration
 - iii. Popular Participation Approaches to Public Administration
 - iv. Public Sector Reform Under Macro-economic Restructuring
3. Current Approaches to Public Policy & Administration
 - i. Minimalist State: Privatization and Public Sector Reforms
 - ii. Public Sector and the Market in Service Delivery

4. Critical Issues in Current Public Policy Paradigms
 - i. De-welfarerisation of the State and Public Policy
 - ii. Market Failures in Service Delivery (Power, Water, Food, Education etc.)

5. Ethnic Conflict and Public Policy
 - i. Links between Ethnic Conflict and Public Policy
 - ii. Human Rights and Democracy in Public Policy and Administration

6. Public Policy and Administration in different economic systems.

Assessment

Method	Weightage
Assignments	20%
Mid-Semester test	20%
End of semester exam	60%
Total	100%

Recommended Reading

Abdul Aziz & David D. Arnold (Eds.), 1996, *Decentralized Governance in Asian Countries*, New Delhi: SAGE .

Mathur, Kuldip, (Ed.) 1996, *Development Policy and Administration*, New Delhi: SAGE.

Ridley, F. F, 1979, *Government and Administration in Western Europe*, Martin Ronerston.

Rhoded, Martin, Paul Heywood and Vincent Wright (Eds.), 1997, *West European Politics*, London: Macmillan Press.