This course analyzes the public policymaking process from agenda building through implementation and program evaluation. Among the topics we'll discuss are problem definition, lobbying and the legislative process, theories of representation, the relationship between congressional elections and public policy, committees and policy formulation, regulation, and bureaucratic politics. There are no prerequisites for this course and it is designed for both majors and nonmajors alike.

You can reach me at ext. 7-3465 or at jeffrey.berry@tufts.edu. I hope you’ll all come by my office (Packard 213) at some point to talk; I would truly like to get to know each of you. So please come by. Office hours this semester are M 3:00-4:30 and W 11:00-12:00. If that time does not work for you, please know I can usually stay later on those days and I’m also happy to set up an appointment for another time that will work for both of us.

**Grades:** Your overall grade will be based on four different components: a take-home midterm (30 percent), a write up on one of the six cases we’ll read (20 percent), class participation (10 percent), and a final (40 percent). Please keep in mind that the final is comprehensive (covers the entire course). The questions on both the midterm and the final will require you to integrate material from the lectures with the books and Kennedy School cases. Class participation includes both participation in discussions and attendance.

**Cases:** Five times during the semester we will devote the entire class period to analyzing a case developed by the Kennedy School of Government, a graduate public policy program at Harvard University. Please note that the case method is interactive and there will be few notes to pick up from a classmate who attends. Thus, if you miss the class you will have no way of recovering what went on. The case method works only insofar as students are willing to participate, so you should come to class prepared to discuss the assigned case. As noted above, a sixth case will be assigned for a write-up.

**Readings:** We will discuss the books in class on a designated date. There will be classroom exercises for each of the books so you must come to class prepared to discuss and write about the book at hand. Some of these classroom exercises will be done in teams. Students may be asked to lead the discussion on a selected question handed out ahead of time.
Keeping up with the News. Although this is not a class on current events, I will use current events and trends to illustrate enduring issues in our political system. To that end I expect you to keep up with the news. We’ll be sure to talk about the presidential primaries as the eventual nominees and campaigns are sure to affect the congressional elections in 2016.

Having spoken with many undergraduates in the past few years about how they follow the news, I’ve come to understand that most blend a variety of sources that they access through their laptop, tablet or phone. There are lots of great sources of news about national politics and policymaking but none better than the New York Times and the Washington Post. I encourage you to include one of these in your daily news feed. You should also look periodically at some of the inside Washington publications. Three nonpartisan sources that are of high quality are The Hill [http://thehill.com/], Roll Call [http://www.rollcall.com], and Politico [http://www.politico.com/].

The following books are required reading:

Eric Oliver, Fat Politics
Frank Baumgartner, Jeffrey Berry, Marie Hojnacki, David Kimball, and Beth Leech, Lobbying and Policy Change
Paul Herrnson, Congressional Elections, 7th ed.
Marc Eisner, Regulatory Politics in Transition, 2nd ed.
Thomas Mann and Norman Ornstein, It’s Even Worse Than it Looks
Andrea Campbell, Trapped in America’s Safety Net

The following cases are also required and are available in a course pack from the bookstore:

“What if We Could Start Over? The U.S. Forest Service Champions ‘Bottoms-up’ Management” [Part A]
“Matters of Life and Death: Defunding Organ Transplants in the State of Arizona”
“Regulatory Reform at OSHA” [Part A]
“Keeping an Open Mind in an Emergency: CDC Experiments with Team B”
“Man on a Wire: Bart Stupak Walks a Tight Line between Obamacare and Abortion”
“Health Care Reform in Massachusetts: Impacts on Public Health”

SCHEDULE
The dates below designate the days we will discuss a reading or devote the class to a case. I’ll confirm each date well beforehand.

FEB 1: Oliver, Fat Politics
FEB. 8: CASE DISCUSSION: “Man on a Wire: Bart Stupak Walks a Tight Line between Obamacare and Abortion”

FEB. 17: Herrnson, *Congressional Elections*

FEB. 22: CASE DISCUSSION: “Matters of Life and Death: Defunding Organ Transplants in the State of Arizona”

FEB. 29: Baumgartner et al., *Lobbying and Policy Change* chaps. 1-5 and 8-12

MARCH 7: CASE DISCUSSION: “Keeping an Open Mind in an Emergency”

MARCH 14: CASE DISCUSSION: “What if We Could Start Over? Midterm handed out; due March 18th by noon. Late exams will be penalized.

MARCH 30: Mann and Ornstein, *It’s Even Worse Than it Looks*

APRIL 4: CASE PROBLEM HANDED OUT

APRIL 6: Case write-up due at beginning of class. Late write-ups will be penalized

APRIL 11: Eisner, *Regulatory Politics in Transition*

APRIL 20: CASE DISCUSSION: “Regulatory Reform at OSHA”

APRIL 25: Campbell, *Trapped in America’s Safety Net*