

First Examination

Please answer all parts for each question. If you ignore a portion of the question, you cannot get full credit. Remember to cite sources you use in constructing your answer in both the body of the response and in a works cited list. Only refer to assigned course materials and do not refer to non-assigned outside sources (magazine articles, books, newspapers, etc.) in constructing your answer.

All essay responses must be typed in a word-processing computer program and follow specific formatting rules (12-pt Times New Roman font, double spaced, and one inch margins). Microsoft Word .doc files or Adobe Acrobat .pdf files are preferred. Finished exams have to be submitted to the instructor by e-mail Wednesday, March 31st before 12 p.m. The email address to submit exams is: pols440@yahoo.com

The test is open-note, meaning you can refer to the required reading materials assigned in the course, as well as notes you have personally taken during lectures and while reading the assigned materials. Throughout the time of the examination, you cannot discuss any of the test items with other students in the course.

1. Please describe the role (if any) of the bureaucracy at each of the five stages in the policy process model discussed in class. At which stage of the process model do you believe the bureaucracy is the most impactful actor? Explain your reasoning. What are the commonly perceived benefits and costs of bureaucratic participation in the policymaking process?
2. Please describe what policy legitimation means. Discuss how the findings of Berry and Berry (1990), Volden (2006), and Mintrom (1997) on state policy adoptions can be used to help describe policy legitimation in state politics. Given these three articles, attempt to relate the concept of policy diffusion to the concept of policy legitimation.
3. Please describe the differences between a rational-comprehensive approach to policymaking and an incremental approach to policymaking. What is Lindblom's (1959) position when he compares the rational-comprehensive and incremental approaches? Does the behavior suggested in the punctuated-equilibrium framework exhibit any of the characteristics suggested in either the rational-comprehensive or incremental approaches? Clarify why you think this to be the case.
4. Please describe the differences between the systemic agenda and the institutional agenda. Are the actors that impact which issues are high on the systemic agenda the same as those that impact which issues are high on the institutional agenda? Clarify your answer. Describe some potential issues with how both Downs (1972) and Kingdon (2002) characterize how issues get on the agenda.
5. Please describe the main characteristics of Lowi's (1964) policy typology. What was Lowi's purpose in creating this policy typology? Why did Gormley (1986) and Hayes (2007) develop the typologies that they do? Do Gormley and Hayes ultimately simplify or complicate Lowi's typology? Explain your position.