

Public Policy Analysis

We will call this project your Policy Paper which will be a formal research paper aimed at introducing and/or polishing your skills in the following:

- Public policy research – policy design, implementation, evaluation
- Understanding a federal law
- Effectively exploring and utilizing the library system for research
- Strengthening your academic and competitive writing skills
- Enhance your critical thinking skills

The **Basic Structure** of your Policy Analysis is the following:

1. Description of the policy/law – history and current situation
2. Rationale for public policy – market or government failure
3. Analysis of policy's efficacy
4. Implementation
5. Evaluation
6. Recommendations

Additionally, your Policy Analysis will be required to have a **minimum of ten quality references** (academic journal articles, leading books, relevant websites, etc.). The paper will be a 12-15 page essay with a traditional title page, appropriate subheadings, standard formatting (double-spaced, 12-point font, Times New Roman, page numbers), parenthetical citations such as (Jasso, 2009, p. 35), a works cited page (you may call it a reference page), and any necessary appendices. We will use APA format.

The Policy Paper will be submitted in two stages enabling you to receive feedback and for you to manage your accountability to the project. The project is essentially your final exam – it will be submitted in lieu of a formal final on a schedule day to be determined.

The Stages are:

Stage One: one-page proposal to include

- Rationale for public policy
- Major stakeholders impacted by the law
- Initial hypothesis – good law/bad law – why?
- Full print-out of your law (the first five pages)

Stage Two: Final

Complete policy paper due on a date to be determined during finals week