

### **POLS 3310: Foundations of Public Policy**

#### **3 Credit Hours**

*Prerequisite: POLS 1101 or permission of instructor.*

This course serves as a general survey of public policy, beginning with efforts to define public policy through the most modern efforts to explain how public policy is made. Key themes include a comparative look at the development of public policy in democracies, including the stages of policymaking, punctuated equilibrium, issue networks, institutionalism, symbolism, and theories designed to explain the link between policy alternatives and the problems they are designed to solve.

### **POLS 3312: Concepts in State and Local Government**

#### **3 Credit Hours**

*Prerequisite: POLS 1101*

State and local governments are increasingly important arenas of policymaking and political conflict in the United States. Around the country states are in the forefront of public policymaking and political controversy on issues ranging from economic development, education, labor relations, health care, environmental protection and marijuana laws, to social issues such as abortion, contraception, same-sex marriage and LGBT rights. Even when the federal government sets agendas and policies, state and local governments are often where implementation actually comes into contact with real people like you and me.

### **POLS 3313: Public Policy Analysis**

#### **3 Credit Hours**

*Prerequisite: POLS 1101*

Introduction to public policy analysis using data and methodological approaches as well as political and social inputs into the policy process. Analysis of policy outcomes.

### **POLS 3315: American Constitutional Law: Federalism**

#### **3 Credit Hours**

*Prerequisite: POLS 1101 and POLS 3300*

The constitutional powers and limitations of national legislative, executive and judicial branches are examined. The course includes analyses of the constitutional relationship of these political institutions to each other and to the states.