# Presentation Title: week\_3-2\_official\_actors

Slide 1:  
Official Actors in the Policy Process  
Theories of Interaction  
POSC 315: Week 4-2/h3>

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Slide 2:  
Theoretical Approaches  
Three main frameworks for understanding policy actors:  
Institutionalism  
Behavioralism  
Neo-Institutionalism  
Institutionalism  
Studies politics and policy through formal institutional interactions  
Focuses on formal rules and procedures  
Emphasizes relationships between institutions  
Behavioralism  
Focuses on individual political motivation and behavior  
Analyzes incentives and disincentives  
Examines relationships between individuals and groups  
Neo-Institutionalism  
Synthesizes institutional and behavioral approaches  
Examines sociological aspects of institutions  
Studies how institutions shape behavior  
Applies rational choice theory to institutional analysis

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Slide 3:  
Theoretical Approaches  
Three main frameworks for understanding policy actors:  
Institutionalism  
Behavioralism  
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Slide 4:  
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Focuses on formal rules and procedures  
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Slide 5:  
Behavioralism  
Focuses on individual political motivation and behavior  
Analyzes incentives and disincentives  
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Slide 6:  
Neo-Institutionalism  
Synthesizes institutional and behavioral approaches  
Examines sociological aspects of institutions  
Studies how institutions shape behavior  
Applies rational choice theory to institutional analysis

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Slide 7:  
Key Concepts  
Inertia  
The tendency of an object (or institution) to resist changes to its current state  
Institutional Concepts  
Path Dependency:  
Historical decisions shape current options  
Incrementalism:  
Change occurs in small steps  
Punctuated Equilibrium:  
Long periods of stability interrupted by rapid change

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Slide 8:  
Key Concepts  
Inertia  
The tendency of an object (or institution) to resist changes to its current state

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Slide 9:  
Institutional Concepts  
Path Dependency:  
Historical decisions shape current options  
Incrementalism:  
Change occurs in small steps  
Punctuated Equilibrium:  
Long periods of stability interrupted by rapid change

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Slide 10:  
Types of Policy Actors  
Official Actors  
Formally recognized participants in the policy process  
Legislators  
Executive  
Bureaucrats  
Judges

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Slide 11:  
Types of Policy Actors  
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Slide 12:  
Legislators  
Core Functions and Responsibilities  
Primary lawmaking body in democratic systems  
Constitutional authority to create, amend, and repeal laws  
Oversight of executive branch activities  
Budget and appropriations authority  
Legislative Dynamics  
Key Motivations  
Re-election goals drive many decisions  
Constituent service and representation  
Policy achievement in priority areas  
Institutional power and influence  
Legislative Constraints  
Procedural Requirements:  
Committee system  
Parliamentary rules  
Voting procedures  
Bicameral negotiations  
Political Constraints  
Party leadership directives  
Coalition management  
Interest group pressure  
Electoral consequences  
Legislative Activities  
Bill Introduction and Sponsorship:  
Research and drafting  
Coalition building  
Stakeholder engagement  
Committee Work  
Hearings and investigations  
Expert testimony  
Mark-up sessions  
Constituent Services  
Casework management  
District outreach  
Community engagement

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Slide 13:  
Legislators  
Core Functions and Responsibilities  
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Budget and appropriations authority

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Slide 14:  
Legislative Dynamics  
Key Motivations  
Re-election goals drive many decisions  
Constituent service and representation  
Policy achievement in priority areas  
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Slide 15:  
Legislative Constraints  
Procedural Requirements:  
Committee system  
Parliamentary rules  
Voting procedures  
Bicameral negotiations

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Slide 16:  
Political Constraints  
Party leadership directives  
Coalition management  
Interest group pressure  
Electoral consequences

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Slide 17:  
Legislative Activities  
Bill Introduction and Sponsorship:  
Research and drafting  
Coalition building  
Stakeholder engagement

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Slide 18:  
Committee Work  
Hearings and investigations  
Expert testimony  
Mark-up sessions

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Slide 19:  
Constituent Services  
Casework management  
District outreach  
Community engagement

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Slide 20:  
Executive Branch  
Core Functions and Powers  
Law Execution and Administration  
Policy Leadership:  
Function  
Agenda setting  
Policy proposals  
Crisis management  
International relations  
Executive Policy Tools  
Direct Policy Instruments  
Executive Orders  
Executive Memoranda  
Proclamations  
Signing Statements  
Veto Power  
Executive Influence  
Agenda Setting Power:  
Public attention direction  
Media relations  
Crisis framing  
Bureaucratic Oversight:  
Agency direction  
Personnel appointments  
Budget proposals

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Slide 21:  
Executive Branch  
Core Functions and Powers  
Law Execution and Administration  
Policy Leadership:  
Function  
Agenda setting  
Policy proposals  
Crisis management  
International relations

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Slide 22:  
Executive Policy Tools  
Direct Policy Instruments  
Executive Orders  
Executive Memoranda  
Proclamations  
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Slide 23:  
Executive Influence  
Agenda Setting Power:  
Public attention direction  
Media relations  
Crisis framing  
Bureaucratic Oversight:  
Agency direction  
Personnel appointments  
Budget proposals

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Slide 24:  
Bureaucracy  
Implementation Role  
Policy Implementation  
Regulation Development  
Program Administration  
Service Delivery  
Bureaucratic Structure  
Hierarchical Organization:  
Clear chain of command  
Specialized divisions  
Standard operating procedures  
Personnel Systems:  
Merit-based hiring  
Civil service protections  
Professional development  
Street-Level Bureaucrats  
Key Characteristics  
Direct public interaction  
Discretionary authority  
Resource constraints  
Complex decision-making  
Bureaucratic Power  
Technical Expertise:  
Specialized knowledge  
Program experience  
Policy implementation insights  
Administrative Authority:  
Rulemaking power  
Enforcement discretion  
Program management

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Slide 25:  
Bureaucracy  
Implementation Role  
Policy Implementation  
Regulation Development  
Program Administration  
Service Delivery

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Slide 26:  
Bureaucratic Structure  
Hierarchical Organization:  
Clear chain of command  
Specialized divisions  
Standard operating procedures  
Personnel Systems:  
Merit-based hiring  
Civil service protections  
Professional development

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Slide 27:  
Street-Level Bureaucrats  
Key Characteristics  
Direct public interaction  
Discretionary authority  
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Slide 28:  
Bureaucratic Power  
Technical Expertise:  
Specialized knowledge  
Program experience  
Policy implementation insights  
Administrative Authority:  
Rulemaking power  
Enforcement discretion  
Program management

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Slide 29:  
Judiciary  
Constitutional Role  
Constitutional Interpretation  
Legal Dispute Resolution  
Rights Protection  
Government Oversight  
Judicial Powers  
Key Authorities  
Judicial Review:  
Constitutional analysis  
Statutory interpretation  
Administrative review  
Jurisdictional Authority:  
Original jurisdiction  
Appellate jurisdiction  
Policy Impact  
Direct Policy Effects:  
Constitutional rulings  
Statutory interpretation  
Administrative oversight  
Indirect Influence:  
Agenda setting  
Policy framing  
Behavioral incentives  
Judicial Constraints  
Institutional Limitations:  
Case or controversy requirement  
Standing doctrine  
Precedent considerations  
External Constraints:  
Implementation dependence  
Political context  
Public legitimacy

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Slide 30:  
Judiciary  
Constitutional Role  
Constitutional Interpretation  
Legal Dispute Resolution  
Rights Protection  
Government Oversight

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Slide 31:  
Judicial Powers  
Key Authorities  
Judicial Review:  
Constitutional analysis  
Statutory interpretation  
Administrative review  
Jurisdictional Authority:  
Original jurisdiction  
Appellate jurisdiction

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Slide 32:  
Policy Impact  
Direct Policy Effects:  
Constitutional rulings  
Statutory interpretation  
Administrative oversight  
Indirect Influence:  
Agenda setting  
Policy framing  
Behavioral incentives

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Slide 33:  
Judicial Constraints  
Institutional Limitations:  
Case or controversy requirement  
Standing doctrine  
Precedent considerations  
External Constraints:  
Implementation dependence  
Political context  
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Slide 34:  
Policy Process Integration  
Actor Interactions  
Checks and balances system  
Institutional interdependence  
Policy feedback loops  
Conflict resolution mechanisms

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Slide 35:  
Policy Process Integration  
Actor Interactions  
Checks and balances system  
Institutional interdependence  
Policy feedback loops  
Conflict resolution mechanisms

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Slide 36:  
Looking Ahead  
Next Session: Unofficial Actors in the Policy Process  
Interest Groups  
Media  
Think Tanks  
Advocacy Organizations

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