PUBP8801: Dissertation Starter Course Fall 2013

Professor: John P. WALSH Fridays, 12-1pm

Office: DMS201 Class: DM Smith #303

E-mail: jpwalsh@gatech.edu

Office hours: by appointment

The course is designed to give you an overview of public policy, some professional socialization, help satisfy Georgia Tech’s RCR policy (for in-person training), and get you thinking about your dissertation topic. A major component of this course is participation in the Workshop on Original Policy Research (WOPR) and in research ethics discussions.

To accomplish these goals, we are going to do the following:

A) You are expected to attend every class meeting and WOPR presentation.

B) You are expected to attend 1 or more colloquia (WST, SPP invited speakers, job talks, seminars in other parts of Georgia Tech, or at GSU, Emory, etc.) during the semester.  These are announced regularly (check your email and the IAC weekly bulletin).

After attending a seminar (including WOPR), please send me an email with the following information:

Your name

Presentation Date, Title, Speaker

Summary (one or two sentences): research question, data, main findings, etc.

What was the most interesting question asked, what was the answer, and what did you think of that answer?

C) Attend at least one dissertation proposal or dissertation defense (preferably one of each).  Again, send me a summary of the event (see B).

D) Training workshops: throughout the semester(s), we will offer several skills workshops on, for example, article reviewing, presentations, publishing, data security, etc. Passing this course requires attending all of these. The RCR topics (indicated on the tentative schedule) will also require a summary discussion of the topic. This summary must be 200-250 words in length and (a) explain the research issues as discussed in class, (b) identify the ethical challenges, and (c) propose a way to address these issues. These are due within one week.

**Tentative Schedule**

August 23 - Intro

August 30 - WOPR: Justin Biddle, Can patents prohibit research? social epistemology and intellectual property rights in science

September 6 - SOAR:

September 13\* - Authorship & publication [John Walsh]:

September 20- WOPR: Thomas Woodson, Public private partnerships and emerging technology: the case of diseases of poverty and nanomedicine

September 27\* – Peer review I [John Walsh]

October 4\* – Peer review II [John Walsh]

October 11 – WOPR: Eric Boyer, A preliminary framework of government learning in public-private partnerships

October 18\*– Collaborative research [John Walsh]

October 25\* – Mentorship [Mary Frank Fox]

November 1 – WOPR: Kaspars Berzins, Social capital of foreign-born faculty in the US and productivity effects

November 8 – Funding [Clark Bonilla]

November 15 – WOPR: Gordon Kingsley, TBA

November 22 – WOPR: You-Na Lee, Janus leaves the lab: Non-R&D innovation and knowledge environments

November 29 – *Black Friday: To the malls!*

December 6 – Review

**RCR topics remaining**

Data management

Collaborative research

Conflicts of interest

human subjects

research misconduct

science in society