

POLICY PROJECTS

Students in Public Policy Methods complete policy analyses on randomly assigned issues. Over the course of the semester, they do memorandum exercises intended to help them apply concepts introduced in [Policy Analysis: Concepts and Practice](#) to their issues. Near the end of the semester, each student submits a fifteen page policy analysis (exclusive of an executive summary and an *unlimited* number of pages of appendices) to me and to one other student. The other student writes a collegial critique and I prepare a more comprehensive evaluation following a [template](#) that helps me cover important points systematically.

Projects for 1991 randomly assigned from the following list:

Evaluate New York State's laws governing prostitution in light of the spread of AIDS. Should New York State allow brothels? Client: Office of Public Health, New York State Department of Health

Evaluate the harvesting and allocation of human kidneys as transplant organs. Client: Director, National Institutes of Health

Evaluate the Department of Agriculture's regulation of the peanut industry. Client: Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Should New York State change its policies to encourage or facilitate the recycling of newspaper? Client: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Evaluate federal regulations governing the disposal of lead_acid batteries used in automobiles. Client: Environmental Protection Agency

The current allocation of the electro_magnetic spectrum may be holding back the introduction of new communications technologies. Consider proposals, including H.R. 1407, for increasing access to the spectrum by users of new technologies. Client: Office of Management and Budget

Review the Food and Drug Administration's regulation of the direct advertising of prescription drugs to consumers. Client: Chair, Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources

Evaluate the Department of Agriculture's wool and mohair program. Client: Office of Management and Budget

Evaluate import quotas and related federal programs affecting the domestic sugar market. Client: Chair, House Committee on Agriculture

Develop and evaluate alternatives for raising an additional ten billion dollars annually through the federal personal income tax. Client: Chair, House Ways and Means Committee

Should the federal government promote the development of a standardized nuclear reactor design for commercial electricity generation? Client: Department of Energy

Should New York State prohibit the use of sex as a rating factor in automobile insurance? Client: New York State Superintendent of Insurance

Should the federal government regulate the disposal of the batteries used in flashlights, radios, and other consumer products? Client: Environmental Protection Agency

Current federal policy prohibits most cities from dumping sewage sludge in the ocean. New York and other cities that still dump will soon be prohibited from doing so. Should the dumping prohibition be continued? Client: Chair, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

Should the federal government adopt policies that would require all patients admitted to hospitals to be tested for the HIV virus? Client: Centers for Disease Control

Evaluate federal regulation of the dairy industry. Client: Chairman, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry

Should regulations governing the labeling of food products be changed to require that the percentage of calories derived from fats be listed? Client: Food and Drug Administration

Evaluate federal policies intended to preserve wetlands in light of recent debate over their definition. Client: President's Council on Environmental Quality

The 1978 Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act requires that utilities purchase electricity generated by independent firms. Should the act be modified to require utilities to give access to their transmission lines so that independents can sell electricity directly to commercial and industrial customers? Client: Chairman, Energy and Power Subcommittee, House Committee on Energy and Commerce

Should the federal government take a more active role in promoting immunization against childhood diseases. Client: Chairman, Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources

Should the federal government expand or modify the National School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program? Client: Chairman, Senate Select Committee on Hunger

Should the federal government sell the Naval Petroleum Reserve? Client: Office of Management and Budget

Should the federal government develop a national earthquake insurance program? Client: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Should the United States seek to modify the United States-Japan Semiconductor Agreement which regulates the importation of computer memory chips from Japan. Client: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce

Propose and evaluate policies for transferring the ownership of public housing to tenants. Client: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Should all new televisions sold in the U.S. be required to have an internal device to permit the hearing_impaired to receive close_captioning? Client: Office of Management and Budget