Evans School & College of Education
University of Washington
PUBPOL 571/EDLPS 563
Autumn 2016

Public Policy 571/Ed Leadership & Policy Studies 563
“EDUCATION, THE WORKFORCE & PUBLIC POLICY”

Syllabus – Autumn 2016
(subject to minor revisions)

Readings
Readings for this course are from the texts listed below or, in the case of most articles, will be available electronically via the PUBPOL 571 website. A few items are simply cited by URL.

You should purchase the first four books listed below as most of their chapters are assigned. Fewer chapters of the Zumeta et al. book are assigned so you might get by with using the copy on reserve. All of these books have been ordered for 4-hour reserve at Odegaard Library reserves but it is strongly recommended that you purchase the first four (perhaps with a partner). There should be used copies available on Amazon and the like.

Citations for the Main Texts


Course Outline and Syllabus

#1–Sept. 29  Topics:
• Introductions and overview of the course; course expectations
• Circulate sign up sheets for assignment options
• Basic concepts: public policy processes and policy analysis; “education and workforce” policies, “new economy;” “globalization;” “Great Recession;” “human capital;” “skills gap”

Readings:

#2–Oct. 6  Topics:
• Complete basic concepts as necessary
• The “new global information (or “knowledge”) economy”: where it came from and where it may be headed
• Implications of the “Great Recession” and its aftermath

Readings:

Recommended:

#3–Oct. 13  
**Topics:**  
- The Education Gospel: Believers and Dissenters

**Readings:**

**Recommended:**
4. Goldin and Katz, chapters 4-6. (Note: I will ask 3 student volunteers to present the essential arguments of these chapters in class, which will constitute their class presentation assignment for the course.)

**Assignment due:** Proposal for in-class presentation due (if you chose that option for Assignment #2)

#4–Oct. 20  
**Topics:**  
- Human capital concepts, methods, and findings
- College graduates and the labor market
- Is there really a shortage of graduates in STEM fields?

**Readings:**

7. Angela Baber (2011). Using Community Colleges to Build a STEM-Skilled Workforce.” NGCA Center for Best Practices Issue Brief. (On class site)

**Recommended:**


11. Stokes (text), chapters 3-5, which cover innovative efforts to enhance students’ employability by Georgia Tech, NYU, & Northeastern University, respectively.


**Assignment due:** Term paper (Assignment #1) proposal/outline due in class from all students!

**#5–Oct. 27**

**Topic:**
- Does U.S. Postsecondary Education Reduce Inequality?

**Readings: (all on class site)**
2. S. Baum (2016, Sept. 16). “College Endowments, College Prices, and
Financial Aid.” Testimony to U.S. Congress, House Subcommittee on Government Oversight. (Course site)
5. A. Carnevale & B. Church (2015). *Hispanics: College Majors and Earnings*. Georgetown University, Center on Education and the Workforce. (Course site)

**Recommended:**

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**# 6–Nov. 3 Topic:**

- The supply side: access and completion issues and policies in postsecondary education

**Readings:**

**Recommended:**
6. T. Mortenson, “Bachelor’s Degree Attainment in the United States and OECD Countries 1940 to 2011.” *Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY* No. 238 (April 2012). (On course site.)

**Guest: Rachelle Sharp**, Acting Executive Director of the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC), and **Dr. Randy Spaulding** (PhD from COE) WSAC Director of Academic Affairs & Policy
#7–Nov. 10  **Topics:**

- Two-year colleges (public & private) and the sub-baccalaureate labor market

**Readings:**


**Recommended:**


**Guest:** TBA

#8–Nov. 17  **Topic:**

- School-to-work and school-to-postsecondary transitions

**Readings:**

1. Alliance for Excellent Education. *Common Core State Standards 101*. (August 2013). (On course site.)
5. D. A. Jones, Apprenticeships: Back to the Future.” Issues in Science & Technology (Summer 2011), 51-54. (Course site.)

**Recommended:**
8. A. Carnevale, T. Jayasundera, & A. Hanson (2012). Career and Technical Education: Five Ways that Pay Along the Way to the B.A. Georgetown University, Center on Education and the Workforce. (On course site)

**NO CLASS ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

**#9  Dec. 1**  **Topics:**
• Human capital building for the disadvantaged and low skilled
• Welfare-to-work policies and human capital building

**Readings:**
For Metropolitan Labor Markets in the United States,” in Perna, pp. 245-259.

**Recommended:**
6. A. Carnevale & others (2011). *Career Clusters: Forecasting Demand for High School through College Jobs.* Georgetown University, Center for Education and the Workforce. (Course site)

**Guest:** TBA

#10—Dec. 8  **Topics:**
- Summing up the implications of American educational vocationalism and the education-technology race
- Efforts at systemic integration of education and workforce training policies
- Course wrap-up and evaluation

**Readings:**

**Recommended:**
for Tomorrow.”
7. Grubb & Lazerson, ch. 8, “The Evolution of Inequality.”

Assignment due:
Term paper due in class! There will be a penalty for late papers. Earlier submission is encouraged.