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

Readings
Readings for this course are in most cases from the texts listed below or available electronically via the PbAf 571 website at:
https://catalysttools.washington.edu/workspace/evansas/3248
Some of the supplementary readings are followed by “R” meaning the item is on reserve at Odegaard Library. There may be an occasional item to access directly from the Web via a URL I will provide.

The following books are available at the University Bookstore. We will read the two books below in their entirety:

Books I have requested to be placed on 4-hour reserve at Odegaard Library include those listed below.
• Michael Kirst & Andrea Venezia (Eds.). *From High School to College: Improving Opportunities for Success in Postsecondary Education*. (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2004).
Course Outline and Syllabus

#1–Jan. 7  
**Topics:**
- Introduction and overview of the course
- Basic concepts: public policy processes and policy analysis;
  the “new economy;” “human capital;” “skills gap;” “education and
  workforce” policy

**Readings:** (to be completed following this class, depending on
student’s prior preparation)
   Science* (1985), 3-16.
   **Note:** Second year Evans students will not need to repeat this reading
   from PbAf 513. Others may be able to borrow a copy from Evans or
   other students who have taken PbAf 513 in fall quarter or before if the
   copy on reserve is insufficient and you don’t wish to purchase a copy.
   (In the second edition, the equivalent pages are 1-59.)

#2–Jan. 14  
**Topics:**
- Complete basic concepts
- Forces underlying and key features of the “new economy”

**Readings:**
1. Breneman, Callan, Finney and Zumeta, “Financing American Higher
   Education in an Era of Global Challenge: An Agenda for the Nation.”

#3–Jan. 21  
**Topics:**
- The education gospel: believers and dissenters

**Readings:**
1. Grubb & Lazerson (text), Introduction and chapters 1 and 5.
2. Breneman, Callan, Finney and Zumeta, “How Much Higher Education
   Does the Nation Need?” (Draft book chapter. Read Evans Working
   Paper version by Zumeta at course website.)

**Recommended:**
1. Goldin and Katz, chapters 4-6. (Note: I hope 2-3 students will
   volunteer to present the essential arguments of these 3 chapters to the
   class. This will constitute those students’ class presentation assignment
   for the course.)

Assignment due:
Proposal for in-class presentation due in class!

#4–Jan. 28 Topics:
• Human capital concepts and methods
• College graduates and the labor market

Readings:
2. U.S. Census Bureau. What’s It Worth? Field of Training and Economic Status in 2004. Current Population Reports, January 2009. This publication has not yet been released. I will let you know if it is available in time. In any case you can find the pertinent tables at: http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/education/sipp2004w2.html Look at the Table 5 series, especially Tables 5D, 5H and 5L.
3. Mark Long, “College Quality and Early Adult Outcomes.” Economics of Education Review 27 (2008), 588-602. Note: Those lacking a background in multivariate statistics will have some difficulty with sections 4 and 5 but all should be able to understand sections 1-3 and 6. I suggest you focus on the left hand (OLS results) column in Tables 2-5 and note how each of these tables reports effects of a different college quality attribute.

Recommended:
2. The College Board, Education Pays. (Princeton, NJ, 2007). Note: No need to read every word of this. Concentrate on the parts that cover non-labor market effects of education.

Note: Either 1 & 2 or 3 & 4 above would make excellent resources for a class presentation on the range of returns to investments in higher
education (1, 2), or the mixed evidence on “shortages” in the sciences and engineering (3, 4).

**Assignment due:**
Term paper proposal due in class!

# 5–Feb. 4  **Topics:**
• Access problems and policies in postsecondary education

**Readings:**
2. D. Ellwood & T. Kane, “Who Is Getting a College Education?” In Danziger & Waldfogel, pp. 283-324. (Article is on the course website, book is also on reserve.)
3. T. Mortenson, “Family Income and Educational Attainment,” 1970 to 2006.” Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY (November 2008), 1-13. (This can be skimmed, noting especially the graphics.)

**Recommended:**

**Guest:**
Patrick M. Callan, President, National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education. This center produces the Measuring Up state higher education report card series.
#6–Feb. 11  
**Topics:**  
• Schools for the new economy  
• Teachers for the new schools  

**Readings:**  
4. ACT, Inc. *Ready for College and Ready for Work: Same or Different?* 2006. **Note:** This can be skimmed for the basic argument and evidence.  
5. Washington Learns Steering Committee, *Washington Learns: World Class, Learner Focused, Seamless Education.* Olympia, WA, 2006. **Note:** Not necessary to read every word but get the thrust.  

**Recommended:**  

**Guest:**  
Don Nielsen, UW and Harvard MBA graduate, business executive and former president of the Seattle School Board, currently CEO of Teach First which seeks to enhance the skills of classroom teachers to improve student learning

#7–Feb. 18  
**Topics:**  
• Two-year colleges and the sub-baccalaureate labor market  

**Readings:**  
1. Grubb & Lazerson, ch. 3.


**Recommended:**


**Guest:**

Earl Hale, former Executive Director of the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and now consultant to the Ford Foundation

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#8–Feb. 25  
**Topics:**

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

**Readings:**


**Recommended:**

1. D. Donahoe and M. Tienda, “The Transition from School to Work: Is There a Crisis? What Can Be Done?” In Danziger & Waldfogel (Eds.),
pp. 231-263. (R)

#9–Mar. 4  **Topics:**
- Human capital building for the disadvantaged and low skilled
- Welfare-to-work policies and human capital building

**Readings:**
1. Grubb & Lazerson, ch. 4.

**Recommended:**
3. J. J. Heckman & L. Lochner, “Rethinking Education and Training Policy: Understanding the Sources of Skill Formation in a Modern Economy.” In Danziger & Waldfogel, pp. 47-86. (R)

**Guest:** TBA

#10–Mar. 11  **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:**
3. Washington Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board documents [Specifics TBA]

Guest:
David Harrison, Chair, Washington Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board and Evans School Senior Lecturer

Fri, Mar. 13- Term paper due to instructor by 5 PM! There will be a penalty for late papers.