PUBLIC POLICY

Studying public policy
An international approach
Edited by Michael Hill, University of Newcastle

“The book offers a fascinating range of policy domains and countries as case studies making it a valuable resource that students and lecturers can use.”
Professor Bruce Stafford, University of Nottingham

This important new resource for policy process teaching explores the public policy process through 19 contributions from diverse scholars from all over the world. These are linked by substantive commentary from the editor, Michael Hill, a renowned policy process expert, and organised into five sections: Stability and Change; Agenda Setting; Policy Formulation; Implementation; and Governance and Globalism. Using case studies from many policy areas and countries it brings to life for students the reality of the policy-making process. The book can be used in its own right and to accompany textbooks in the field and will be of value for masters and advanced undergraduate courses.

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240 x 172mm 336 pages April 2014

Money and electoral politics
Local parties and funding at general elections
Ron Johnston, University of Bristol and Charles Pattie, University of Sheffield

“A timely and forensic examination of one of the hidden corners of the British political system.” Colin Rallings, Professor of Politics, University of Plymouth

Political parties are crucial to British democracy, providing the foundations for mobilising voters. Much has been written on the decline of party membership but far less on money. In this much-needed new book, Ron Johnston and Charles Pattie explore financial differences across the UK’s three main parties in the four years leading up to the 2010 General Election. They look at how much local parties raise for election campaigns and find that the more money candidates spend then, the better their performance.

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Disputing citizenship
John Clarke, The Open University, Kathleen Coll, University of Stanford, Evelina Dagnino, University of Campinas and Catherine Neveu, Institute of contemporary interdisciplinary anthropology

“A major contribution to critical thinking about citizenship that takes its political, contentious, and cultural aspects seriously and playfully, through brilliantly nuanced discussions.” Engin Isin, Professor of Citizenship, The Open University

This unique book disputes the way citizenship is normally conceived and analysed within the social sciences, developing a view of citizenship as always emerging from struggle. This view is advanced through an exploration of the entanglements of politics, culture and power that are both embodied and contested in forms and practices of citizenship.

This compelling view of citizenship emerges from the international and interdisciplinary collaboration of the four authors, drawing on the diverse disputes over citizenship in their countries of origin (Brazil, France, the UK and the US).

Reclaiming local democracy
A progressive future for local government
Ines Newman, De Montfort University

“It is refreshing to find a book that tackles, in both theory and practice, the role of councillors and the principles on which policy-making should be based.” Sir Richard Leese, Leader of Manchester City Council

As austerity measures leave local government struggling to meet the demands for local services, this book asks ‘what are the fundamental principles that should guide decision-making by local councillors and officers?’ It seeks to move the agenda from ‘what works?’ to ‘what should local government do?’ and ‘how will its policies impact on social justice and local democracy?’.

Reclaiming local democracy examines the politics of human need and argues that local government should provide a voice for those that lack power.

New media and public activism
Neoliberalism, the state and radical protest in the public sphere
John Roberts, Brunel University

“This is an extremely good book, which contains a range of fascinating arguments and ideas about new media public spheres.” Professor Jonathan Joseph, Department of Politics, University of Sheffield

The Arab Spring, chat forums, political leaders tweeting, online petitions, and protestors in the Occupy Movement – new media public spheres have without doubt radically altered political activism and social protest. But to what extent is this new activist public sphere stifled by the neoliberal economy and workfare state?

Have we in fact become transformed into subjects of online consumption and orderly surveillance, rather than committed social and political campaigners? This highly topical book offers an indispensable guide to understanding the relationship between the state, new media activism and neoliberal practices.

Knowledge in policy
Embodied, inscribed, enacted
Edited by Richard Freeman and Steve Sturdy, University of Edinburgh

This important collection presents a radical reconception of the place of knowledge in contemporary policymaking in Europe, based not on assumptions about evidence, expertise or experience but on the different forms that knowledge takes. Knowledge is embodied in people, inscribed in documents and instruments, and enacted in specific circumstances.

Empirical case studies of health and education policy in different national and international contexts demonstrate the essential interdependence of different forms and phases of knowledge. They illustrate the ways in which knowledge is mobilised and resisted, and draw attention to key problems in the processing and transformation of knowledge in policy work. This novel theoretical framework offers real benefits for policymakers and academics in public policy.
Women of power
Half a century of female presidents and prime ministers worldwide
Torild Skard, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs
This unique book is the first to provide a comprehensive overview of how and why women in 53 countries rose to the top in the years since World War II. It presents all 73 female presidents and prime ministers from around the world, from 1960 (when the first was elected) to 2010, organised by chronology and geography. Written by an experienced politician and academic, the introduction outlines the five forerunners on different continents from 1960 to 1975; then goes on to discuss world developments, concepts and methodological issues. The motives, achievements and life stories of the female top leaders are then described and analysed to provide a nuanced picture of women in power.

Austerity bites
A journey to the sharp end of cuts in the UK
Mary O’Hara, freelance journalist and writer
This timely and apposite book by award-winning journalist Mary O’Hara chronicles the true impact of austerity on people at the sharp end of cuts to public spending. Drawing on hundreds of hours of compelling first-person interviews, with a broad spectrum of people ranging from homeless teenagers, older job-seekers, pensioners, charity workers, employment advisers and youth workers, as well as an extensive body of research and reports, the book explores the grim reality of living under the biggest shakeup of the welfare state in 60 years.

Public engagement and social science
Edited by Stella Maile, University of the West of England and David Griffiths, The Open University in the South West
This original edited collection explores the value of public engagement in a wider social science context. Its main themes range from the dialogic character of social science to the pragmatic responses to the managerial policies underpinning the restructuring of Higher Education.

How Europe shapes British public policy
Janice Morphet, University College London
How Europe shapes British public policy considers the effects of EU membership in shaping key policy areas in the UK – trade and privatisation, the single market and the environment, and subsidiarity in the development and implementation of devolved and decentralised governance. This book gives new and essential insights for students and practitioners of politics, governance and international relations.

Alcohol and moral regulation
Public attitudes, spirited measures and Victorian hangovers
Henry Yeomans, University of Leeds
Alcohol consumption is frequently described as a contemporary, worsening and peculiarly British social problem that requires radical remedial regulation. Informed by historical research and sociological analysis, this book takes an innovative and refreshing look at how public attitudes and the regulation of alcohol have developed through time. It argues that, rather than a response to trends in consumption or harm, ongoing anxieties about alcohol are best understood as ‘hangovers’ derived, in particular, from the Victorian period. The product of several years of research, this book aims to help readers re-evaluate their understandings of drinking.

Forthcoming titles:
Rethinking policy and politics
Reflections on contemporary debates in policy studies
Edited by Sarah Ayres
Does neoliberalism matter?
Louise Humpage

See www.policypress.co.uk for information on related titles
Australian public policy
Progressive ideas in the neo-liberal ascendency
Edited by Chris Miller, formally of Flinders University and Lionel Orchard, Flinders University, Adelaide

At a time when neo-liberal and conservative politics are again in the ascendency and social democracy is waning, Australian public policy brings together leading authors to explore economic, environmental, social, cultural, political and indigenous issues. It examines trends and current policy directions and outlines progressive alternatives that challenge and extend current thinking. While focused on Australia, the contributors offer valuable insights for people in other countries committed to social justice and those engaged in the ongoing contest between neo-liberalism and social democracy.

Policy analysis in The Netherlands
Edited by Frans van Nispen and Peter Scholten, the Erasmus University of Rotterdam

The Netherlands is internationally regarded as one of the front-runners of policy analysis and evaluation in Europe. This book, part of the International Library of Policy Analysis, provides a much-needed overview of developments in policy analysis in both academia and practice at various levels of governance. Bringing together contributions from key scholars as well as professionals in the field, the book captures the diversity of modes of policy analysis which have evolved since the 1970s. Above all, it provides an overview of the current state of affairs making it a valuable resource for anyone interested in governance and performance.

JOURNALS

Policy & Politics
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Evidence & Policy
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