



Co-Chairs

Heena Srivastava

[hsrivastava@imsa.edu]

Grace Ryan

[gryan@imsa.edu]

EnACT Syllabus

Introduction

The EnACT course looks at public policy as a means of social change. Students investigate the politics surrounding a relevant social issue, and formulate a solution that addresses the problem accordingly. By following the policy cycle, they are able to use social movements, public opinion, and other topics to gather a well rounded understanding of their issue. Ultimately, students will increase political awareness and better understand the process of policymaking.

Module Topics

Module 1: Introductions and Election Policy - To begin to think critically about the election and policy in the United States.

Module 2: Public Opinion - To explore the significant influences the public has on policy, meanwhile developing the definition of each group's social issue.

Module 3: Social Movements and Policy - To understand the roots and complexities of global social movements and their historical effects on policy.

Module 4: Policy Formulation - To explore the major players in policy and how to get involved as a young adult, meanwhile formulating root causes and solutions to the social issues.

Module 5: Election Day - To rigorously evaluate each candidate's policies to be able to cast an educated (even though illegitimate) vote.

Module 6: Instruments of Public Policy - To choose a method of implementation for each group's policy and to practice for the Mid-Year Event.

Module 7: Review - To remind ourselves of each group's policy and material from Semester 1, meanwhile developing a holistic plan for policy implementation.

Module 8: Evaluation - To explore many types of policy and create a method of evaluating each group's own policy.

Module 9: Policy Change - To receive feedback on policy project and revise accordingly.

Module 10: International Policy - To learn about policy actions on an international scale.

Module 11: SLX Preparation - To practice for Student Leadership Exchange (SLX).

Module 12: Party - To wrap up, celebrate, and reflect on the EnACT year.

Important Due Dates:

November 8th (Module #5): Create 2-3 policy alternatives

December 5th: Choose a policy alternative and have an outline

January 24th (Module #7): Pick 2-3 instruments of policy to implement

February 7th (Module #8): Pick one instrument to implement

February 21st (Module #9): First Draft SLX Presentation

April 4th (Module #11): Final SLX Presentation

Important Dates:

Semester 1

September 13th: Module #1

September 20th: Module #2

October 4th: Module #3

October 10th - 14th: One-on-ones

October 25th: Module #4

October 31st - November 4th: Group-on-ones

November 8th: Module #5

November 29th: Module #6

November 30th: Mid-Year Event

December 5th - 9th: Group-on-ones

Semester 2

January 24th: Module #7

February 7th: Module #8

February 21st: Module #9

February 27th - March 2nd: Group-on-ones

March 10th: Module #10

March 27th - 31st: One-on-ones

April 4th: Module #11

April 9th: Student Leadership Exchange (SLX)

April 11th: Module #12

Student Expectations

→ *General Expectations*

Students are expected to be aware, engaged, and willing participants during all LEAD modules. The following behaviors are expected:

- **Punctuality.** Do not be late to class. Modules start promptly at 8:00 P.M.
- **Participation.** Do not be silent. You have valuable thoughts. Share them.
- **Collaboration.** Do not sit still. Discuss with your neighbors and debate your solutions.
- **Attention.** Do not use laptops when not asked. Do not use phones when not asked. Pay attention.
- **Respect.** Encourage others. Be a supporter. Help others reach their goals. Do not push anyone down.
- **Passion.** This is your time to create a change. Embrace it.

→ *Assignment Expectations*

Late and incomplete assignments will be monitored and dealt with on a case-to-case basis between the facilitators and student. If late or incomplete assignments become a recurring issue, the problem will be escalated to the LEAD Coordinators. If the issue persists, the matter will be escalated to the LEAD Advisor and may be grounds for course failure.

• *Attendance Expectations*

It is a student's responsibility to arrive on time to all LEAD modules and events. Lateness and absences will be recorded in a point-based system, where points contribute to a student's failure to complete LEAD. The attendance policy differs slightly from that of IMSA's Student Handbook. A student will fail to complete LEAD if they accumulate 12 attendance points. If they are tardy, but no more than 10 minutes late, they will be marked with an unexcused tardy and given 1 attendance point. If they are more than 10 minutes tardy, they will be marked with an unexcused absence and given 3 attendance points. When a student accumulates 12 points, a conference will be scheduled between them, the LEAD Advisor, and the LEAD Coordinators. Absences and tardies can be excused only by Becca Calvillo LEAD Advisor. Please inform your facilitators and Becca Calvillo in a timely manner before the module if you will need an excused absence or excused tardy. Examples of excusable absences or tardies include: sports, illness, death in the family, religious holidays, school-sponsored activities, medical appointments and family emergencies. Examples of inexcusable absences include: attendance in-halls, study hours, clubs, and Residential Life programming.

Course Bibliography

1. Kraft, M. E., & Furlong, S. R. (2012). *Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives* (4th ed.). Washington, D.C.: CQ Press.
 - a. This is our main text for EnACT, from which we cite much of our content.
2. Mead, L. M. (2013). Teaching Public Policy: Linking Policy and Politics. *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, 19(3), 389-403.
 - a. http://www.naspaa.org/jpaemessenger/Article/VOL19-3/03_Mead.pdf
 - b. This article, by NYU public policy professor Dr. Lawrence Mead, describes in detail the value of a policy education which covers both policy theory and political implementation of policy.
3. Horn, J. (2013). Social Movements: Evolution, Definitions, Debates and Resources. *BRIDGE*.
 - a. <http://socialmovements.bridge.ids.ac.uk/sites/socialmovements.bridge.ids.ac.uk/files/07.%2020Social%20Movements.pdf>
 - b. This PDF, published by BRIDGE (a British organization which promotes women's equality worldwide) is the source for much of our Social Movements Module (#3-4). Please read the article if you wish to learn more.
4. This folder on Google Drive will link to module-by-module assignments, resources, and project examples.
 - a. <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0ByeIwVH1nu9lZfJqSmtDeTdkb1E&usp=sharing>