MISSION STATEMENT

Through a study of government, law, public policy, international relations, and area studies, our mission is to prepare students with knowledge and skills for a number of career possibilities, and to instill civic responsibility and leadership.

FACULTY

Rekha Datta, Professor and Freed Endowed Chair in the Humanities (Graduate Faculty).

Chair: Kenneth Mitchell, Department of Political Science and Sociology Sociology Program Director. Johanna Foster

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Faculty

Rekha Datta, Professor and Freed Endowed Chair in the Humanities (Graduate Faculty).

Interim Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs. B.A., M.A., Presidency College, University of Calcutta, India; Ph.D., University of Connecticut. Specialization in political theory, international relations, comparative politics of South Asia, East Asia, the United Nations, and women and the world. Research interests focus on issues of gender and development, traditional and human security issues, and child labor. In 2003 Dr. Datta received the Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award, the highest recognition for teaching at Monmouth University. She served on the county board of the American Association for University Women as Vice President for Public Policy until 2013. Since 2013, she has served on the Board of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth and Middlesex Counties. Founder of Women and Girls’ Education (WAGE) International, a New Jersey-based 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization, she is the Committee on Status of Representation and Diversity, International Studies Association. Author of: Beyond Realism: Human Security in India and Pakistan in the Twenty-First Century (2008, 2010); Why Alliances Endure: The United States-Pakistan Alliance, 1954-1971 (1994); co-editor, with Judith Komber, Women in Developing Countries: Assessing Strategies for Empowerment (2002). Advisor of Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Honor Society. Founder of the Institute for Global Understanding.

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Saliba Sarsar, Professor (Graduate Faculty). B.A., Monmouth University (Monmouth College); Ph.D., Rutgers University. Specialties are international relations, comparative government (Middle East), and American foreign policy. He is the co-author of two books: Ideology, Values, and Technology in Political Life (1994) and World Politics: An Interdisciplinary Perspective (1995); the editor of two books: Education for Leadership and Social Responsibility (1996) and Palestine and the Quest for Peace (2009); and the co-editor of three books: Principles and Pragmatism – Key Documents from the American Task Force on Palestine (2006), Patriarch Michel Sabbah – Faithful Witness: On Reconciliation and Peace in the Holy Land (2009), and Democracy in Africa: Political Changes and Challenges (2012). He guest edited a special issue of the International Journal of Political Sciences, Culture, and Society (2004), focusing on Palestinian-Israeli relations. Dr. Sarsar’s articles have appeared in Peace and Conflict Studies; Holy Land Studies; Palestine-Israel Journal of Politics; Middle East Studies Internet Resources; Clio’s Psyche; Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice; Middle East Quarterly; Jerusalem Quarterly File; Scandinavian Journal of Development Alternatives and Area Studies; Journal of South Asian and Middle East Studies; International Journal of Leadership; Journal of Leadership Studies; and Leadership and Organization Development Journal. Dr. Sarsar also has two published books of poetry: Crosswinds (1999) and Seven Gates of Jerusalem (2010). A third book of poetry, Portraits: Poems of the Holy Land, is awaiting publication.

sarsar@monmouth.edu

Nancy J Mezey, Professor (Graduate Faculty).
Courses

PS-CPE   Public Policy Comprehensive Exam  Credits: None
Prerequisite(s): PS-510, PS-515, PS-516, and PS-518
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Public Policy Comprehensive Exam. This is a pass/fail course.

PS-510   Policy Analysis  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): TPS
An overview of the field of public policy studies with particular attention
paid to the role of the policy analyst in the field of public policy. This
course provides a solid foundation for the study of public policy analysis
by concentrating on the five stages of the policy process, including
agenda setting, policy formulation, budgeting, policy implementation, and
policy evaluation.

PS-514   Public Opinion and Polling  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Students are taught how to use social science research methods to
critique and create polling surveys. Particular attention is paid to the data
collection and sample design, survey research methods, questionnaire
development, and data collection and analysis. Students are taught how
to evaluate the quality of survey research methods. Students will also be
designed, implement, and analyze an original polling survey.

PS-515   Public Policy Research Design  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Introduces students to the different research techniques widely practiced
in the field of public policy. Students will learn about the research
process, from conceptualization to operationalization and measurement.
Students examine the importance of writing the literature review and
articulating the research question; explore various research designs such
as experiments, survey research, and other methods for collecting data.
Other issues such as sampling, validity, and reliability are addressed.
Class discussions, exercises, readings, and other materials will equip
students with the skills to design a piece of policy research to, for
example, assess policy proposals, and programs.

PS-516   Research Methods  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Introduces students to widely used analytical and data presentation
methods in the field of public policy. Students will explore descriptive
and inferential statistics. Using Excel and Statistical Package for the
Social Sciences, students learn how to build a data set, how to acquire
secondary data, and how to clean and analyze data. Students will learn
about distributions and how to interpret findings. Determining whether
research findings are capable of making inferences is examined through
regression analysis. Data presentation techniques are addressed to
strengthen the skills of students to translate quantitative information to a
broad audience.

PS-518   Theory, Policy, Ethics  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Seeks to enable students to develop a critical understanding of the moral
and political values that come into play in public policy. Topics include
the tensions between ethics and politics in the tradition of political theory
as well as how they feature in contemporary public policy debates in
American and global politics. Students gain an understanding of the
role of ethics as a matter of social justice as well as ethical issues and dilemmas in professional ethics.

PS-522   History of Urbanization in America  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
Provides an interdisciplinary study of the history of urbanization and
industrialization in the United States from the mid-nineteenth century to
the early twentieth century. Using the themes of community, technology,
public policy, and immigration, students will examine the development
and changes in the social, physical, political, and economic urban
landscape. Also listed as HS-522.

PS-524   Public Opinion and the Media  Credits: 3
Term Offered: Summer Term
Course Type(s): None
An examination of the shifting nature of public opinion, the agenda-
setting role of mass media, and the survey methods that are employed
to determine public opinion. The practices, values, and traditions of
journalism that impact public opinion. Experience with the conduct of a
survey and analysis of case studies.

PS-525   Political Communication  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
The study of traditional and contemporary theories of rhetoric as applied
in research and analysis of political campaigns. The rhetorical creation,
maintenance, application, and legitimization of symbolic power. A
survey of analytic models of political communication and application
of the models to case studies. The role of the political communication
specialist. Practicum in political communication strategies and
techniques. Also listed as CO-525.

PS-530   Environmental Policy  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): None
A survey of the process by which environmental politics, planning, and
public policy is conducted in the United States and around the world. We
will examine the nature and scope of environmental, energy, and natural
resource problems; contrasting perspectives on their severity and policy
implications; the goals and strategies of the environmental movement
and public opinion on the environment; scientific, economic, political,
and institutional forces that shape policymaking and implementation;
approaches to environmental policy analysis; and selected issues in
environmental policy in the global community. In addition to the covering
of certain ecological science terms, the interplay between international
organizations, non-governmental organizations, and traditional states
and the ways in which these actors seek diplomatic solutions to
environmental problems is also covered.

PS-533   The History of Public Policy in the United States  Credits: 3
Term Offered: All Terms
Course Type(s): HSUS
The objective is to survey major issues in domestic public policy. The
emphasis is on changes in the process of policy formation in both the
public and private sectors. Also listed as HS-533.
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): None  
Credits: 3

Examines how policies affect a diverse spectrum of families based on class, race, gender, sexuality, age, and nationality. It begins with a historical perspective on how families have developed because of historical factors such as changing economy and technology. It also examines how social structures such as race, class, gender, and sexuality have shaped families. It then focuses on current issues facing families and the policies that regulate those issues, such as the balance between work and family, welfare, reproductive issues, violence, healthcare, and educational issues. A comparative approach will be taken to examine policies both in the U.S. and within other countries. Also discussed will be family activism aimed at affecting policy in the U.S.

PS-566 Comparative Public Policy  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): None  
Credits: 3

In the world in which terrorism and chaos threaten to upset the policymaking capabilities of state governments, it is vital that we understand the different ways that nations formulate and implement public policy. Through an extensive investigation of policy analysis across a broad spectrum of states, the student will be able to better understand the reasons for policy decisions around the world. Democratic governments will be compared and contrasted to non-democratic governments in an attempt to provide greater insight and answer questions of health, economic, environmental, and foreign policies.

PS-583 The Causes of War  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): None  
Credits: 3

A critical analysis of the general and recurring problems of war in human life; the course probes the direct and indirect causes of war by employing various analytical methods developed in political science as well as in sister disciplines of the social sciences.

PS-585 American Foreign Policy  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): None  
Credits: 3

Examines, analyzes, and evaluates the many dimensions and issues of American foreign policy since 1945. It provides an interpretative framework within which the sources of American action abroad may be understood. Combines descriptive and explanatory material with empirical evidence and makes a serious effort to distinguish facts from inferences, hypotheses, and opinions. The post-Cold War and post-9/11 worlds are assessed, with a focus on American goals, capabilities, and relationships around the world.

PS-595 Political Science Practicum  
Term Offered: All Terms  
Course Type(s): None  
Credits: 3

An opportunity to apply classroom theory in practice through actual work experience. Students have the opportunity to apply the theories and concepts of public policy to actual work settings.