Internet and Public Policy

Course prefix: PUBP

Course number: 4111

Section: HKK

CRN (you may add up to five):
90150

Instructor First Name: Hans

Instructor Last Name: Klein

Semester: Fall

Academic year: 2025

Course description:

This class analyzes policy implications of Internet architecture (Internet protocols, domain name system, packet switching, peer-to-peer) and surveys policy issues about content, privacy, intellectual property, and governance.

Course learning outcomes:

By the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Understand and apply the foundational norms listed in the Preamble of the US Constitution
2. Identify types of actors and the interactions that call for public policies
3. Identify functions common to governance institutions
4. Understand technology generally as it mediates social interactions
5. Understand specifically the technical architecture of the Internet
6. Understand number policy-related issues raised by the use of the Internet
7. Be capable of both static and dynamic analyses of Internet policy scenarios

Required course materials:

All materials are available as PDFs for download on Canvas.

No materials need to be purchased.

Grading policy:

Grades will be based on 3 quizzes, 3 memos, a final exam, and class participation.

Attendance policy:

One unexcused absence is allowed. Each additional unexcused absence reduces the final grade by 5 points.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

The course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social or geographic relationships develop, persist or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion