

PUBP 4111 and PUBP 6111 Syllabus

- **Internet & Public Policy**
- Section HK (summer) and HKK (fall)
- 3 Credits

Summer 2026 and Fall 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor: Prof. Hans Klein

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General Course Information

Description

This class surveys Internet issues in the foundational domains of US public policy, which are: life (social order and national defense,) liberty (defense of the individual against the state,) and the pursuit of happiness (prosperity and social justice.) We examine Internet harms that constitute crimes and torts; Internet capabilities that affect international relations, including warfare and subversion; Internet capabilities that increase state power over the individual; and Internet-related opportunities for prosperity and social justice. The class also examines institutions by which policies are promulgated and implemented.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to...

- Categorize Internet issues into the various foundational domains of public policy
- Categorize Internet issues into the different components of Internet architecture
- Categorize policy-making into the different stages of the policy process
- Understand the respective roles of rules and of administration
- Describe, explain, predict, and/or intervene in Internet policies and processes

Required Course Materials

- Articles, book excerpts, and news stories
- Some lectures may be pre-recorded, to be watched before class
- Readings will be available on Canvas; no textbook is required.

Grading Policy, Assignments, and Description of Graded Components

- 3 quizzes (each 10% of grade; total of 30%)
 - Short answer (multiple choice, true-false, etc.)
- 2 memos (each 20% of grade; total of 40%)
 - 5-7 pages each
- Final exam (20% of grade)
 - Short answer (multiple choice, true-false, etc.)
- In-class participation (10% of grade)
 - Students should speak at least twice per class

Course Policies

Attendance and/or Participation

- Two class absences (excused or unexcused) are allowed. Each further unexcused absence drops your final grade by 1 percentage point.
- Excused absences require documentation.
- For the summer version of this course, each 4-hour session counts as 3 classes, so 3 absences (excused or unexcused) are allowed.

Academic Integrity

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review [Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can

have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

Extra Credit Opportunities

- Extra credit is awarded when over 90% of the class performs a CIOS review.

Collaboration, Group Work, and Use of Generative AI

- Use of AI to write papers is not allowed. Papers must be run through AI detection software provided by the instructor.

Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

- Work must be completed by the deadline. Students with excuses may be given more time.

Student Use of Mobile Devices in the Classroom

- No mobile devices may be used during class.
- Students may use laptops during class, but if you are observed doing email, you will be counted as absent.

Undergraduate Student Academic Success Resources:

- Academic Support: Academic Success and Advising (a unit in the Office of Undergraduate Education & Student Success) provides free support for your courses. Students can attend scheduled supplemental review (PLUS) sessions, stop by Drop-In Tutoring, or schedule a one-on-one appointment through Knack. To explore what options work best for you, please visit us online at success.gatech.edu/tutoring, email us at tutoring@gatech.edu, or come see us at Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, Suite 283.

Graduate Student Academic and Professional Success Resources:

A list of resources for graduate students is given on the [Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Education](#) website. Specific information for [current graduate students](#) includes

- [Academic Resources](#) such as the Communications Center, Language Institute, Library, Catalog, Registrar, resources for conducting research, Advocacy and Conflict Resolution resources, and how to manage unexpected situations that may impact your academic performance;

- Student Resources such as Campus Services, Child Care/Family programs, Health & Wellness, Career Services, and the Student Resource Guide; and
- Professional Development such as *the programming from the Career Center and other professional development resources and events*”

Student Well-Being:

At Georgia Tech, we are concerned about your overall physical, social, and mental well-being. A comprehensive list of wellness related resources has been compiled and maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Student Engagement and Well-being (student-resource-guide (gatech.edu))

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