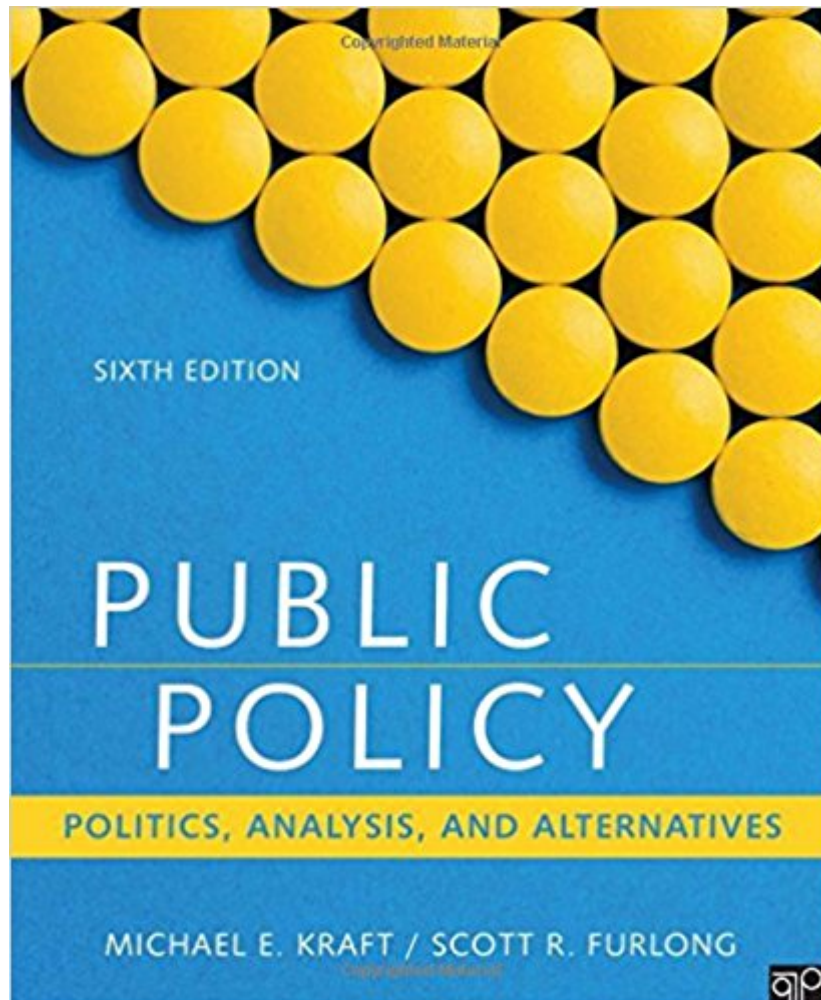




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# Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, And Alternatives (Sixth Edition)



## Synopsis

In *Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives*, students come to understand how and why policy analysis is used to assess policy alternatives. To encourage critical and creative thinking on issues ranging from the federal deficit to health care reform to climate change, authors Michael Kraft and Scott Furlong introduce and fully integrate an evaluative approach to policy. The Sixth Edition of *Public Policy* offers a fully revised, concise review of institutions, policy actors, and major theoretical models as well as a discussion of the nature of policy analysis and its practice. Both the exposition and data have been updated to reflect major policy controversies and developments through the end of 2016, including new priorities of the Donald Trump administration.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives is a great intro to public policy book that has a heavy focus on environmental policy and does an excellent job covering market failures and reasons for government intervention. The thematic approach is great for an academic class that stresses objective research into public problems and their possible solutions. There is considerable emphasis on critically thinking about sources and the policy actors involved in the process. This book does a good job of taking some of the controversy out of politics by being very fact based and evidence driven while also encouraging analysis." -- Katrina Taylor "The strength of *Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives* is that it is a very well organized book that covers many different aspects of public policy, the policy process and policy analysis. It takes a very rational approach to

the policy process, which it might be argued is often very irrational. This is a good introduction which provides a solid foundation. It covers all aspects from policy process to policy analysis. The chapters on the policy areas provide to students both historical insight and an understanding of current challenges in public policy." -- Ellen Rogers "Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives provides the most comprehensive coverage of the field of American public policy, including not just policy analysis, but also in-depth chapters on a variety of policy areas. It is very readable, and the terms are explained quite well." -- Philip Nicholas "Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives is a good introductory policy text that balances theory and issues, depth and breadth. I tried a number of other texts before landing on Kraft and Furlong. I wanted a text that balanced theory/process chapters and chapters on specific issues and that could be used by students with very little policy background. What I like best are the balance between theory and issues, and the accessible writing. The size and price are ideal for introductory students as well." -- Bruce Nesmith "Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives does a nice job of laying out the different competing models of public policy and then goes on and tackles topics in public policy one-by-one using whatever tools work best to make sense of the topic. The writing in this book is better than in most textbooks my students have, and students like to use this book." -- Steven Maloney

Michael E. Kraft is professor emeritus of political science and public affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. He is the author of, among other works, *Environmental Policy and Politics*, 6th ed. (2015) and coauthor of *Coming Clean: Information Disclosure and Environmental Performance* (2011), with Mark Stephan and Troy D. Abel. In addition, he is the coeditor of *Environmental Policy: New Directions in the 21st Century*, 9th ed. (2016), with Norman J. Vig; *Toward Sustainable Communities: Transition and Transformations in Environmental Policy*, 2nd ed. (2009), with Daniel A. Mazmanian; and *Business and Environmental Policy: Corporate Interests in the American Political System* (2007) and *The Oxford Handbook of U.S. Environmental Policy* (2013), with Sheldon Kamieniecki. He has long taught courses in environmental policy and politics, American government, Congress, and public policy analysis. Scott R. Furlong is dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and professor of political science and public affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. His areas of expertise are regulatory policy and interest group participation in the executive branch, and he has taught public policy for over twenty years. He is the author or coauthor of numerous book chapters and coauthor of *Rulemaking: How Government Agencies Write Laws and Make Policy*, 4th ed. (2011), with Cornelius M. Kerwin. His articles have appeared

in such journals as Public Administration Review, Journal of Public Administration, Research and Theory, Administrative Studies Quarterly, Administration and Society, American Review of Public Administration, and Policy Studies Journal.

I looked through many possible textbooks before selecting this one for my class. I especially like the materials on the Sage website to complement the book - quizzes, PP slides, discussion questions, etc.. Some of the videos could be better/more interesting, but otherwise the materials are all very good.

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