

# SYLLABUS PUBP 821

## TECHNOLOGY/SCIENCE/PUBLIC POLICY II Spring 2004

**Location:** To Be Determined  
**Time:** Monday, 4:30 - 7:10 p.m.  
**Instructor:** Don E. Kash  
**Office:** Finley 215  
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### SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

This seminar is the second half of the two-semester sequence required of students in the Science and Technology Policy concentration in the School of Public Policy. Typically, the seminar is devoted to the preparation by each student of an **original research** paper appropriate for publication in a professional journal. These papers should address important issues in science and technology policy.

In consultation with the instructor, each student will select an important issue for research, study, and writing. Paper topics may **not** relate directly to students' present employment.

Members of the seminar are expected to participate actively in research, writing, and oral presentations on their own work, as well as in written and oral critique of the work of other seminar members. These activities will require a substantial time commitment.

Each paper is expected to be nominally 10,000 words or about 40 pages in length, double-spaced, including illustrations, sources cited, and appendices, if any. (Illustrations are encouraged, in moderation.) The style must be consistent with best professional practice in the field of science and technology policy. The author will be responsible for identifying any elements of the paper drawn from the copyrighted literature that would require copyright clearance from the copyright holder. Both paper and electronic copies of the final paper must be provided to the instructor.

Each author will be responsible for preparing a formal briefing of his or her paper, including appropriate visual aids, and for presenting that briefing to a faculty and student committee at the end of the term.

In addition to the student research papers, the seminar will also discuss contemporary issues in U.S. science and technology policy, such as efforts by the federal government to enhance the innovative capacity and performance of American industry and the role of science and technology in national security. Readings from the literature will be discussed during the seminar.

## EVALUATION

The seminar grade will be determined in very large measure (approximately 75-80%) by the quality of the final paper. Consideration will also be given to the quality of the written and oral critiques and to the student's contributions to the intellectual life of the seminar. There will be no final examination.

## SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM

NOTE: Material in square brackets [] has been inserted by the instructor of PUBP 821.

All [written] work [submitted in fulfillment of the requirements of this course, including that submitted in electronic form or by means of other digital media] must be your own [unless explicit guidance to the contrary is provided by the instructor]. Inappropriate use of the work of others without attribution is plagiarism and a George Mason University Honor Code violation punishable by expulsion from the University. All students should familiarize themselves with this honor code provision. It can be found at (<http://www.gmu.edu/facstaff/handbook/aD.html>). To guard against plagiarism and to treat students equitably, written work may be checked against existing published materials or digital data bases available through various plagiarism detection services. Accordingly, materials submitted to all courses must be available in electronic format.

## SEMINAR MEETINGS

Most class meetings will be devoted to student presentations of work in progress, critiques of preliminary drafts by the instructor and fellow students, and discussions of the literature on science and technology policy.

## WEEK BY WEEK OUTLINE OF CLASSES

#1 January 26 [January 19: Observation of Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday. No class. Classes officially begin January 20.]

- Review of plans for writing papers.
- Selection of topics
- Discussion of sources and approaches

#2 February 2

- DUE: 2-page prospectus for the paper (topic, question, methods, sources, outline)***
- Discussion of the paper plans and prospecti

#3 February 9

-Review of progress

#4 February 16 (Presidents' Day) NO CLASS

#5 February 23

***DUE: Detailed outline of paper***

-Discussion of outlines

-Review of progress

#6 March 1

-Review of progress

-Discussion of papers from the literature

*Readings* To be determined

#7 March 8

-Review of progress

-Assignment of "lead reviewers" for each draft paper

-Discussion of papers from the literature

***DUE: Complete first drafts of papers***

(copies to be provided for instructor and all class members)

*Readings* To be determined

#8 March 15 (Spring Recess. No class)

#9 March 22

-Return of draft papers with instructor comments

-Discussion of draft papers, led by "lead reviewers," with participation by all

#10 March 29

-Review of progress

-Lecture: the evolution of U.S. technology policy: 1965-2003

#11 April 5

- Review of progress
- Discussion of papers from the literature

*Readings* To be determined

#12 April 12

- Discussion of progress on papers and of lessons learned in doing them
- Discussion of the nature of policy recommendations
  - Who should do what, under what authority, and with what resources?
- Lecture: the political economy of technology policy -- economic, political, constitutional and technological perspectives

#13 April 19

- Discussion of draft papers
- Lecture: Some functions of government

#14 April 26

- Discussion of draft papers
- Lecture: The variety of government roles in civilian technology development

#15 May 3 (last day of classes)

- Student presentation of papers
- Discussion of experiences with papers -- course evaluation

***DUE: Final papers***

Papers returned to students, with grades, approximately May 15.