Course title: Policy Lab-I: Sectoral Policy Scoping

Course code: PPS 130	**No. of credits:** 1	**L-T-P**: 10-00-10	**Learning hours:** 15

Pre-requisite course code and title (if any): None

Department: Department of Policy & Management Studies

Course coordinator(s): Mr. Shri Prakash	**Course instructor(s):** Mr. Shri Prakash

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Course Type: Core	**Course offered in:** Semester 1

Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with a practical environment to reflect upon the policy-relevant dimensions covered across the sectors and develop their skills to conduct evidence synthesis and scoping in order to identify key policy research questions. In the second part of this course, the students will take up some of the identified research questions to develop a policy paper considering their feasibility to be carried out. Some of the unattended research questions students may select for their dissertation work. This course is the first part of a two-part course that imparts practical knowledge of the processes of policymaking or developing a policy paper/brief. In this part, the students learn the initial process of identifying policy-relevant research questions through the scoping of literature and other evidence, and stakeholder consultation.

Course objectives

- To provide students with a platform to practically engage in evidence synthesis and systematically review the bibliographic databases and other sources of evidence to carry out a scoping exercise in the select policy-relevant domains.
- To equip students with the skill to identify and draft policy-relevant research questions based on the identified research gaps from the scoping exercise of the collated literature/evidence.
- To orient students to the relevance and essential conditions to carry out the stakeholder analysis including the process of identifying key stakeholders and critical research questions based on the discussions.
- To provide students with a platform to enhance their skills to conduct, moderate or lead the brainstorming sessions to extract critical research questions through reaching on consensus.

Course content

Module	Topic	L	T	P
1.	**Scoping of Policy Research Questions:** The students will be guided and instructed to identify policy-relevant research questions by scoping bibliographic databases, govt. reports, grey literature, and newspaper articles as per the context and domain under investigation. Based on the nature of policy domains or research investigation, the students would also conduct a stakeholder analysis to come up with critical issues for investigation. Based on the class size, the scoping activity and presentation of the outcome would be conducted in groups or as individual exercises.	10	0	10
	TOTAL	**10**	**0**	**10**

Evaluation criteria:

Course grades will be based on the following criteria:

- **Minor Test:** Presentation of Scoping Excercise (40%)
- **Major Test:** Submission of Review Paper (60%)

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students would be able to:

- enhance their practical skills to delineate policy dimensions across the domains.
- augment their understanding to develop relevant policy research questions through scoping of literature and other evidence.

Pedagogical approach:

Systematic literature review; content analysis; brainstorming sessions, group, or individual presentation, etc.

Suggested readings:
It is a practical exercise using the knowledge gained from other taught courses and through the review process. Relevant literature, reports, textbooks, case studies, journals, databases will be suggested to the students based on the context and requirements.

Student responsibilities:

- At least 75% attendance will be required.
- Active classroom participation; Critical reflections during Brainstorming Sessions; Equal participation of the participants working in a group.

Course prepared by: Dr. Chandan Kumar and Mr. Shri Prakash

Course reviewers

1. Dr. Sunil Pandey, Director, Circular Economy and Waste Management, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi, India.
2. Dr. Prashanth N. Srinivas, Director & Health Equity Cluster Lead, Institute of Public Health, Bengaluru, India.