

## **HIED 711/811**

### **Higher Education and Society**

#### **Course Description:**

**HIED 711/811. Higher Education and Society.** 3 credits. A graduate seminar that focuses on the socio-political contexts within which public policy for higher education is developed in the U.S. It examines who makes policy for higher education, how competing policy agendas are negotiated, and what broader forces affect the policy process. These issues are analyzed by examining major current higher education policy issues.

#### **Course Purpose:**

This course is intended to examine higher education within the socio-political contexts of the United States and individual states. The impact of the federal government's involvement in higher education, the impact of individual state public institution organization (e.g. state systems, separate governing boards, etc.), state fiscal policy and other governmental and societal forces. The impact of movements toward charter colleges and university systems, the impact of private institutions on state policy and other impacts may be included.

**Course Objectives/Competencies:** At the conclusion of this course, the enrolled student who regularly attends and actively participates in class will:

1. Be able to understand the impact of federal education policy on American Higher Education;
2. Be able to understand how state organization of higher education institutions impacts these institutions;
3. Be able to understand how state and federal fiscal policy impacts higher education;
4. Be able to understand the interplay between public and private higher education may impact the overall view of institutions within a state; and
5. Be able to understand how other societal factors such as media, ratings, impact of graduate education support and science impact higher education.

#### **Course Requirements:**

Each student will prepare a policy study that analyzes a significant contemporary or upcoming higher education policy issue and provides recommendations for action to an agency head. What is envisioned is a document like those prepared by higher education agency or congressional staffers that are intended to provide a through overview of the issue(s), suggest policy alternatives to address them, identify preferred options, estimates resource requirements, and recommends strategies to secure implementation.

**Class Attendance:** It is expected that students will attend all classes. This class will consist of readings that will be discussed and analyzed in class. As a result, if students miss class they may not gain the full benefit of these readings and the resulting discussions, case briefs, and presentations. If a student finds it necessary to miss class she/he should contact the instructor in advance except in emergency cases.

**Final Grade:** Grades in this class will be assigned in the following manner

1. Policy Study – 40%
2. Policy Study class presentations – 30%
3. Final Examination – 20%
4. Class attendance and participation – 10%

Grades will be assigned based upon the following scale:

92.1 to 100	=	A	90 to 92	=	A-
85 to 89.9	=	B+	80 to 84.9	=	B
78 to 79.9	=	B-	75 to 77.9	=	C+
70 to 74.9	=	C	68 to 69.9	=	C-

**Honors Pledge:** Each student is expected to abide by the honor system of Old Dominion University.

“I pledge to support the honor system of Old Dominion University. I will refrain from any form of academic dishonesty or deception, such as cheating or plagiarism. I am aware that as a member of the academic community, it is my responsibility to turn in all suspected violators of the honor system. I will report to Honor Council hearings if summoned.”

Office Hours: TBA

Course Sequencing: None

Course Readings:

Debora Stone, *The Art of Political Decision Making*, 2001 plus selected journal articles, book chapters, and documents.

Course Calendar/Topics:

1. Public Policy Development and Analysis
2. Equity Issues: Student Aid
3. Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity: Admissions
4. Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity: Faculty/Staff Recruitment and Hiring
5. Financing Higher Education
6. Accreditation and Public Accountability

7. Transferability of Credit
8. Reauthorization of Higher Education Legislation
9. Research Funding
10. System Governance