POLS 654: Contemporary Public Policies  
Issue Definition and Agenda Setting

Summer 2012  
Th 3:35-6:35  
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Course Requirements:

- Participation 25%
- Article summary 10
- Issue definition 20
- Research project 45

Required Texts:


Topics:

Introduction (1 week)

1. The Beginning of a Focus on Agenda Setting: (1 week)
   Required reading:
   Additional reading:
2. Issue Definition: (1 week)

Required reading:


Individual reading:


3. Policy Design: (2 weeks)
   Required reading:
   - For this topic, to illustrate the idea of social construction, show the TED talk by the model
   Individual reading:
   Additional reading:


4. Kingdon’s Theory of Agenda Setting: (2 weeks)
   Required reading:

5. Punctuated Equilibrium: (2 weeks)
   Required reading:
   Additional reading: