CLASS SCHEDULE

Subject to change

Fall 2022

November 10 – Class #1 – Introduction to the Semester in Washington program; Introductions; Review placements and housing arrangements; Review of one or more policy issues in the news; Discuss expectations for the Program, class materials, and ethical issues surrounding placements.

Readings & preparation: None

January 2023

24 – Class #2 – Welcome to the Program!  Introductions.  What is this semester all about?  Some of the themes: Policymaking; Leadership; Storytelling; Bureaucracy; Ethics; Greatness.  The plan and expectations for the Program and the class, and the requirements and grading for both.  Introduction to our framework for policy analysis and action.  Make interview assignments.

Readings & preparation: U.S. Department of Justice, Manual for Attorney-Advisers, Office of Legal Counsel (skim).  On Being (podcast), Priya Parker, Remaking Gathering: Entering the Mess, Crossing the Thresholds.

Come to class prepared to discuss whether HLS classes should have a policy around class discussions, how you went about deciding, and if you think so, what that policy should be.

26 – Class #3 – SPECIAL LOCATION –Carmine's Restaurant, 425 7th Street NW.  Dinner –with three members of the SiW Class of 2021 – to discuss the mission of, and your goals for, the Program and the class, the President's goals for the country, the State of the Union Address, and the first week of your placement.

Readings & preparation: On the Media (podcast), The Past and Present of Political Persuasion.  Prepare a three-minute story about something that happened in your life that has a connection to some policy issue.  Come to class prepared to share your goals for the semester and the class and beyond.  Research the background of Elizabeth Prelogar, the Solicitor General of the United States.  Send Sarah two interview questions that relate to our work and class.

31 – Class #4 – Review some of the ethical rules we face as government lawyers.  Prepare for our meeting with the Solicitor General.  As a government lawyer, who do we work for; who is our client; how do we go about analyzing/interpreting the law?  Assign dates and discuss first set of presentations.

Readings & preparation: Various authors, Principles to Guide the Office of Legal Counsel.  Pryor, The Separation of Powers and the Federal and State Executive Duty to Review the Law.   [U.S. v. McCall (6th Cir. 2022)](https://www.opn.ca6.uscourts.gov/opinions.pdf/22a0274p-06.pdf).  [Williams v. U.S. (petition for writ of certiorari).](https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/21/21-767/200748/20211119164259514_Williams%20Petition%20for%20Writ%20of%20Certiorari.pdf)  Start to think about the policy issue that will be the subject of your elevator pitch and final paper.

February

1 – Class #5 – SPECIAL DAY, TIME and LOCATION – 3:30 p.m. – Meeting with Elizabeth Prelogar, the Solicitor General of the United States (together with the Columbia Law School Semester in Washington Program; lead interviewer - Sarah).  Main Justice Building, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW; enter at the Visitor Center on Constitution Avenue, between 9th and 10th Streets.

Readings & preparation: Newland, I'm Haunted by What I Did as a Lawyer in the Trump Justice Department.  Goldsmith, Reflections on Government Lawyering.  Research the background of Neil Eggleston, former White House Counsel and partner at Kirkland and Ellis.  Send Anna two interview questions that relate to our work and class.

7 – Class #6 – Review our meeting with Elizabeth Prelogar.  Preparing a Policy Development Brief.  Our framework for analyzing policy analysis and action.  Case studies -- football concussions and CTE, criminal justice reform . . .  Discuss the elevator pitch assignment.  Two student presentations (Heather, Sarah).  Discuss the mission, goals and institutional dynamics of your agency and your specific component within the agency and the topic of your elevator pitch and your final paper.

Readings & preparation: U.S. Department of Justice, Memorandum on Presidential Authority to Decline to Execute Unconstitutional Laws.  U.S. v. Windsor (Parts I and II, Scalia Dissent).  Johnsen, Faithfully Executing the Law: Internal Legal Constraints on Executive Power.  Research the background of Chiraag Baines, Deputy Assistant to the President.  Send Christina two interview questions that relate to our work and class.

9 – Class #7 – SPECIAL TIME and LOCATION – 6:00 p.m. – Meeting with Neil Eggleston, former White House Counsel and partner at Kirkland and Ellis (together with the Columbia Law School Semester in Washington Program; lead interviewer - Anna).  Kirkland and Ellis, 1301 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Readings & preparation: Bardach, A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis: Begin Part I.  Deresiewicz, Solitude and Leadership.  Research the background of Roy Austin, Vice President for Civil Rights and Deputy General Counsel at Facebook.  Send Jayee two interview questions that relate to our work and class.

Week of February 13 – A team from the HLS Office of Communications will be in DC.

13 – Class #8 – SPECIAL DAY, TIME and LOCATION – 5:30 p.m. – Meeting with Chiraag Baines, Deputy Assistant to the President (together with the Columbia Law School Semester in Washington Program; lead interviewer - Christina).  White House.

Readings & preparation: Collins, Good to Great and the Social Sectors, Why Business Thinking is Not the Answer.

14 – Class #9 – Review our meetings with Chiraag Baines and Neil Eggleston.  The Elevator Pitch, Policy Edition assignment.

Readings & preparation: Prepare a 60 second policy elevator pitch.  Research the background of Judge Carleton Reeves of the Southern District of Mississippi and Chair of the United States Sentencing Commission.  Send Janet two interview questions that relate to our work and class.

16 – Class #10 – SPECIAL TIME and LOCATION – 4:00 p.m. – Meeting with Roy Austin, Vice President for Civil Rights and Deputy General Counsel at Meta (together with the Columbia Law School Semester in Washington Program; lead interviewer - Jayee).  Meta's DC offices, 575 7th Street NW.

Readings & preparation: On Being (podcast), Daniel Kahneman, Why We Contradict Ourselves and Confound Each Other.  Goldberg, The Enduring Power of Story.  Wilson, Bureaucracy, Chapters 1-2.  Bardach, A Practical Guide for Policy Analysis: Finish Part I.

21 – OPTIONAL – Meeting with Chief Judge Howell of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and attendance at her January 6th trial.

Readings & preparation: Wilson, Bureaucracy, Chapters 3-4.  Packer, The President is Winning His War on American Institutions.

22 – Classes #11 & 12 – SPECIAL DAY, TIMES and LOCATIONS:

9:00 a.m. – Supreme Court oral argument in Twitter v. Taamneh.  You can find the history of the case and the briefing at SCOTUSblog: <https://www.scotusblog.com/case-files/cases/twitter-inc-v-taamneh/>.  We will also grab lunch at the Court and take a one-hour tour of the Court at 1:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. – Meeting with Judge Carleton Reeves of the Southern District of Mississippi and Chair of the United States Sentencing Commission (lead interviewer - Janet).  U.S. Sentencing Commission, One Columbus Circle NE (next to Union Station).

Readings & preparation: Read the parties' briefs in Twitter v. Taamneh.  Research the background of Ally Coll, President and Co-Founder of The Purple Campaign.  Send Ash two interview questions that relate to our work and class.

27 – Class #13 – SPECIAL DAY – Meeting with Ally Coll, President and Co-Founder of The Purple Campaign and member of the Semester in Washington Class of 2016 (together with some of the Columbia Law School Semester in Washington Program; lead interviewer - Ash).

Readings & preparation: Wilson, Bureaucracy, Chapters 5-6.

March

2 – Class #14 – Review our Supreme Court visit and our meetings with Roy Austin, Chief Judge Howell, Judge Reeves, and Ally Coll.  Discuss Policy Development Brief.

Readings & preparation:

6 – Class #15 – SPECIAL DAY – Two student presentations (Fatema, Ash).

Readings & preparation: Talking points examples.  Work on your Policy Development Brief.

9 – Class #16 – Two student presentations (Anna, Jayee).

Readings & preparation: Policy Development Brief due (flexible, with March 22nd the final and firm deadline).

13-17 Spring Break

21 – Class #17 – Talking points.  Two student presentations (Christina, Janet).  Update on compassionate release project.

Readings & preparation: Haidt, The Age of Outrage.  Packer, Hillary Clinton and the Populist Revolt.  Research the background of Senator Ed Markey.  Send Heather two interview questions that relate to our work and class.

22 – Class #18 – SPECIAL DAY, TIME and LOCATION (just a different conference room) – 6 p.m. – Conference Room #9A – Drinks, hors d'oeuvres and meeting with lawyers from Morrison & Foerster.

Readings & preparation: Work on your final presentation and paper.

28 – Class #19 – SPECIAL TIME and LOCATION – 4:15 p.m. – Meeting with Senator Ed Markey (and maybe some of his staff; together with the Columbia Law School Semester in Washington Program; lead interviewer - Heather).  255 Dirksen Senate Building

Readings & preparation: Work on your final presentation and paper.

29, 30 – Class #20 – Individual meetings to discuss your final presentation and paper.  Sign up for a time slot here.  Assign final presentation dates.

Readings & preparation: Work on your final presentation and paper.  Bring your talking points on your final presentation to your meeting.

April

3 – No class.

Readings & preparation: Work on your final presentation and paper.

6 – No class.

Readings & preparation: Work on your final presentation and paper.

11 – Class #21 – Review our meetings with lawyers from Morrison & Foerster and with Senator Markey.  Three student presentations (Heather, Sarah, Fatema).

Readings & preparation: Work on your final presentation and paper.

13 – Class #22 – Three student presentations (Jayee, Ash, Janet).

Reading & Preparation: Work on your final presentation and paper.

18 – Class #23 – Two student presentations (Christina, Anna).

Reading & Preparation: Work on your final presentation and paper.

20 – Class #24 – SPECIAL TIME AND LOCATION – 6 p.m. – The Monocle on Capitol Hill, 107 D Street NE – Dinner to celebrate our Semester in Washington.

Reading & Preparation: Work on your final presentation and paper.

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FINAL PAPER DUE: May 5, 2023.