

New York University
Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service
Doctoral Research Colloquium, Fall 2018
Professor Brian Elbel

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Meeting Times and Places:

The regular meeting time for the Colloquium is mostly on Thursdays from 12:30 – 2pm in the Rudin Conference Room on the 2nd floor of the Puck Building, with 2 sessions on Monday (12:30-2pm as well), and one extended session on Thursday (12:30-2pm). In addition, one class session will be held for enrolled students at the beginning of the semester (12:30-1pm on September 20th) and then again at the end of the semester at a date TBD, see schedule below.

Course Schedule:

The seminar schedule is below. You must attend and participate in these discussions. Further, students are expected to meet with speakers from outside of the Wagner community immediately following their talks at 2pm.

Note on the meetings with the speakers: Please note that the chance to meet with, engage with and, even in some ways, interview the speakers is not to be taken lightly. Speakers are often world class scholars and will often remember these interactions. You can learn a lot from them and I urge you to take these meetings seriously. Please remember that you are representing not only yourself but NYU/Wagner, and being unprepared or otherwise unengaged will be a real problem.

Assignments:

First, I expect your active participation in the colloquium. This does not mean you will be expected to ask questions in every seminar, and we'll discuss more in the opening session what this entails. Second, before each formal presentation, students are required to read the paper that will be presented (when available; they generally will be available but not always) and submit to me two questions about the work. These could be questions that probe methods, consider next steps and/or otherwise get at what you think are the most critical (in a positive or negative sense) aspects of the paper. The questions do not at all have to be long but do need to be thoughtful. You should submit these to me by 5pm Wednesday the day before the Thursday seminar, uploaded via NYU Classes. Third, students are required to submit a critique of two of the papers presented during the semester. The critiques are due one week after the seminar in which the paper is discussed. You can pick any of the papers you want.

The critique should be 2-4 pages. You can assume that I'm familiar with the paper and do not need to summarize the contents. Instead, I want you to get at what you think are the most important and/or critical aspects of the paper. These could run the gamut from: I think there was a critical error in the model; they did not frame the premise in the right way; they ignored this aspect of the literature; the

implications are wrong/important/unclear and here is why; this is a huge contribution to this literature. I'm really interested not in the small minutia of the operationalization of a single variable (unless you think that this IS one of the most important aspects) but more what you think the big takeaways or important points from the paper include, in the positive or negative direction. Give your reasoning.

Grading:

Class Participation and questions submitted: 40%

Written Critiques 60%

Seminar Schedule

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Barry Rabe

J. Ira and icki Harris Family Professor of Public Policy;

Arthur F. Thurnau Professor;

Professor of Environmental Policy; Professor of Political Science; Professor of the Environment;

Director, Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy

Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan

<http://fordschool.umich.edu/faculty/barry-rabe>

**NOTE DAY: Monday, September 17, 2018 - 12:30-2pm (Joint Program with Urban Seminar)*

Matthew Desmond

Professor of Sociology, Princeton University

<https://sociology.princeton.edu/people/matthew-desmond>

Thursday, September 13, 2018

Kickoff Session with Brian Elbel

Lafayette Conference Room at Puck Building, 12:30-1pm

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Robert Bifulco Jr.

Associate Dean, Chair and Professor, Public Administration and International Affairs

The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University

https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/pa/cpr/Bifulco,_Robert/

Thursday, October 4, 2018

Justin Sydnor

Leslie P. Schultz Professor in Risk Management and Insurance

Wisconsin School of Business

<https://bus.wisc.edu/faculty/justin-sydnor>

Thursday, October 11, 2018 *NOTE TIME: 12 -2pm

Robert Collinson

Anubhav Gupta

Bryant Hopkins

Wagner Doctoral Students

Note: will take place from 12-2pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018

Loren B. Landau

South African Research Chair: Mobility and the Politics of Difference
African Centre for Migration & Society, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg
Visiting Scholar at Princeton University's Institute for International and Regional Studies
<http://www.migration.org.za/loren-b-landau/>

*NOTE DAY: Monday, October 29, 2018 - 12:30-2pm (*Joint Program with Urban Seminar*)

Charles Branas

Anna Cheskis and Murray Charles Gelman Professor of Epidemiology, Columbia University
<https://www.mailman.columbia.edu/people/our-faculty/ccb2166>

Thursday, November 15, 2018 *NOTE TIME: 2:30 - 4

Joshua Angrist

Ford Professor of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
<http://www.migration.org.za/loren-b-landau/>

Note: will take place from 2:30-4pm

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Craig Volden

Professor of Public Policy and Politics, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Director of the Center for Effective Lawmaking
Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, University of Virginia
<http://batten.virginia.edu/school/people/craig-volden>