Contents

List of Figu Acknowleds	
Part I	Methodology, Theory, and Context in Public Policy Research 1
Chapter 1	Introduction: Why Study Public Policy? 2 Overview of the Book 2 Public Policy Defined 4 Methodological Implications for Studying Public Policy 7 The Policy Cycle Framework: An Applied Problem-Solving Model of the Policy Process 1 Structure of the Book 14 Study Questions 15 Further Readings 16
Chapter 2	Understanding Public Policy: Theoretical Approaches 17 Evolution of the Policy Sciences 17 Approaches to Public Policy Analysis: Positivism and Post-Positivism 20 Approaches to Public Policy Studies: Multi-Level, Multi-Disciplinary 31 Conclusion 48 Study Questions 49 Further Readings 49
Chapter 3	The Policy Context 50 Introduction: Institutions, Ideas, and Actors 50 The Political-Economic Context 52 Policy-Making in the Liberal-Democratic Capitalist State 57 The International System and Public Policy 75 Policy Subsystems and Policy Regimes: Integrating Institutions, Ideas, and Actors 81 Conclusion 87 Study Questions 88
	Further Readings 88

Part II The Five Stages of the Policy Cycle 91

Chapter 4 Agenda-Setting 92

The Objective Construction of Policy Problems:
The Role of Social Conditions and Structures 93

The Subjective Construction of Policy Problems:
The Role of Policy Actors and Paradigms 96

Combining Ideas, Actors, and Structures in Multi-Variable Models of Agenda-Setting 99

Modes of Agenda-Setting 101

Linking Agenda-Setting Modes to Content:
Policy Windows and Policy Monopolies 10:

Conclusion: Revisiting Agenda-Setting Modes through a Policy Subsystem Lens 107

Study Questions 108

Further Readings 108

Chapter 5 Policy Formulation: Policy Instruments and Policy Design 110

What Is Policy Formulation? 110

The Phases of Policy Formulation 111

The General Content of Policy Formulation 112

The Substance of Policy Formulation: Policy Instruments 114

Common Policy Tools by Category 117

The Nature of Policy Alternatives 135

Conclusion: Understanding Policy Formulation Styles as a Function of Policy Regimes 137

Study Questions 138

Further Readings 138

Chapter 6 Public Policy Decision-Making 139

Actors in the Decision-Making Process 140

Choices: Negative, Positive, and Non-Decisions 141

Early Models of Decision-Making: Rationalism and Incrementalism 142

Efforts to Move beyond Rationalism and Incrementalism 149

Conclusion: Revisiting Public Policy Decision-Making Modes 154

Study Questions 158

Further Readings 159

Chapter 7 Policy Implementation 160

Actors and Activities in Policy Implementation 160
Implementation Theory 163
Implementation as Policy Design:
Instrument Choices and Policy Mixes 168
Implementation Styles and Long-Term Instrument

Implementation Styles and Long-Term Instrument Preferences 173

Conclusion: Subsystem Complexity and Issue Tractability as
Key Determinants of Implementation Success and Failure 175
Study Questions 177
Further Readings 177

Chapter 8 Policy Evaluation: Policy-Making as Learning 178

Positivist and Post-Positivist Policy Evaluation 178
Policy Evaluation as Policy Learning 179
Actors in the Policy Evaluation Process 183
Types of Policy Evaluation 185
The Outcomes of Policy Evaluation: Policy Feedback and Policy Termination 191
Linking Policy Evaluation and Learning:
Evaluation Styles in Government 192
Conclusion: The Key Role of Evaluation and Feedback in the Policy Cycle 195
Study Questions 195
Further Readings 196

Part III Long-Term Policy Dynamics 197

Chapter 9 Patterns of Policy Change 198

Outcomes of Policy Succession: Policy Feedback and
Policy Termination 199

Types of Policy Change: Normal and Atypical 202

Conclusion 209

Study Questions 210

Further Readings 211

Notes 212 Bibliography 216 Index 292