PA5422
Diversity and Public Policy

Analyzing and integrating diversity in contemporary policy, organizations, and businesses.

In-person, Spring 2022
3 credits | Thursdays 6-8:45pm

- What is Diversity?
- What role does it play in public policy? What role should it play?
- Whom does diversity Include...or Exclude?

We will apply a policy analysis lens to exploring how diversity interacts with, contributes to, and is impacted by policy. The interdisciplinary course readings draw from topics such as gender identity, intersectionality, socio-economic class, race and ethnicity, indigenous ways of knowing, sexual orientation, and disability.

Guest speakers will provide their expertise and insights about diversity from their own work in government, university, and non-profit organizations.

In this course students will examine the evolution of difference and diversity, explore various domains of diversity (gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, class), and synthesize and apply this knowledge to the development of a policy brief that focuses on a particular policy or organizational problem. In addition to instructor lectures, students will work in teams to prepare and deliver classroom presentations based on course readings.

This course is highly participatory. Students will engage with the instructor, guest speakers, and their classmates through seminar discussions and peer feedback on briefs. The lived experience and ways of knowing that students bring to class will form an important part of our learning experience. Students in this course will engage in a hands-on learning experience in which they will apply what they know about diversity to public policy and public affairs.

Who Should Take This Class?
Graduate students (MPP, MPA, MDP, MURP, MHR, MS-STEP, PhD) and upper-level undergraduates who are interested in an interdisciplinary approach that focuses on how to analyze and integrate diversity into policy analysis.

Instructor:
David G. Stanton, PhD candidate in Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Design (College of Education and Human Development) stant171@umn.edu
David Stanton has worked as TA and RA with Dr. Samuel L. Myers, Jr. in the Roy Wilkins Center for four years. He integrates his own professional experience in theatre, technology, and education policy and leadership with the Roy Wilkins Center’s focus on solutions to racial and ethnic inequality.