

**GRADUATE SEMINAR:  
POLICY DIFFUSION—THEORY AND ANALYSIS  
POLS 559  
Fall 2021**

Instructor: Chris Mooney  
Class time: Mondays, 4:00-6:30PM  
Classroom: BSB 1171—IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION (unless and until further notice)  
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Office hours: M 1-3pm, and by appointment

How does a policy of one government influence the policy of another government? Governments might learn from one another's experiences, as when Brazil sees how successful Chile's social security system has been. Governments might coerce each other, as when the US federal government extorted the states to raise their drinking ages to 21. Or perhaps governments compete with one another, as when cities across state borders from one another try to undercut each other's tax rates.

These and countless other examples exist of policy diffusion—when the policy of one government impacts policy decisions made elsewhere. Some of these relationships are fairly straightforward, as when the French central government commands its local governments to pursue some policy. But most of these relationships are far more complex and nuanced. And exploring these nuances can tell us much about policymaking, power, and policy effectiveness.

There is a vast literature on policy and innovation diffusion in social sciences from anthropology to sociology, dating back over 100 years. And in the past 50 years, political scientists have made substantial headway explaining intergovernmental policy influence by using the insights of that more general literature. The range of theoretically interesting and substantively important questions that this line of inquiry has developed is substantial. The 21<sup>st</sup> century has witnessed a particularly productive period in this literature in the fields of American politics, comparative politics, and urban politics.

In this seminar, we will both review the policy diffusion literature and contribute to it. For eight weeks, we will read and discuss the substantive literature in seminar. We will then spend two weeks learning about and practicing the statistical methods currently used in this field, including Event History Analysis, Directed-Dyadic Event History Analysis, and network analysis, along with the data management issues that are prominent here. **Students will then undertake an original policy diffusion analysis, resulting in a final paper for the seminar that is of publishable quality.**

I come from the world of state policy diffusion, which represents a large literature, but the study of diffusion processes has also been widely used in the urban politics, comparative politics, and international relations literatures. Therefore, I try to include some state, urban, and comparative readings in each week. I also list an especially long “additional readings” section for most weeks, including a variety of works from each of these three literatures. This will help guide you to the literature you are most interested in, as well as offering you insights into how a given substantive process has been studied in different contexts.

**Prerequisites:**

Students must meet the following two prerequisites to be admitted to the course:

- 1.) Graduate student status, and
- 2.) Two progressive courses in statistical analysis (e.g., POLS 401 and 501).

Prospective students should contact the professor to discuss whether their statistical background is sufficient. Email him at [cmoon1@uic.edu](mailto:cmoon1@uic.edu)

**Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:**

My three objectives for this course are:

1. To introduce you to the rich body of political science scholarship on policy and innovation diffusion in the contexts of the U.S. states, comparative politics, and urban politics,
2. To help you develop the hands-on methodological skills needed to test hypotheses about diffusion, and
3. To help you make an original contribution to the policy diffusion literature in your field.

**Course Format:**

The course will run with four distinct components:

- Weeks 1-9: Traditional seminar format with an intense discussion of the papers we are reading.
- Weeks 10-11: Lecture and computer lab work on statistical techniques associated with this literature. Your POLS colleague, Isaac Pollert, will lead class in these weeks.
- Weeks 12-13: Period to work on your research paper—no class.
- Weeks 14-15: Student presentations of their papers.

Each week:

1. Everyone will read carefully in advance of class the required readings for that week from the syllabus.
2. Then, in class, especially for the seminar portion of the course, we will all summarize, critique, and debate these articles.

**Therefore, I cannot stress enough how vital it is that all students read all the required material carefully each week before class.**

To facilitate class discussion, you will email me a set of **six discussion questions** on the readings **each week** before class for **Weeks 2-9**. These questions will be useful in stimulating both class discussion and your own thinking about the week's readings. Email your questions to me ([cmoon1@uic.edu](mailto:cmoon1@uic.edu)) by 2:00pm the day of class (hopefully earlier). **NO LATE QUESTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR CREDIT.** Of these six questions, I **suggest** that:

- Three questions focus on particular articles (i.e., write specific questions on three different articles), and
- The other three questions relate to the entire body of work we read for that week or a portion of those readings.

**NOTE:** You are responsible to turn in these questions even if you miss class for any reason.

**Course Readings:**

Most weeks, we will read a section from the following:

Mooney, Christopher Z. 2021. *The Study of State Policy Diffusion: What Hath Walker Wrought?*  
New York: Cambridge University Press.

This “book” is very short and cheap—it will be cheaper to Xerox it than to buy it, probably. Therefore, I haven’t ordered it at the bookstore. Just buy it online cheaply or Xerox it.

All the other required readings are available on the Blackboard website for this course (<http://bb.uic.edu>) as pdf’s. It is your responsibility to access the required articles far enough in advance of class to read them carefully. If you ever have any problem with Blackboard, e-mail me immediately so that I can fix it. Technical difficulties with Blackboard are no excuse for not being prepared for class. Of course, there are other ways to access these readings besides our Blackboard site, such as Daley Library (<https://library.uic.edu/libraries/daley>), Google Scholar, or directly through a given journal’s website

### **Graded Assignments:**

I will evaluate your success in the course on the following work activities and products:

- Informed in-class participation and attendance, including the demonstration of a careful reading of the weekly course materials,
- Your discussion questions on the readings for Weeks 2-9,
- Two preliminary memos about your research paper (see assignment handout),
- A formal oral presentation of your paper to the class, and
- A publishable empirical research paper that tests a hypothesis(es) derived from the policy diffusion literature (see assignment handout).

Your final course grade will be based on the following weighting of these components:

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| • Informed class participation                      | 10% |
| • Discussion questions                              | 10% |
| • Preliminary work for the research paper:          |     |
| ○ Research question and hypothesis development memo | 10% |
| ○ Data and research design memo                     | 10% |
| ○ Oral presentation of paper to class               | 10% |
| • Empirical research paper                          | 50% |

My general practice is to mark your papers electronically and email them back to you within one week of receiving them. So please submit your papers to me as Word documents via email attachment. If you have any problem with this, let me know. I will type fairly extensive comments on your papers to provide you with suggestions for improving them. This is especially important because of the cumulative nature of some of these assignments.

### **Social Justice Statement:**

UIC is committed to social justice. I heartily share this commitment and expect to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication and mutual respect. Any suggestions as to how to enhance such an environment will be appreciated and given serious consideration.

### **Accommodating People with Disabilities:**

UIC and I are committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that people with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at UIC. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) who will provide instructions for me. Please do this as early in the semester as possible for maximum accommodation. Contact DRC at (312) 413-2183 (voice) or (312) 413- 0123 (TDD) for further information.

### **Academic Integrity:**

UIC and I are dedicated to learning and research, and hence we are committed to truth and accuracy. Integrity and intellectual honesty in scholarship and scientific investigation are of paramount importance. These standards require intellectual honesty in conducting research, writing up research results, and relations with colleagues. The University has specific definitions of misconduct (such as plagiarism, falsification of data, etc.), procedures used for the investigation of charges, and the consequences of that conduct. Students are governed by the Student Disciplinary Policy ([https://dos.uic.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/262/2020/01/DOS\\_Student-Disciplinary-Policy-2020.pdf](https://dos.uic.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/262/2020/01/DOS_Student-Disciplinary-Policy-2020.pdf)).

### **Course Schedule and Readings**

#### **Week 1 (August 23): What Is Policy Diffusion?—The Classics**

Required:

- Mooney, Christopher Z. 2021. *The Study of State Policy Diffusion: What Hath Walker Wrought?* New York: Cambridge University Press, chapter 1.
- Walker, Jack L. 1969. "The Diffusion of Innovations among the American States." *American Political Science Review* 63(3):880-99.
- Rose, Richard. 1991. "What Is Lesson-Drawing?" *Journal of Public Policy* 11(1):3-30.
- Dolowitz, David, and David Marsh. 1996. "Who Learns What from Whom: A Review of the Policy Transfer Literature." *Political Studies* 44(2):343-57.
- De Oliveira, Osmany Porto, and Carlos Aurelio Pimenta De Faria. 2017. "Policy Transfer, Diffusion, and Circulation." *Novos Estudos* 36(1):13-32.
- Knoke, David. 1982. "The Spread of Municipal Reform: Temporal, Spatial, and Social Dynamics." *American Journal of Sociology* 87(6):1314-39.
- Simmons, Beth A., Frank Dobbin, and Geoffrey Garrett. 2006. "Introduction: The International Diffusion of Liberalism." *International Organization* 60(Fall):781-810.
- Volden, Craig, Michael M. Ting, and Daniel P. Carpenter. 2008. "A Formal Model of Learning and Policy Diffusion." *American Political Science Review* 102(3):319-32.

Additional readings:

- Dolowitz, David P., and David Marsh. 2000. "Learning from Abroad: The Role of Policy Transfer in Contemporary Policy-Making." *Governance* 13(1):5-24.
- Boushey, Graeme. 2010. *Policy Diffusion Dynamics in America*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Eyestone, Robert. 1977. "Confusion, Diffusion, and Innovation." *American Political Science Review* 71(2):441-47.
- Rogers, Everett M. 2003. *Diffusion of Innovations*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: Free Press.
- Savage, Robert L. 1978. "Policy Innovativeness as a Trait of American States." *Journal of Politics* 40(1):212-224.
- Berry, Frances Stokes, and William D. Berry. 1990. "State Lottery Adoptions as Policy Innovations: An Event History Analysis." *American Political Science Review* 84(2):395-415.

- Karch, Andrew. 2007. "Emerging Issues and Future Directions in State Policy Diffusion Research." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 7(1):54-80.
- Crain, Robert L. 1966. "Fluoridation: The Diffusion of an Innovation among Cities." *Social Forces* 44(4):467-76.
- Weyland, Kurt. 2009. *Bounded Rationality and Policy Diffusion: Social Sector Reform in Latin America*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Graham, Erin R., Charles R. Shipan, and Craig Volden. 2013. "The Diffusion of Policy Diffusion Research in Political Science." *British Journal of Political Science* 43(3):673-701.
- Shipan, Charles R., and Craig Volden. 2008. "The Mechanisms of Policy Diffusion." *American Journal of Political Science* 52(4):840-57.
- Gray, Virginia. 1973. "Innovation in the States: A Diffusion Study." *American Political Science Review* 67(4):1174-85.
- Walker, Jack L. 1973. "Comment (on Gray)." *American Political Science Review* 67(4):1186-91.
- Minkman, E., M.W. van Buuren, and V.J.J.M. Bekkers. 2018. "Policy Transfer Routes: An Evidence-Based Conceptual Model to Explain Policy Adoption." *Policy Studies* 39(2):222-50.

## **Week 2 (August 30): Learning**

### Required:

- Mooney, Christopher Z. 2021. *The Study of State Policy Diffusion: What Hath Walker Wrought?* New York: Cambridge University Press, section 2.1.
- Meseguer, Covadonga. 2006. "Rational Learning and Bounded Learning in the Diffusion of Policy Innovations." *Rationality and Society* 18(1):35-66.
- James, Sarah. 2021. "Mea Culpa? The Role of Data Collection in Public Officials Acknowledging Policy Failure." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*. Forthcoming.
- Volden, Craig. 2006. "States as Policy Laboratories: Emulating Success in the Children's Health Insurance Program." *American Journal of Political Science* 50(2):294-312.
- Weyland, Kurt. 2005. "Theories of Policy Diffusion: Lessons from Latin American Pension Reform." *World Politics* 57(January):262-95.
- Butler, Daniel M., Craig Volden, Adam M. Dynes, and Boris Shor. 2017. "Ideology, Learning, and Policy Diffusion: Experimental Evidence." *American Journal of Political Science* 61(1):37-49.
- Gilardi, Fabrizio. 2010. "Who Learns What in Policy Diffusion Processes?" *American Journal of Political Science* 54(3):650-66.
- Zhang, Youlang, and Xufeng Zhu. 2019. "Multiple Mechanisms of Policy in China." *Public Management Review* 21(4):495-514.

### Additional reading:

- Smith, Kelly B. 2019. "Learning without Widespread Policy Adoption: Early Childhood Education in the American States." *Publius* 50(1):3-29.
- Clark, Cal, Charles E. Menifield, and LaShonda M. Stewart. 2017. "Policy Diffusion and Performance-Based Budgeting." *International Journal of Public Administration* 41(7):528-34.
- Pacheco, Julianna. 2012. "The Social Contagion Model: Exploring the Role of Public Opinion on the Diffusion of Antismoking Legislation across the American States." *Journal of Politics* 74(1):187-202.
- Pacheco, Julianna. 2013. "The Thermostatic Model of Responsiveness in the American States." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 13(3):306-32.
- Volden, Craig. 2016. "Failures: Diffusion, Learning, and Policy Abandonment." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 16(1):44-77.

- Nicholson-Crotty, Sean, and Sanya Carley. 2016. "Effectiveness, Implementation, and Policy Diffusion: Or 'Can We Make That Work for Us?'" *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 16(1):78-97.
- Glick, David M., and Zoe Friedland. 2014. "How Often Do States Study Each Other? Evidence of Policy Knowledge Diffusion." *American Politics Research* 42(6):956-85.
- Shipan, Charles R., and Craig Volden. 2008. "The Mechanisms of Policy Diffusion." *American Journal of Political Science* 52(4):840-57.
- Shipan, Charles R., and Craig Volden. 2014. "When the Smoke Clears: Expertise, Learning and Policy Diffusion." *Journal of Public Policy* 34(3):357-87.
- Pollert, Isaac, and Christopher Z. Mooney. 2021. "When (and What) Will They Learn? Intergovernmental Learning and Abortion Policy Diffusion in the U.S. States, 1993-2016." Presented at the virtual meetings of the Southern Political Science Association (January 9).

### **Week 3 (September 6): LABOR DAY—NO CLASS**

### **Week 4 (September 13): Emulation**

Required:

- Mooney, Christopher Z. 2021. *The Study of State Policy Diffusion: What Hath Walker Wrought?* New York: Cambridge University Press, section 2.3.
- Gilardi, Fabrizio, Charles R. Shipan, and Bruno Wueest. 2021. "Policy Diffusion: The Issue-Definition Stage." *American Journal of Political Science* 65(1):21-35.
- Braun, Dietmar, and Fabrizio Gilardi. 2006. "Taking 'Galton's Problem' Seriously: Towards a Theory of Policy Diffusion." *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 18(3):298-322.
- Gronow, Antti, Maria Brockhaus, Monica Di Gregorio, Aasa Karimo, and Tuomas Yla-Anttila. 2021. "Policy Learning as Complex Contagion: How Social Networks Shape Organizational Beliefs in Forest-Based Climate Change Migration." *Policy Sciences*. Forthcoming.
- Kollman, Kelly. 2017. "Pioneering Marriage for Same-Sex Couples in the Netherlands." *Journal of European Public Policy* 24(1):100-18.
- Bricker, Christine, and Scott LaCombe. 2021. "The Ties that Bind Us: The Influence of Perceived State Similarity on Policy Diffusion." *Political Research Quarterly* 74(2):377-87.
- Grossback, Lawrence J., Sean Nicholson-Crotty, and David A.M. Peterson. 2004. "Ideology and Learning in Policy Diffusion." *American Politics Research* 32(5):521-45.
- Pierotti, Rachael S. 2013. "Increasing Rejection of Intimate Partner Violence: Evidence of Cultural Diffusion." *American Sociological Review* 78(2):240-65.

Additional reading:

- Mallinson, Daniel J. 2021. "Who Are Your Neighbors? The Role of Ideology and Decline of Geographic Proximity in the Diffusion of Policy Innovations." *Policy Studies Journal* 49(1):67-88.
- Knoblauch, Doris, Linda Mederake, and Ulf Stein. 2018. "Developing Countries in the Lead—What Drives the Diffusion of Plastic Bag Policies?" *Sustainability* 10(6):1994.
- Baldwin, Elizabeth, Sanya Carley, and Sean Nicholson-Crotty. 2019. "Why Do Countries Emulate Each Other's Policies? A Global Study of Renewable Energy Policy Diffusion." *World Development* 120:29-45.
- Finnemore, Martha and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. "International Norm Dynamics and Political Change." *International Organizations*. 52(4):887-917.

- Musgrave, Paul. 2020. "Bringing the State Police in: The Diffusion of U.S. Statewide Policing Agencies, 1905-1941." *Studies in American Political Development* 34:3-23.
- Boyle, Elizabeth H., Wesley Longhofer, and Minzee Kim. 2015. "Abortion Liberalization in World Society." *American Journal of Sociology* 121(3):882-913.
- Wood, Astrid. 2015. "Competing for Knowledge: Leaders and Laggards of Bus Rapid Transit in South Africa." *Urban Forum* 26(2):203-21.
- Jansa, Joshua M., Eric R. Hansen, and Virginia H. Gray. 2019. "Copy and Paste Lawmaking: Legislative Professionalism and Policy Reinvention in the States." *American Politics Research* 47(4):739-67.
- Shipan, Charles R., and Craig Volden. 2008. "The Mechanisms of Policy Diffusion." *American Journal of Political Science* 52(4):840-57.
- DiMaggio, Paul J. and Walter W. Powell. 1983. "The Iron Cage Revisited: Institutional Isomorphism and Collective Rationality in Organizational Fields." *American Sociological Review* 48(2):147-60.
- Simmons, Beth A., Frank Dobbin, and Geoffrey Garrett. 2006. "Introduction: The International Diffusion of Liberalism." *International Organization* 60(Fall):781-810.
- Strang, David, and Sarah A. Soule. 1998. "Diffusion in Organizations and Social Movements: From Hybrid Corn to Poison Pills." *Annual Review of Sociology* 24:265-90.
- Strebel, Felix, and Thomas Widmer. 2012. "Visibility and Facticity in Policy Diffusion: Going beyond the Prevailing Binariness." *Policy Science* 45(3):385-98.

### **Week 5 (September 20): Competition**

Required:

- Mooney, Christopher Z. 2021. *The Study of State Policy Diffusion: What Hath Walker Wrought?* New York: Cambridge University Press, section 2.2.
- Boehmke, Fredrick J., and Richard Witmer. 2004. "Disentangling Diffusion: The Effects of Social Learning and Economic Competition on State Policy Innovation and Expansion." *Political Research Quarterly* 57(1):39-51.
- Volden, Craig. 2002. "The Politics of Competitive Federalism: A Race to the Bottom in Welfare Benefits?" *American Journal of Political Science* 46(22):352-63.
- Peterson, Paul E., and Mark Carl Rom. 1989. "American Federalism, Welfare Policy, and Residential Choices." *American Political Science Review* 83(3):711-28.
- Monogan, James E., David M. Konisky, and Neal D. Woods. 2017. "Gone with the Wind: Federalism and the Strategic Location of Air Polluters." *American Journal of Political Science* 61(2): 257-70.
- Mitchell, Joshua L., LaShonda M. Stewart, and John A. Hamman. 2017. "The Diffusion of TIF Districts among Local Governments." *International Review of Public Administration* 22(4):344-63.
- Sapotichne, Joshua, Laura A. Reese, and Minting Ye. 2019. "Won't You Be My Neighbor? An Integrated Model of Urban Policy Interdependence." *Urban Affairs Review* 55(1):108-47.
- Katada, Saori N., and Jessica Liao. 2020. "China and Japan in Pursuit of Infrastructure Investment Leadership in Asia." *Global Governance* 26(3):449-72.

Additional reading:

- Holyoke, Thomas T., and Heath Brown. 2019. "After the Punctuation: Competition, Uncertainty, and Convergent State Policy Change." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 19(1):3-28.
- Arel-Bundock, Vincent, and Srinivas Parinandi. 2018. "Conditional Tax Competition in the American States." *Journal of Public Policy* 38(2):191-220.

- Pacheco, Julianna. 2017. "Free-Riders or Competitive Races? Strategic Interaction across the American States on Tobacco Policy Making." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 17(3):299-318.
- Dye, Thomas R. 1990. *American Federalism: Competition among Governments*. Lexington, MA: Lexington Books.
- Baybeck, Brady, William D. Berry, and David A. Siegel. 2011. "A Strategic Theory of Policy Diffusion via Intergovernmental Competition." *Journal of Politics* 73(1):232-47.
- Leiser, Stephanie. 2017. "The Diffusion of State Tax Incentives for Business." *Public Finance Review* 45(3):334-63.
- Berry, William D., and Brady Baybeck. 2005. "Using Geographic Information Systems to Study Interstate Competition." *American Political Science Review* 99(4):505-19.
- Berry, William D., Richard C. Fording, and Russell L. Hansen. 2003. "Reassessing the 'Race to the Bottom' in State Welfare Policy." *Journal of Politics* 65(2):327-49.
- Rom, Mark Carl, Paul E. Peterson, and Kenneth F. Scheve, Jr. 1998. "Interstate Competition and Welfare Policy." *Publius* 28(3):17-37.
- Tiebout, Charles M. 1956. "A Pure Theory of Local Expenditures." *Journal of Political Economy* 64(5):416-37.
- Woods, Neal D. 2006. "Interstate Competition and Environmental Regulation: A Test of the Race-to-the-Bottom Thesis." *Social Science Quarterly* 87(1):174-89.

### **Week 6 (September 27): Coercion and Vertical Diffusion**

#### Required:

- Mooney, Christopher Z. 2021. *The Study of State Policy Diffusion: What Hath Walker Wrought?* New York: Cambridge University Press, section 2.4.
- Zhang, Youlang, and Xufeng Zhu. 2019. "The Moderating Role of Top-Down Supports in Horizontal Innovation Diffusion." *Public Administration Review* 80(2):209-21.
- Karch, Andrew, and Aaron Rosenthal. 2016. "Vertical Diffusion and the Shifting Politics of Electronic Commerce." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 16(1):22-43.
- Howell, William G., and Asya Magazinnik. 2020. "Financial Incentives in Vertical Diffusion: The Variable Effects of Obama's Race to the Top Initiative on State Policy Making." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 20(2):185-212.
- McCann, Pamela J. Clousser, Charles H. Shipan, and Craig Volden. 2015. "Top-Down Federalism: State Policy Responses to National Government Discussions." *Publius* 45(4):495-525.
- Shipan, Charles R., and Craig Volden. 2006. "Bottom-Up Federalism: The Diffusion of Anti-Smoking Policies from U.S. Cities to States." *American Journal of Political Science* 50(4):825-43.
- Kim, Junghack, Bruce D. McDonald III, and Jooho Lee. 2018. "The Nexus of State and Local Capacity in Vertical Policy Diffusion." *American Review of Public Administration* 48(2):188-200.
- Adam, Christian, Steffen Hurka, Christoph Knill, B. Guy Peters, and Yves Steinebach. 2019. "Introducing Vertical Policy Coordination to Comparative Policy Analysis: The Missing Link between Policy Production and Implementation." *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis* 5(4):499-517.

#### Additional reading:

- Trein, Philipp. 2017. "Europeanisation beyond the EU: Tobacco Advertisement Restrictions in Swiss Cantons." *Journal of Public Policy* 37(2):113-43.

- Baldwin, Elizabeth, Sanya Carley, and Sean Nicholson-Crotty. 2019. "Why Do Countries Emulate Each Other's Policies? A Global Study of Renewable Energy Policy Diffusion." *World Development* 120:29-45.
- Lowery, David, Virginia Gray, and Franks R. Baumgartner. 2010. "Policy Attention in State and Nation: Is Anyone Listening to the Laboratories of Democracy?" *Publius* 41(2):286-310.
- Karch, Andrew. 2012. "Vertical Diffusion and the Policy-Making Process: The Politics of Embryonic Stem Cell Research." *Political Research Quarterly* 65(1):48-61.
- Miller, Lisa L. 2010. *The Perils of Federalism*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Bulman-Posen, Jessica. 2014. "Partisan Federalism." *Harvard Law Review* 127(4):1077-146.
- Karch, Andrew. 2007. *Democratic Laboratories: Policy Diffusion among the American States*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.
- Welch, Susan, and Kay Thompson. 1980. "The Impact of Federal Incentives on State Policy Innovation." *American Journal of Political Science* 24(4):715-29.
- Karch, Andrew. 2006. "National Intervention and the Diffusion of Policy Innovations." *American Politics Research* 34(4):403-26.
- Fay, Daniel L., Abby Kinch, and Frances S. Berry. 2021. "Explaining Interstate Military Friendly Policy Diffusion across U.S. Universities: Uncovering Vertical-Diagonal Diffusion Using Institutional Theory." *Public Management Review*. Forthcoming.

#### **Week 7 (October 4): Vectors of Diffusion**

##### **GUEST PARTICIPANT (via zoom)—Prof. Francis Stokes Berry, Florida State University**

Required:

- Mooney, Christopher Z. 2021. *The Study of State Policy Diffusion: What Hath Walker Wrought?* New York: Cambridge University Press, section 3.3.
- LaCombe, Scott J., Caroline Tolbert, and Karen Mossberger. 2021. "Information and Policy Information in U.S. States." *Political Research Quarterly*. Forthcoming.
- McCann, Eugene J. 2004. "'Best Places': Interurban Competition, Quality of Life and Popular Media Discourse." *Urban Studies* 41(10):1909-29.
- Siddiqi, Huma. 2021. "Role of Domestic NGOs in Policy Transfer and Policy Diffusion: Case Study of PO 2002 in Pakistan." *South Asian Review*. Forthcoming.
- Gautier, Lara, Jale Tosun, Manuela De Allegri, and Valery Riddle. 2018. "How Do Diffusion Entrepreneurs Spread Policies? Insights from Performance-Based Financing in Sub-Saharan Africa." *World Development* 110(1):160-75.
- Yi, Hongtao, Frances Stokes Berry, and Wenna Chen. 2018. "Management Innovation and Policy Diffusion through Leadership Transfer Networks: An Agent Network Diffusion Model." *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* 28(4):457-74.
- Garrett, Kristin N., and Joshua M. Jansa. 2015. "Interest Group Influence in Policy Diffusion Networks." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 15(3):387-417.
- Mitchell, Joshua L. 2016. "Examining Media Markets' Influence on the Diffusion of Antismoking Legislation in US Counties." *Local Government Studies* 42(5):665-88.

Additional reading:

- Goyal, Nihit. 2021. "Policy Diffusion through Multiple Streams: The (Non-) Adoption of Energy Conservation Building Code in India." *Policy Studies Journal*. Forthcoming.
- Douglas, James W., Ringa Raudla, and Roger E. Hartley. 2015. "Shifting Constellations of Actors and Their Influence on Policy Diffusion: A Study of the Diffusion of Drug Courts." *Policy Studies Journal* 43(4):484-511.

- Eom, Tae Ho, Hyunhoe Bae, and Soojin Kim. 2017. "Moving beyond the Influence of Neighbors on Policy Diffusion: Local Influences on Decisions to Conduct Property Tax Reassessment in New York." *American Review of Public Administration* 47(5):599-614.
- Bouche, Vanessa, and Dana E. Wittmer. 2015. "Gendered Diffusion on Gendered Issues: The Case of Human Trafficking." *Journal of Public Policy* 35(1):1-33.
- Anderson, Sarah E., Rob A. DeLeo, and Kristin Taylor. 2020. "Policy Entrepreneurs, Legislators, and Agenda Setting: Information and Influence." *Policy Studies Journal* 48(3):587-611.
- Mintrom, Michael. 1997. "Policy Entrepreneurs and Policy Diffusion." *American Journal of Political Science* 41(3):738-70.
- Balla, Steven J. 2001. "Interstate Professional Associations and the Diffusion of Policy Innovations." *American Politics Research*. 29(2):221-45.
- Collingwood, Loren, Stephen Omar El-Khatib, and Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien. 2019. "Sustained Organizational Influence: American Legislative Exchange Council and the Diffusion of Anti-Sanctuary Policy." *Policy Studies Journal* 47(3):735-73.
- Berry, William D., and Brady Baybeck. 2005. "Using Geographic Information Systems to Study Interstate Competition." *American Political Science Review* 99(4):505-19.
- Hinkle, Rachael K. 2015. "Into the Words: Using Statutory Text to Explore the Impact of Federal Courts on State Policy Diffusion." *American Journal of Political Science* 59(4):1002-21.
- Beland, Daniel, Rosina Foli, Michael Howlett, M. Ramesh, and J.J. Woo. 2018. "Instrument Constituencies and Transnational Policy Diffusion: The Case of Conditional Cash Transfers." *Review of International Political Economy* 25(4):463-82.

**\*\*\*RESEARCH QUESTION AND HYPOTHESIS MEMO DUE OCTOBER 11**

**Week 8 (October 11): Conditioning Policy Type**

Required:

- Mooney, Christopher Z. 2021. *The Study of State Policy Diffusion: What Hath Walker Wrought?* New York: Cambridge University Press, sections 2.5 and 3.4.
- Boushey, Graeme. 2016. "Targeted for Diffusion? How the Use and Acceptance of Stereotypes Shape the Diffusion of Criminal Justice Policy Innovations in the American States." *American Political Science Review* 110(1):198-214.
- Boushey, Graeme. 2010. *Policy Diffusion Dynamics in America*. New York: Cambridge University Press, chapter 3.
- Karch, Andrew, Sean C. Nicholson-Crotty, Neal D. Woods, and Ann O'M. Bowman. 2016. "Policy Diffusion and the Pro-Innovation Bias." *Political Research Quarterly* 69(1):83-95.
- Kreitzer, Rebecca J. 2015. "Politics and Morality in State Abortion Policy." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 15(1):41-66.
- Makse, Todd, and Craig Volden. 2011. "The Role of Policy Attributes in the Diffusion of Innovations." *Journal of Politics* 73(1):108-24.
- Mooney, Christopher Z., and Mei-Hsien Lee. 2000. "The Influence of Values on Consensus and Contentious Morality Policy: U.S. Death Penalty Reform, 1956-82." *Journal of Politics* 62(1):223-39.
- Nicholson-Crotty, Sean. 2009. "The Politics of Diffusion: Public Policy in the American States." *Journal of Politics* 71(1):192-205.

Additional reading:

- Bose, Feler. 2021. "Policy Innovativeness and Sexual Freedom." *Social Science Quarterly*. Forthcoming.

- Taylor, Jami K., Daniel C. Lewis, Matthew L. Jacobsmeier, and Brian DiSarro. 2012. "Context and Complexity in Policy Reinvention and Diffusion: Gay and Transgender-Inclusive Laws against Discrimination." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 12(1):75-98.
- Baldwin, Elizabeth, Sanya Carley, and Sean Nicholson-Crotty. 2019. "Why Do Countries Emulate Each Other's Policies? A Global Study of Renewable Energy Policy Diffusion." *World Development* 120:29-45.
- Mooney, Christopher Z., and Mei-Hsien Lee. 1995. "Legislating Morality in the American States: The Case of Pre-Roe Abortion Regulation Reform." *American Journal of Political Science* 39(3):599-627.
- Boehmke, Frederick J. 2009. "Approaches to Modeling the Adoption and Diffusion of Policies with Multiple Components." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 9(2):229-52.
- Boehmke, Frederick J., and Paul Skinner. 2012. "State Policy Innovativeness Revisited." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 12(3):303-29.
- Boehmke, Fredrick J., and Richard Witmer. 2004. "Disentangling Diffusion: The Effects of Social Learning and Economic Competition on State Policy Innovation and Expansion." *Political Research Quarterly* 57(1):39-51.
- Boushey, Graeme, and Adam Luedtke. 2011. "Immigrants across the U.S. Federal Laboratory: Explaining State-Level Innovation in Immigration Policy." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 11(3):390-414.
- Mallinson, Daniel J. 2016. "Building a Better Speed Trap: Measuring Policy Adoption Speed in the American States." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 16(1):98-120.

### **Week 9 (October 18): Reinvention**

#### Required:

- Mooney, Christopher Z. 2021. *The Study of State Policy Diffusion: What Hath Walker Wrought?* New York: Cambridge University Press, section 3.1.
- Clark, Jill. 1985. "Policy Diffusion and Program Scope: Research Directions." *Publius* 15(3):61-70.
- Glick, Henry R., and Scott P. Hays. 1991. "Innovation and Reinvention in State Policymaking: Theory and the Evolution of Living Will Laws." *Journal of Politics* 53(4):835-850.
- Jansa, Joshua M., Eric R. Hansen, and Virginia H. Gray. 2019. "Copy and Paste Lawmaking: Legislative Professionalism and Policy Reinvention in the States." *American Politics Research* 47(4):739-67.
- Carley, Sanya, Sean Nicholson-Crotty, and Chris J. Miller. 2017. "Adoption, Reinvention and Amendment of Renewable Portfolio Standards in the American States." *Journal of Public Policy* 37(4):431-58.
- Parinandi, Srinivas C. 2020. "Policy Inventing and Borrowing among State Legislatures." *American Journal of Political Science* 64(4):852-68.
- Chen, Jing, and Cui Huang. 2021. "Policy Reinvention and Diffusion: Evidence from Chinese Provincial Governments." *Journal of Chinese Political Science*. Forthcoming.
- Kim, Gook Jin, Frances S. Berry, and Suk Soon Hwang. 2021. "Explaining the Strictness of Medical Marijuana Regulations in States." *Social Science Journal* 58(2):186-205.

#### Additional reading:

- Holyoke, Thomas T., and Heath Brown. 2019. "After the Punctuation: Competition, Uncertainty, and Convergent State Policy Change." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 19(1):3-28.
- Eom, Tae Ho, Hyunhoe Bae, and Soojin Kim. 2017. "Moving beyond the Influence of Neighbors on Policy Diffusion: Local Influences on Decisions to Conduct Property Tax Reassessment in New York." *American Review of Public Administration* 47(5):599-614.

- Arel-Bundock, Vincent, and Srinivas Parinandi. 2018. "Conditional Tax Competition in the American States." *Journal of Public Policy* 38(2):191-220.
- Yu, Jinhai, Edward T. Jennings, and J.S. Butler. 2021. "Lobbying, Learning, and Policy Reinvention: An Examination of the American States' Drunk Driving Laws." *Journal of Public Policy*. Forthcoming.
- Karch, Andrew, and Matthew Cravens. 2014. "Rapid Diffusion and Policy Reform: The Adoption and Modification of Three Strikes Laws." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 14(4):461-91.
- Hays, Scott P. 1996. "Influences on Reinvention during the Diffusion of State Policy Innovations." *Political Research Quarterly* 49(3):613-32.
- Hays, Scott P. 1996. "Patterns of Reinvention: The Nature of Evolution during Policy Diffusion." *Policy Studies Journal* 24(4):551-66.
- Mossberger, Karen. 1999. "State-Federal Diffusion and Policy Learning: From Enterprise Zones to Empowerment Zones." *Publius* 29(3):31-50.
- Mossberger, Karen. 2000. *The Politics of Ideas and the Spread of Enterprise Zones*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.
- Jacob, Herbert. 1988. *Silent Revolution: The Transformation of Divorce Law in the United States*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

### **Week 10 (October 25): Methods—EHA, Network Analysis, and Spatial Analysis**

#### Required:

- Mooney, Christopher Z. 2021. *The Study of State Policy Diffusion: What Hath Walker Wrought?* New York: Cambridge University Press, section 3.5.
- Berry, Frances Stokes, and William D. Berry. 1990. "State Lottery Adoptions as Policy Innovations: An Event History Analysis." *American Political Science Review* 84(2):395-415.
- Desmarais, Bruce A., Jeffrey J. Harden, and Frederick J. Boehmke. 2015. "Persistent Policy Pathways: Inferring Diffusion Networks in the American States." *American Political Science Review* 109(2):392-406.
- Kreitzer, Rebecca J., and Frederick J. Boehmke. 2016. "Modeling Heterogeneity in Pooled Event History Analysis." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 16(1):121-41.
- LaCombe, Scott, and Frederick J. Boehmke. 2020. "Learning and Diffusion Models." In *Sage Handbook of Research Methods for Political Science and International Relations*, eds. Luigi Curini and Robert Franzese. London: Sage.
- Boehmke, Frederick J. 2009. "Approaches to Modeling the Adoption and Diffusion of Policies with Multiple Components." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 9(2):229-52.
- Mitchell, Joshua L. 2018. "Does Policy Diffusion Need Space? Spatializing the Dynamics of Policy Diffusion." *Policy Studies Journal* 46(2):424-50.
- Borgatti, Stephen P., Ajay Mehra, Daniel J. Brass, and Giuseppe Labianca. 2009. "Network Analysis in the Social Sciences." *Science* 323(5916): 892-5.

#### Additional reading:

- Berry, Frances Stokes. 1994. "Sizing Up State Policy Innovation Research." *Policy Studies Journal* 22(4):442-456.
- Gray, Virginia. 1973. "Innovation in the States: A Diffusion Study." *American Political Science Review* 67(4):1174-85.
- Walker, Jack L. 1973. "Comment (on Gray)." *American Political Science Review* 67(4):1186-91.
- Borgatti, Stephen P., Martin G. Everett, and Jeffrey C. Johnson. 2013. *Analyzing Social Networks*. Los Angeles, CA: SAGE Publications Ltd.

Marsden, Peter V. 1990. "Network Data and Measurement." *Annual Review of Sociology* 16(1): 435–63.

### **Week 11 (November 1): Methods—DDEHA and Data Management**

Required:

- Volden, Craig. 2006. "States as Policy Laboratories: Emulating Success in the Children's Health Insurance Program." *American Journal of Political Science* 50(2):294-312.
- Boehmke, Frederick J. 2009. "Policy Emulation or Policy Convergence? Potential Ambiguities in the Dyadic Event History Approach to State Policy Emulation." *Journal of Politics* 71(3):1125-40.
- Boehmke, Frederick J., Mark Brockway, Bruce A. Desmarais, Jeffrey J. Harden, Scott LaCombe, Fridolin Linder, and Hanna Wallach. 2020. "SPID: A New Database for Inferring Public Policy Innovativeness and Diffusion Networks." *Policy Studies Journal* 48(2):517-45.
- Gilardi, Fabrizio, and Katharina Fuglister. 2008. "Empirical Modeling of Policy Diffusion in Federal States: The Dyadic Approach." *Swiss Political Science Review* 14(3):413-50.
- Bricker, Christine, and Scott LaCombe. 2020. "The Ties That Bind Us: The Influence of Perceived State Similarity on Policy Diffusion." *Political Research Quarterly* 74(2):377-87.
- Mallinson, Daniel J. 2020. "Policy Diffusion Results: A New Database for Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis." *State and Local Government Review* 52(1):18–27.

Additional reading:

- Erikson, Robert S., Pablo M. Pinto, and Kelly T. Rader. 2014. "Dyadic Analysis in International Relations: A Cautionary Tale." *Political Analysis* 22(4):457–63.
- King, Gary, and Langche Zeng. 2001. "Logistic Regression in Rare Events Data." *Political Analysis* (9):137–63.
- Nicholson-Crotty, Sean, and Sanya Carley. 2016. "Effectiveness, Implementation, and Policy Diffusion: Or 'Can We Make That Work for Us?'" *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 16(1):78–97.
- Volden, Craig. 2016. "Failures: Diffusion, Learning, and Policy Abandonment." *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* 16(1):44–77.

**\*\*\*DATA AND RESEARCH DESIGN MEMO DUE NOVEMBER 8**

### **Weeks 12 and 13 (November 8 and 15):**

Students will work on their papers and presentations these weeks.

### **Week 14 (November 22): Student Paper Presentations**

Required:

All papers being presented today. TBA

### **Week 15 (November 29): Student Paper Presentations**

Required:

All papers being presented today. TBA

**\*\*\*FINAL EMPIRICAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE DECMEBER 6, 6:30PM**