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Theories Of The Policy Process

THIRD EDITION

THEORIES OF THE POLICY PROCESS

EDITED BY
PAUL A. SABATIER
CHRISTOPHER M. WEIBLE
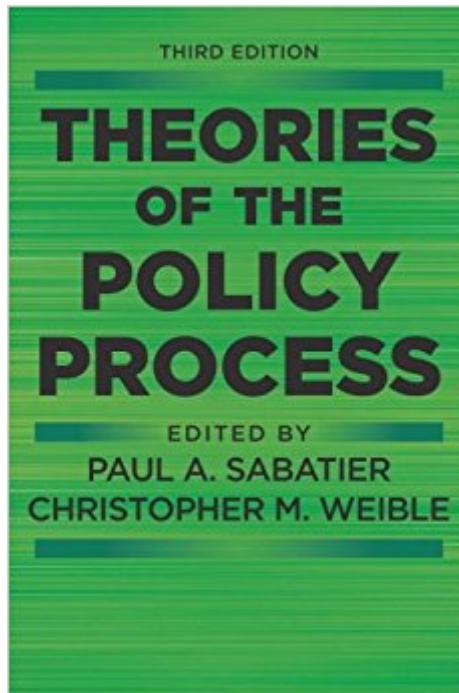
Synopsis

Since the first edition published in 1999 with editor Paul Sabatier, Theories of the Policy Process has served as the quintessential gateway to the field of policy process research for students, scholars and practitioners alike. This enduring and well-regarded volume provides a forum for the creators of, or scholars with deep expertise in, the most established and widely used theoretical frameworks to present the basic propositions, empirical evidence, latest updates, and promising directions for future research. This brief but comprehensive volume covers such classics as Multiple Streams (Zahariadis), Punctuated Equilibrium (Jones et al), Advocacy Coalition Framework (Jenkins-Smith et al.), Institutional Analysis and Development Framework (Ostrom et al.), Policy Diffusion (Berry & Berry), and Social Construction and Policy Design (Schneider et al).This thoroughly updated third edition, with new editor Christopher M. Weible, includes a new introduction on the trajectories and needs of public policy research and two new chapters— Policy Feedback (Mettler and SoRelle) and Narrative Policy Framework (McBeth et al). A revised chapter presents a comparative analysis and evaluation of the frameworks included in this edition (Cairney & Heikkila), and a new conclusion looks at future directions and emerging areas in the field.

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Customer Reviews

Praise for the third edition: "I have found this book to be particularly useful for exposing students to the major theories in the field. Each chapter breaks a particular theory down into a fairly concise manner. Theories of the Policy Process provides students with a working knowledge of a theory that

really assists in their eventual mastery of the theory in subsequent readings. I have found this approach to significantly enhance and improve students' ability to understand the original texts the chapters are based upon."--Alesha Doan, University of Kansas"This is without question the best book on the theories of the policy process. There are many policy textbooks out there, but none that engage with contemporary theories of the process in such a comprehensive way."--Robert S. Wood, University of North DakotaPraise for prior editions: "This sophisticated primer will have much appeal for those who subscribe to policy models that put boundedly rational individuals at the centre of their analyses. Its attractiveness lies in its elaboration as well as critique of these approaches."--"Canadian Journal of Political Science""Theories of the Policy Process is an excellent...state-of-the-art volume: the less we consider it as the 'qualifying round' for future public policy theory, the more we will learn from it."--"ECPR News"Praise for the third edition: "I have found this book to be particularly useful for exposing students to the major theories in the field. Each chapter breaks a particular theory down into a fairly concise manner. Theories of the Policy Process provides students with a working knowledge of a theory that really assists in their eventual mastery of the theory in subsequent readings. I have found this approach to significantly enhance and improve students ability to understand the original texts the chapters are based upon."Alesha Doan, University of Kansas "This is without question the best book on the theories of the policy process. There are many policy textbooks out there, but none that engage with contemporary theories of the process in such a comprehensive way."Robert S. Wood, University of North Dakota Praise for prior editions: "This sophisticated primer will have much appeal for those who subscribe to policy models that put boundedly rational individuals at the centre of their analyses. Its attractiveness lies in its elaboration as well as critique of these approaches.""Canadian Journal of Political Science" "Theories of the Policy Process is an excellentstate-of-the-art volume: the less we consider it as the qualifying round for future public policy theory, the more we will learn from it.""ECPR News""

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This is the third edition of a classic work in theories of the policy process. I have used all three editions in a doctoral class on Policy Analysis. This volume is that good. It provides students with a good sense of key theoretical perspectives in understanding public policy (page 4), ". . .the decisions. . .of a government or an equivalent authority." Examples? Laws passed by legislatures, agency regulations, executive orders, and so on.The introductory chapter sets the stage for the remainder of the book. There is a certain sadness, given that Paul Sabatier died before this book appeared.In both the second and third editions, some theoretical perspectives were jettisoned and others added, based on the development of theory in public policy. Among perspectives studied include multiple streams, punctuated equilibrium, policy design, feedback theory (a new chapter compared with the 2nd edition), advocacy coalition framework, narrative policy framework, and so on.The volume ends with a pair of chapters--one comparing the variety of theories of the policy process and the other how to advance policy research.All in all, a terrific tool for teaching students about the policy process. Also, for readers who have some knowledge of the policy process, a fine resource.

Foundational read for ACF. Needs update

Preparing for policy development, analysis pr decision this book is a must-have. Very detailed and addressed most current policy theory.

Great policy primer/jumping off point. Good for grad students.

A needed book for any student of public policy. Provides a concise overview of each of the policy process theories.

Excellent

great

Good

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