

PP 754  
Science,  
Technology,  
and Public Policy

A Research Seminar  
Tuesdays 4:30 - 5:30  
1200 Chemistry  
Winter Term



The aim of this course is to introduce students to topical issues in science and technology policy. The course will meet weekly for a formal seminar, involving those speakers from both scientific and technological disciplines as well as those directly involved in formulating science policy at the national level. It is anticipated that both University of Michigan faculty and off-campus guests will participate in seminar presentations.

By interacting with those active in science policy circles, it is hoped that students will gain an appreciation of the processes and underpinnings of current national science policy.

The course will be offered both as a 1 credit seminar course and as a 3 credit seminar/discussion course. Students in the 3 credit course will also take part in additional discussions sessions that follow on the seminar presentations (5:30-7:00), as arranged by the instructor.

The course is targeted to a broad audience and no prior science background is necessary.

Among the topics likely to be covered are:

The workings of national science policy  
The hydrogen economy  
Large-scale research facilities  
Global climate change  
Intellectual property  
Human embryonic stem cell research  
The National Academies  
International science  
The manned spaceflight program  
Technology-driven economic development  
Preparing for possible global pandemics  
Exponentiating technologies (info-bio-nano)  
Globalization and the "flat world"

Instructor: James J. Duderstadt