

## **ANNOUNCING A NEW SPECIAL TOPICS COURSE FOR SPRING 2010**

### **PA 810 SECTION 2 SPECIAL TOPICS: RESEARCH GRANT WRITING**

**WEDNESDAYS, 6:00PM TO 8:45PM, 017 WINSTON HALL**

This course is designed for senior graduate students, primarily in the social sciences, who wish to learn about how academic research is funded. This course will focus on the major federal funders, including NSF, NIH, NEH, NEA, and the federal mission agencies. Some consideration will be given to grant writing for foundations. This course is *not* a course on programmatic grant writing for organizations; rather, this course is designed for those who are currently seeking grant funding for research, or for those who wish to do so in the future. While not as important to our fields as in the STEM disciplines, the ability to successfully compete for grant money is, like a solid publication record, becoming a prerequisite for professional success.

I invite junior faculty who are also interested in writing grants to join this seminar, either as an informal auditor, or as a registered student. The course is open to students in any discipline

#### **About the Instructor**

Tom Birkland is the Kretzer Professor of Public Policy in the School of Public and International Affairs in CHASS, NC State University. Before joining NC State, Tom was on the faculty at the State University of New York at Albany, where he directed the Center for Policy Research. In 2006 he served as a program officer in the National Science Foundation's Engineering Directorate, managing the Infrastructure Management and Hazard Response program. He is currently leading a mentoring project for junior faculty nationwide called *Enabling the Next Generation of Hazards and Disasters Research*. His website is [www4.ncsu.edu/~tabirkla](http://www4.ncsu.edu/~tabirkla)

#### **About the Course**

The course will meet approximately every other week, with adjustments to accommodate guest speakers with experience in grant funding. The final deliverable will be a draft (near final) grant proposal ready for submission to a funding agency; for graduate students, this would likely be a dissertation improvement grant for NSF, or something similar.

There are no prerequisites for this course. However, it would be best if students have a project in mind for the grant proposal. Students who are currently writing their dissertation prospectuses may particularly profit from this course, as the prospectus writing and grant proposal writing can move on the same track. Students who have not yet passed their exams may also be interested in joining the class; a proposal generated for this course may be developed later into a dissertation prospectus and grant proposal.

For more details, contact Professor Tom Birkland at [tom\\_birkland@ncsu.edu](mailto:tom_birkland@ncsu.edu) or at 919-513-7799.