



# SPECIAL SECTION DESCRIPTIONS

## **Comparative Policy Concepts, Statistics, and Analytics**

The JCPA regularly features a section entitled "Comparative Policy Concepts, Statistics, and Analytics." We invite submissions and proposals focusing on all aspects of policy measurement, analytics and statistics with a comparative twist. We publish articles on policy outcomes and impacts, such as measurements and comparative indicators of economic, environmental, and social well-being, as well as data on policy outputs, i.e., measures adopted by the governments, international and supranational organizations, and other relevant societal actors.

We are especially interested in new indices, data sources, analytical tools, practices in measurement and data analytics, and reflections on comparative analysis and research methods that can be effectively used in policy analysis. If you have an idea for a paper, please contact the section co-editors.

Submissions should run 6,000 to 7,000 words and should be amply supported with tables, charts, and figures.

### **Section Co-Editors:**

Jidong Chen, Tsinghua University: <a href="mailto:chenjidong@tsinghua.edu.cn">chenjidong@tsinghua.edu.cn</a>
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## **Qualitative Comparative Policy Studies**

This special section is dedicated to articles that embrace studies on the design and development of qualitative comparative policy studies and their application to comparative policy analysis. The section welcomes pieces that take on the very question of how contextual differences may be preserved, while carrying out comparative research in public policy and is open to a variety of approaches. Such as, the exploration of new as well as established critical questions and methods, including comparative policy analysis throughout time; persistent methodological challenges; and propositions of new approaches and qualitative methods for the field.

The section takes on a broad definition of comparison transcending national boundaries and national case study research and encourages explorations on the transnational dimension of policy analysis and policymaking. Submissions should run at most 6,000 to 7,000 words.

#### **Section Co-Editors:**

Michelle Morais de Sa e Silva – University of Oklahoma, US: michelle.morais@ou.edu

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## **Policy Innovation**

This section welcomes papers that discuss a new innovation in any aspect of public policy, in any policy area or jurisdiction around the world, from a comparative perspective. By policy innovation, we mean the adoption of problem framings, policy alternatives, practices, processes, or structures, at any stage of the policy cycle, that are new in a specific policy context. Submissions should run, at most, 6,000 to 7,000 words. Manuscripts should contain the following sections:

- Description of the innovation in public policy. This section should also explain what is novel and/or unique about it.
- Discussion of the (likely) impact or implications of this policy innovation for policy outcomes, be it programmatic, process, and/or political.
- Identification of relevant lessons from this case for other policy areas, jurisdictions, and/or the field of comparative policy analysis.

### **Section Co-Editors:**

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### **Comparative Policy Instruction, Syllabi and Pedagogy**

This JCPA section presents and discusses syllabi of comparative policy courses (inclusive of bibliographic rationale) as well as innovative pedagogies (case studies, experiential learning, simulations, novel writing assignments, exercises, etc.) used to teach comparative public policy at the undergraduate and graduate levels in academic institutions across the world. The main purpose is to facilitate the design of and engage in a dialogue on the development of comparative policy courses and other teaching tools to advance this domain of study. The contributions should focus on four major areas:

- Program specific learning goals and outcomes: clearly defined and observable pedagogical design.
   Learning objectives and outcomes should be expressed as knowledge, skills or attitudes and include what instructors want the students to know or do as a result of the course or instructional exercise.
- Teaching method: the principles and methods of instruction that are used in the course or exercise to ensure that students are able to reach the intended learning outcomes of the course and the program.
- Approach to teaching comparative public policy: highlight the comparative aspect of the course and/or
  exercise, focusing on the particular approach adopted when teaching comparative public policy. Does the
  course focus more on practical real world policy issues and questions? Does it emphasize theory or is it
  more methodologically focused? Moreover, what is being compared? Is it countries, policy areas, other?
- Comparison of public policy programs or comparative public policy programs, or practices and approaches to accreditation.

Contributions should be between 3000 to 4000 words.

See examples of previous JCPA articles

https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13876988.2019.1670894; https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13876988.2019.1670894

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### **Book Reviews**

Through critical engagement with some of the key comparative studies in the field, the JCPA Book Reviews Section aims to provide a substantive contribution to exploring and understanding the complexities in policymaking processes, policy outputs and policy outcomes. The co-editors conceive of book reviews as special opportunities to provide our readers with detailed overviews of various policy arenas and comparative approaches ensuring that key concepts and theories are explained and contextualized comprehensively. These reviews serve not only as academic resources but also as guides, offering insights into whether a book aligns with a reader's specific interests and scholarly needs.

The co-editors will pay particular attention to books that offer an original comparative perspective on policies in their respective region.

The reviews are up to 2000 words in length, and the section appears six times a year, that is, in each one of the JCPA annual issues.

If you are interested in proposing a new book for review please approach the co-editors:

- Pablo Bulcourf, Universidad Nacional de Quilmes / Universidad de Buenos Aires: pablo bulcourf@yahoo.com.ar
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