

There are two writing assignments for 10/17.

[A] Powerful Dumb Ideas about Policy Outcomes

After reflecting on your own experience, describe on a paragraph or two what appears to you to be a popular-but-questionable belief [or two] about what determines policy outcomes in organizations. I have assembled 10-12 of such PDIs [e.g., policy is based on how companies can make the most profits, decisions reflect the wishes of the richest Americans only], and we'll discuss several of yours and mine in class.

[B] Bureaucratic Politics.

Read the assigned Allison book, paying special attention to his "Model 3" in chapters 5 and 6. Now, Model 3 sprawls a lot, so I suggest that you consider the section on "Propositions," pp 305 - 311 in relation to an organization you know well. Identify two or three of the propositions that seem to fit your organization, and two or three that don't fit as well. Students are [tentatively] examining such organizations as the FAA, an advertising firm, the Catholic Church, San Francisco City Gov't at this point. I'll cover the Exec Off of President, and maybe Jason will cover the Army? Aim at 1-2 thoughtful pages for this part. [Note: Angela and Shirley may have different assignments here.]