Course Information

Course meeting day/time: Thursdays from 1:00 – 2:50 PM, Public Affairs Building, Room 3343C

Instructors: Prof. Albert Carnesale (Public Policy) and Prof. John Villasenor (Public Policy & Electrical Engineering)
To arrange to meet with Prof. Carnesale, please send an e-mail message to acarnesale@ucla.edu. To arrange to meet with Prof. Villasenor, please send an e-mail message to villa@ee.ucla.edu.

Week-by-week Schedule:

Week 1 (January 8): Course introduction (Profs. Albert Carnesale and John Villasenor)
Week 2 (January 15): Digital privacy (Prof. John Villasenor)
Week 3 (January 22): Climate change (Prof. Albert Carnesale)
Week 4 (January 29): Cybersecurity (Prof. John Villasenor)
Week 5 (February 5): Nuclear power (Prof. Albert Carnesale)
Week 6 (February 12): First half of class: Midterm; Second half of class: Genetic Testing (Guest lecture by Aaron Panofsky, Prof. of Public Policy and Institute for Society and Genetics)
Week 7 (February 19): Drones (Prof. John Villasenor)
Week 8 (February 26): Reproductive biotechnology (Guest lecture by Dov Fox, Prof. of Law, University of San Diego)
Week 9 (March 5): Nuclear proliferation (Prof. Albert Carnesale)
Week 10 (March 12): Course wrap-up

Policy Memos: Students are expected to write four policy memos over the course of the quarter. Policy memos should be turned in by uploading them through the course web site on CCLE, using the “Turnitin” feature. Please see separate handout for more information on the contents of a policy memo.

Readings: Readings will be assigned the week prior to the class in which they will be discussed. Students are expected to come to class having completed the readings and prepared to participate in the associated in-class discussions.

Grading: Grading will be based on the weighted combination of the four factors listed below:

1) Four policy memos (35%)
2) One in-class midterm (20%)
3) A take-home final assigned on the last day of class (35%)
4) Class participation (10%)