

Seminar 1: Policy Dating Role Play

Before Seminar 1, prepare **Step one below, Initial Idea Formulation**. Then bring these instructions to the seminar and we will conduct the remaining steps together. There is no right or wrong answer to this seminar. Instead, it is meant to be creative and thought provoking. Draw on your knowledge and readings to come up with your own ideas. You will need to complete this seminar to carry out Seminar 2.

Purposes of this seminar

1. To gain practice in identifying and presenting appropriate methods for research and proposals and recommendations in terms that policy makers will find attractive and easy to understand.
2. To role play as a researcher.
3. To learn how to prepare and present concise and effective proposals.

Process

Steps:

1. Initial Idea Formulation (Do only this first step before Seminar 1).

- Think about a research policy proposal (an idea you have) that involves environment and sustainable development issues.
 - Prepare to present that idea to a policy maker (take notes)
 - The proposal can be local, national or global in focus.
- STOP HERE. BRING YOUR NOTES TO THE SEMINAR**

2. Researcher/Policy Speed Dating

- Take a chair either as a *policy maker* or a *researcher*
- Researchers, introduce yourself and who/what you represent. Researchers, tell the policy maker whom **they** represent (identify your audience). For example, that they are the Minister of Environment.
- The researcher has 3 minutes to present a policy idea or proposal
- The policy maker has 2 minutes to respond, ask questions, make challenges
- At the signal, the researchers change chairs; the policy makers stay put
- The researcher presents the same idea again, to a new policy maker
- Repeat once more (for a total of 3 rounds)
- Everyone changes roles. Researchers become policy makers, and vice versa.
- Same procedure as above, for a total of 3 more rounds.

3. Debrief

What happened to the proposal over time?

4. Formulate Final Proposal

Working individually, describe your proposal more clearly.

5. Present Proposals

Orally summarize your proposal to the group in 30 seconds or less.

6. Conclusion

What advice would you give another researcher who is going to present a policy recommendation to a policy maker?

At the conclusion of Seminar 1, please organize yourselves into groups of at least four persons for group work for **Seminar 2**. You have one week to conduct the assignment for Seminar 2. See below.

Seminar 2: Presentation of Group Research Work from Seminar 1

You need to work together in groups to carry out this assignment. **Each group will have at least 4 members**. It is essential that **all** members of the group participate actively in the preparation of the assignment and the presentation of the results.

Choose one of your research policy proposals developed in Seminar 1 to work on as a group. Your task is to develop this research proposal into a realistic proposal, using proper literature citations (you must show your literature sources). You will present your proposal to the rest of the class, using power point. Your presentations must be no longer than **8 slides long**. **All members** of the group shall participate in the presentation. Have fun with this assignment!

Each group will have approximately 10 minutes to present their slides. You will be responsible to bring a computer with needed chords to show your slides.

Everyone else in the seminar will be expected to point out strengths as well as potential weaknesses or inconsistencies in the presentation given by other students. This includes that you **come up with at least one question** to be discussed by the group.