

FCS 3600-003
INTRO TO CONSUMER AND COMMUNITY POLICY
Instructor: Ann House

This course helps students become aware of national and local policies that affect them in their daily lives. Additionally, once students are attentive to policies that influence and shape them, they learn how to organize to improve their social and economic conditions. The objectives of this class are (1) to have students think critically about daily choices and habits, (2) recognize that there are choices where you may not have seen them, and (3) become empowered to make the best choice for yourself, your family, and your community. This class will discuss issues related to transportation, land use, automobile safety, affordable housing, consumer credit, and consumer fraud.

There is a required course reader. Text books do not do justice to this course as we will be discussing current policies and practices. Reading national and/or local newspapers or news magazines will be promoted. Additionally there will be three exams during the semester, and one research paper. (Course requirements are subject to change.) Class format will be PowerPoint presentations, class discussions, and perhaps guest lecturers, video presentations, and WebCT discussions.

Ann House has a M.S. from the University of Utah in Family Ecology. Her area of focus was in consumer policy with Dr. Robert Mayer and Dr. John Burton. She is now working with Utah State University Extension as a state specialist in bankruptcy prevention. She develops teaching programs, teaches to Utah consumers, and is doing research on bankruptcy filers and the impact of financial education on consumer well-being.