

Practice of Public Management (PADM 6600)

Fall 2009 4:00 – 6:30 R GC 405 3 CR Hours

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Course Description

This course in public management considers the contents and boundaries of public management as a discipline. The historical roots and development of public management as a field will be studied, along with elements of organizational theory; professional ethics; policy development; management techniques; public sector leadership; diversity; enhancement of productivity and performance; and other current issues related to public management. Case studies will be employed intensively.

Course Objectives

Course objectives are as follows:

1. Increase the understanding of the foundations of public management.
2. Enhance familiarity with the theoretical framework of the field
3. Establish a relationship between the foundations and theoretical framework of the discipline and the current state of public management.
4. Enhance understanding of the relationship between public management and public policymaking.
5. Provide the student with a familiarity with the lexicon of public management.
6. Provide a comparison between public and private sector management, and between American public management and public management in other countries.
7. Enhance familiarity with the basic tools used in public management for planning, implementation, and evaluation.
8. Improve writing, analytical, and research skills associated with public management.

Required Reading Materials

Denhardt, Robert B. and Janet V. Denhardt, *Public Administration: An Action Orientation*, Sixth Edition

Others as assigned by the instructor

Student Responsibilities

Attendance: students are expected to attend classes regularly and punctually. This is a minimal expectation of all students at the graduate level. If a class must be missed, it is the sole responsibility of the student to inform the instructor and make arrangements for missed work.

Participation: All students are responsible for being prepared to participate in class discussions of the required readings. Students are also highly encouraged to research additional information, especially current events, to supplement their class participation. Note the relationship between participation and attendance: a student cannot participate if he/she is not in attendance

Assignments and Exams: Students are expected to submit written assignments and make oral presentations on the date specified by the instructor and to take exams at the prescribed time. Late assignments will be penalized. Students should keep a copy of all assignments and submit the original. Makeup exams are given at the discretion of the instructor. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements if a makeup exam becomes necessary.

Positive classroom environment: Students are expected to be courteous and respectful of the instructor as well as each other. The course will focus on some controversial and sensitive issues; agreement is not required, but courtesy and respect for opposing points of view are expected. Students are expected to add to a classroom environment that welcomes all in the class, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, or opinion. This welcoming environment also extends to guest lecturers. A guest lecturer who leaves this class believing that he/she was not respected can only hurt the future marketability of our graduates.

Code of Ethics: Unless otherwise instructed, all assignments are to be carried out and submitted individually. The Southern Utah University policy toward dishonesty is in force for this class, and should be reviewed by all students. Academic dishonesty harms the university, harms the student, harms fellow students, and has the effect of devaluing degrees granted by the university. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated by the instructor, and should not be tolerated by students in the class.

Class Structure and Major Assignments

Class sessions will be structured around lectures, discussions, guest presentations, assigned readings, and other assignments. Additionally, unannounced quizzes will be given. There will be a limited number of assignments throughout the semester, and each student is required to submit a Public Management research paper.

Your class grade will be based upon: attendance/participation, required assignments, the research paper, unannounced quizzes, and the midterm and final examinations. If a student is unable to complete the assignments or take the exams in a timely fashion, they are advised to seriously consider dropping the course before the drop date. The instructor will only consider assigning an “incomplete” if the student has a good track record of class attendance and completing assignments, and only for documented emergency situations.

Attendance/Participation: Attendance and Participation will account for 10% of the course grade. Each student will begin with an A/P score of 100%, and 10 will be deducted for each unexcused

absence. Students are responsible for signing the roster or letting the instructor know of their presence if roll is called. Points may be added or subtracted for exceptionally good or poor class participation.

Testing: The midterm exam will cover all readings, presentations, and guest lectures up to that point. The final exam will cover the same materials for the second half of the class. Exams will be mostly, if not entirely, in essay form, and each will be worth 25% of your grade for a total of 50%.

Written Assignments/Presentations: Students will be assigned at least two presentations each to be prepared and presented during the course of the semester. All such assignments are to be typed, free of grammatical, spelling, and punctuation errors, use a 12 point font, and have 1 inch margins all around. One of these assignments will involve attending and reporting on a public meeting, which may include a city council meeting, school board meeting, or other meeting approved by the instructor. The professionalism of these assignments will be part of the grade. These will be worth a total of 15% of your grade.

Research Paper: Each student is required to prepare a research paper on some aspect of Public Management. The paper must be at least 10 pages in length, and must conform to the standards provided by the instructor. A list of general topics will be provided, from which students may choose a precise topic. The research paper will account for 25% of the course grade.

Grading: Grades will be assigned according to the following criteria:

Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%
Research Paper	25%
Assignments	15%
Attendance/Participation	10%

Grading Scale:	92 – 100%	A	68 – 69%	D+
	90 – 91%	A-	62 – 67%	D
	88 – 89%	B+	60 – 61%	D-
	82 - 87%	B	Below 60%	F
	80 – 81%	B-		
	78 – 79%	C+		
	72 – 77%	C		
	70 – 71%	C-		

Tentative Course Schedule

Week One: Introduction to Public Management

Week Two: Paper Topic discussion

Week Three: The Classics of Public Administration

Week Four: Personal Action in Public Organizations and the Political Context of Public Administration

Readings: Denhardt, Chapter One and Two

Week Five: The Interorganizational Context of Public Administration

Readings: Denhardt, Chapter Three
Federalist Papers #45 - 51

Week Six: The Ethics of Public Service

Readings: Denhardt, Chapter Four
Case Studies TBA

Week Seven: City Council Meeting

Week Eight: Guest Speaker

Week Nine: Mid Term Exam

Week Ten: Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation

Readings: Denhardt, Chapter Six
Case Studies TBA

Week Eleven: Budgeting and Financial Management

Readings: Denhardt, Chapter Seven
Case Studies TBA

Week Twelve: Management of Human Resources

Readings: Denhardt, Chapter Eight
Case Studies TBA

Week Thirteen: Public Policy and Management

Readings: Thomas Dye, The Policymaking Process

Week Fourteen: No Class (Thanksgiving Holiday)

Week Fifteen: Reports on Papers

Readings: None

Student Disability Notice

Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring academic adjustments, accommodations or auxiliary aids will need to contact the Southern Utah University Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD), in Room 206F of the Sharwan Smith Center or phone (435) 865-8022. SSD determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

Academic Integrity Policy

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. You are expected to have read and understood the current issue of the student handbook (published by Student Services) regarding student responsibilities and rights, and the intellectual property policy, for information about procedures and about what constitutes acceptable on-campus behavior.

Disclaimer Statement

Information contained in this syllabus, other than the grading, late assignments, makeup work, and attendance policies, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.