

Course Syllabus: Public Administration: Modern Public Management
Political Science- POLS 4210-01

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fax: 839-5009, Summer, '07, M,T,W,Th, 5:00, Pafford 112, 3 cr.
(office hours announced in class).

Course Overview:

This course will examine the role of public management in society, as well as its planning, operations, budgeting and human resources practices.

Class objectives: Students will demonstrate that they can:
Identify the nature of public management and how it compares to private and nonprofit management; identify and analyze trends in the role of technology, planning, budgeting and human resource management; identify and analyze the changing nature of public management in terms of modifications in traditional organization and practices and new relationships with the private and nonprofit sectors; and identify and analyze both critiques and defenses of public management and the impact of both on management practices.

Required Texts:

Starling, Grover, *Managing the Public Sector*, 7th. ed. Belmont, CA: Thompson, 2005.

Watson, Robert, *Public Administration, Cases in Managerial Role Playing*, Boston: Pearson, 2002

Requirements: Term Paper: 35%

A research paper approximately eight typewritten pages, double spaced, is required. The paper will first cover a case in Watson's *Public Administration, Cases...* The first two pages, approximately, will identify (title and case number) and then summarize the topic in the text, and the remainder of the paper, roughly six pages, will be a research and analysis essay about the subject related to the text case. Papers must include a summary of the article and then cover a topic related to the article, otherwise the student will receive no credit for the paper. Drafts or outlines may be submitted during the term and students should discuss the topic with the professor. Papers must effectively cover the topic and they will be graded on content, material, research and analysis related to issues dealing with public management. They must be free of spelling and grammatical errors and employ proper research form, including references. Papers must be the original researched work of the student exclusively for this class, and must be submitted by the date outlined in the syllabus or they will receive no credit.

Mid-term: 25%, and Final Examination: 25%

In order to assess the student's knowledge and grasp of the subject matter from lectures and required reading, closed book

tests will be administered in short answer and essay form. Tests must be taken on the dates stipulated in the syllabus.

Class Presentation: (optional 15%*)

Students will present an oral report. They will choose a topic that explores an element of public management as it relates to another case (other than the one chosen for the term paper) that the student must briefly summarize from Watson's *Public Administration, Cases..* along with related information on the issue from another source. The report must be given on the date outlined in the syllabus.

*-without presentation- midterm-30%, final- 30%, term paper- 40%.

Class Participation

The class will be in a seminar format. Students are encouraged to share their knowledge and opinions of lectures, required readings and related materials. Outstanding class participation will result in up to two extra points on a student's grade point average. Students are expected to attend all classes and to be on time for class. Three absences will result in a deduction of two points; four absences, three points; five absences, five points; six absences, seven points, and seven or more absences, a 14 point deduction.

Schedule:

- 6/29: Public Administration. Read Starling, Chapter 1.
- 7/2: Politics. Read Starling, Chapter 2.
- 7/3: Intergovernmental relations. Read Starling, Chap. 3.
- 7/5: Government responsibility, ethics. Starling, Chap. 4.
- 7/9: Administrative planning. Read Starling, Chapter 5.
- 7/10: Managerial decisions. Read Starling, Chapter 6.
- 7/11: **Mid-term exam.**
- 7/12: Organization. Read Starling, Chapter 7.
- 7/16: Leadership. Read Starling, Chapter 8.
- 7/17: Implementation, evaluation. Read Starling, Chapter 9. **Term papers due.**
- 7/18: Human resource management. Read Starling Chap. 10.
- 7/19-7/23: Financial management. Read Starling, Chapter 11.
- 7/19,7/23: **Class presentations due.**
- 7/24: Info. management, communications. Starling, Chap. 12.
- 7/26: **Final exam.**

Additional Resources: Botten, *The Tough Minded Manager*; Drucker, *Management Tasks and Responsibilities*; Downs, *The Search for Government Efficiency*; Henderson, *Human Relations Issues in Management*; Peter, *The Peter Principle*; Peters, *In Search of Excellence*; Mitroff, *Business Not as Usual*.