

COURSE SYLLABUS
POLS 2410 – Introduction to Public Administration
Fall 2017

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Dr. Justin Piccorelli

Phone: 307.766.2260 (*not hooked back up yet*)

Office: Arts & Sciences Building, Room 322B

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Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 12:30-2pm

Course Information: Tuesday and Thursday in Hoyt Hall, Room 005

Prerequisites: POLS 1000

Course Description:

POLS 2410 is "Deals with executive branches of governments in the U.S.: national, state and local. Considers organizational, political and policy-making aspects of each. Discusses administration in other forms of government, such as interstate compacts and regional agreements" (Course Catalog, 2017).

Disability Statement:

"It is University of Wyoming policy to accommodate students, faculty, staff, and visitors with disabilities. If you have a physical, learning, sensory, or psychological disability and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. You will need to register with University Disability Support Services (UDSS) in the Student Educational Opportunity offices, Room 330 Knight Hall, and provide UDSS with documentation of your disability" (University of Wyoming, 2015)

Objectives/Outcomes/Standards:

- Become familiar with the challenges faced by those who run government
- Expand your understanding of bureaucracy and what it means to be in one
- Think more deeply about how subconscious phenomena influence the practice of public administration
- Address what it really means to listen in government
- Apply your understanding(s) to an issue of interest in public administration

Text(s) and Readings:

Goodsell, Charles T. (2015). *The New Case for Bureaucracy*. Los Angeles: Sage/CQ Press.

Additional Journal Articles are/will be provided

Course Requirements/Assignments:

There are a total of three shorter written essays. These written assignments will ask you to think more deeply about some of the concepts you have learned, and in some cases allow you to reflect on your own experiences.

In the final paper you will have the opportunity to look at an issue of interest in Public Administration. Detailed requirements will follow.

All of your assignments, including the final paper will be posted and submitted through WyoCourses. This ensures some level of fairness for outreach students and provides a place for electronic feedback. Please be sure to see the detailed comments and written feedback within WyoCourses.

Grading Standards:

Grading Breakdown:

Participation: 5%

Assignments: 60%

Final Paper (acts as exam): 35%

Grading Scale:

A = 100 – 90

B = 89 – 80

C = 79 – 70

D = 69 – 60

F = 59 and below

Late Assignments:

1 day late = 10% reduction

2 days late = 20% reduction

3 days late = 30% reduction

Beyond 3 days late (72 hours) = Not accepted

Attendance/Participation Policy:

University sponsored absences are cleared through the Office of Student Life. If you have a legitimate reason for missing class (i.e. mental or physical issue that is empirically verified by a doctor's note) then appropriate arrangements can be made to make up the work. This requires you to notify me of your absence and condition as soon as possible, and it also requires you to take the necessary other steps to become caught up, like obtaining notes from a classmate, and bringing a set of specific questions to office hours that are related to the material.

Participation is closely related to being present, but also requires more than being a silent fixture in your chair, or writing endless comments and questions online. It requires you to make thoughtful questions and comments that are directly related to the course materials and hopefully enrich the learning process for others. These contributions should also help to keep discussion civil and avoid personal attacks on others. It is particularly difficult to participate in this manner if you do not read the material, are not well rested, or are distracted by online shopping. In other words you should not only read the material and spend some time reflecting on it, but you should also focus on listening to others (even when reading), i.e. good communication. To do well in terms of participation you should listen to lectures, complete the readings, and be prepared to discuss the material at each class.

Students are required to access their university email—it is an official means of communication and often used for announcements related to the class. Please only email me from your university email so that I can be compliant with FERPA guidelines.

Students must also be mentally present during lectures, including, but not limited to, avoiding the use of cellphones

Writing Center:

Students are encouraged to visit the university's writing center for general support and guidance. I highly encourage you to visit the center often and throughout the semester. The writing center is an invaluable resource to the college that all students (regardless of ability) ought to utilize. Writing is an ability that is

developed over a lifetime and something that you should practice daily. In light of this you should make an effort to be proactive concerning your ability to write, and when possible, less reactive. Hours and contact information for the writing center are posted here: <http://www.uwyo.edu/ctl/writing-center/>

Academic Honesty:

UW Regulation 6-802. "The University of Wyoming is built upon a strong foundation of integrity, respect and trust. All members of the university community have a responsibility to be honest and the right to expect honesty from others. Any form of academic dishonesty is unacceptable to our community and will not be tolerated [from the University Catalog]. Other University regulations can be found at: <http://www.uwyo.edu/generalcounsel/new-regulatory-structure/index.html>" (UW Registrar, 2015). The penalty for academic dishonesty, which includes plagiarism, will be a grade of "F" on the corresponding assignment.

Student Conduct:

For guidelines on appropriate student conduct in an out of class (as online forums are still considered related to class) you are encouraged to visit the Arts and Sciences' webpage for a brief summary: <http://www.uwyo.edu/generalcounsel/files/docs/UW-Reg-8-30.pdf>

Sources:

Anyone can make a Wikipedia entry. Intelligence and validity are not prerequisites to alter the site—only a computer, valid email address and access to the internet are required. In light of this Wikipedia is very different from a scholarly book, peer-reviewed journal article, or even newspaper. These sources can be considered primary, secondary, or tertiary, while Wikipedia does not fall into any of these categories. Being a good researcher in a world with so much information requires you to be able to discern which sources are credible, and what a particular source might be appropriately used for. In this respect your judgment of the sources and quality therein determines the quality of your argument. You should always be weary of search engine results given that the order is determined by popularity, not credibility. **Further, given that Wikipedia is actually written according to popularity it cannot be used or cited unless Wikipedia and its impact on society are the very subjects of your paper.**

Course Outline:

Week 1: (August 31st) Introduction to Class and Others

*Week 2: (September 5th and 7th) Democracy and Bureaucracy (Peas and Carrots), and Short Movie Clip
Readings: Goodsell ch. 1 (p.1-27)*

*Week 3: (September 12th and 14th) Getting to Know Bureaucracy
Readings: Goodsell ch. 1 (p.27-36) and ch. 2 (p.41-50)*

*Week 4: (September 19th and 21st) Getting to know Bureaucracy continued
Readings: Goodsell ch. 2. (p.50-77)*

*Week 5: (September 26th and 28th) "I see numbers" (not dead people)
Readings: Journal Article, Hummel, Ralph P. (2006). The Triumph of Numbers: Knowledges and the Mismeasure of Management. Administration & Society.
Assignment #1 Due September 25th at 11:59pm*

*Week 6: (October 3rd and 5th) Survey of Bureaucrats, no class on 5th
Readings: Goodsell ch. 3 (p.81-99)*

Week 7: (October 10th and 12th) Survey of Bureaucrats continued
Readings: Goodsell ch. 3 (p.99-119)

Week 8: (October 17th and 19th) Refining Evil, no class on 19th
Readings: Journal Article, Hoffman et al (2012), The Ten Masks of Administrative Evil.
Administrative Theory & Praxis.
Assignment #2 Due October 16th at 11:59pm

Week 9: (October 24th and 26th) The Challenge of Listening
Readings: Journal Article, Stivers, Camilla (1996). The Listening Bureaucrat. Public Administration Review.

Week 10: (October 31st and November 2nd) Theories of Governance
Readings: Goodsell ch. 4 (p.125-142)

Week 11: (November 7th and 9th) Theories of Governance continued
Readings: Goodsell ch. 4 (p.142-163)

Week 12: (November 14th and 16th) Do bureaucrats think their own thoughts?
Readings: Journal Article, Zingale & Piccorelli (2012). Chains of Freedom: A view from Erich Fromm on Individuality within Organizations. Administrative Theory & Praxis.
Assignment #3 Due November 13th at 11:59pm

Week 13: (November 21st and 23rd) Thanksgiving

Week 14: (November 28th and 30th) Public Trust—\$1B reward if found
Readings: Goodsell ch. 5

Week 15: (December 5th and 7th) Working Session
Readings: Journal Article to be Provided
Final Due on December 12th at 11:59PM

The instructor may make changes to the syllabus as the course proceeds. If necessary, these changes will be announced in class. Substantive changes made to the syllabus shall be communicated in writing to the students.