Course Summary

Course: PADM510  Title: Administrative Theory
Length of Course: 8
Prerequisites: N/A  Credit Hours: 3

Description

Course Description: This course covers the major administrative theories that drive macro-level public behavior. It will begin with a consideration of the broad significance of the study of public organizations for individuals in modern society. It will then examine how theorists and practitioners have sought to develop more formal perspectives on public management. It will examine those ideas that are of greatest relevance to the construction of an integrated theory of public organizations. The progression of the course follows the evolution of administrative theory from the pioneering work of Weber, Taylor.

Course Scope:

The progression of the course follows the evolution of administrative theory from the pioneering work of Weber, Taylor and Woodrow Wilson to current theories regarding the “New Public Management.” It covers the interactions of politics, economic conditions and public budgets; policy decision-making; the reinventing government movement and differences between public and private management; ethical considerations in public policy; and the paradigms that have dominated the field at different periods in its history.

Objectives

1. Compare and contrast formal theories of public organizations.
2. Evaluate the intellectual heritage of Marx, Weber, Wilson and others and their impact on the transformation of public service.
3. Evaluate the theoretical underpinnings of the new public management and the postmodern theories.
4. Assess the role of value systems and service in the administration of public policy.
5. Assess the importance of ethics and ethical theory in the administration of public resources to earn and retain public trust.
6. Assess the impact of budgetary theory on administrative theory.

Outline

Week 1: Classical Theorists
Learning Outcomes
1, 2, 4

Required Readings
Please see the materials section below for your weekly readings.

Assignments
Forum 1
Assignment: Early theorists

**Week 2: Neo-classical Theorists/ Challenges to Orthodoxy**

Learning Outcomes
1, 2, 4

Required Readings
Please see the materials section below for your weekly readings.

Assignments
Forum 2

**Week 3: Human Relations/Motivation**

Learning Outcomes
1, 2, 3, 4

Required Readings
Please see the materials section below for your weekly readings.

Assignments
Forum 3
Assignment: Human Relations Era Administrative Theory

**Week 4: Budgeting**

Learning Outcomes
1, 2, 4, 6

Required Readings
Please see the materials section below for your weekly readings.

Assignments
Forum 4
Week 5: Policy/Decision-making

Learning Outcomes
1, 2, 4

Required Readings
Please see the materials section below for your weekly readings.

Assignments
Forum 5
Assignment: Presidential Advisors/Theorists

Week 6: Public v. Private Management/Reinventing Government

Learning Outcomes
1, 2, 4

Required Readings
Please see the materials section below for your weekly readings.

Assignments
Forum 6

Week 7: Ethical Considerations and Organizational Culture

Learning Outcomes
1, 2, 4

Required Readings
Please see the materials section below for your weekly readings.

Assignments
Forum 7
Assignment: Research Paper

Week 8: Paradigms in Public Policy and Public Administration

Learning Outcomes
1, 2, 4, 5

Required Readings
Please see the materials section below for your weekly readings.

Assignments
Evaluation

Self-Introduction: The first forum includes a self-introduction, which should include your name, where you are located (country, state, or city), what your current job title is, where you received your undergraduate degree and in what field, any information you care to share about your family and hobbies, and what you hope to get out of the course.

This introduction needs to be at least 250 words and posted during the first week of the class. Do not attach your posting to the forum, type it into the comments box. Failure to complete this forum by the end of the first week of class will result in you being dropped from the course.

Forum Questions: You will have 8 forum questions, 1 per week, though the question may have several parts. For our forum discussions we will be analyzing concepts raised in the text, related readings, or current events. Students must provide a critical review of these issues and reply substantively to the contributions of at least two classmates. Postings should be analytic in nature and include examples that can bolster your argument. Postings and replies should be free of any spelling or grammar errors and properly cited.

Initial Response (posted by 11:55 PM Thursday): 500 words and must include scholarly references other than the textbook, preferably from scholarly journals that can be found on the APUS online library under EBSCO or JSTOR. If you reference a government agency, please give its website.

You should respond to a minimum of two of your classmates. These responses should be approximately 250 words each and are due not later than 11:55 PM Sunday. Postings within a few hours of the deadline are not considered timely.

The forum rubric can be found in the forum section of the classroom.

Assignments

There are 3 assignments that are assignments involving the theories and theorists we are studying. Each application is different and therefore has different expectations for length and depth. See the specific assignment for details. You are expected to draw from the weekly readings and find evidence to support your responses in journal articles or current events. Additionally, there is a final paper in which you apply the theories you learned in this class to a real life situation.

Grading:

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Creative Application Assignments</td>
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<td>Week 1 Assignment - Theories</td>
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<td>Week 3 Assignment - Human Relations Era Administrative Theory</td>
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Week Five analysis 20.00 %
Week 5 Assignment - Presidential Advisors/Theorists 20.00 %
Research Paper 30.00 %
Week 7 Final Paper 30.00 %

Materials

Book Title: There are no required books for this course.
Author: N/A
Publication Info: N/A
ISBN: N/A

Additional Readings:

Please see the readings listed for each week in the Course Timeline below.

The required readings listed by week follow. You can find these by copying the title and pasting it into the search box after you log into the APUS library site. They should all be available in full text versions.

Week One - Classical Theorists


Week Two - NeoClassical Theorists/Challenges to Orthodoxy


Week Three - Human Relations/Motivations


Week Four - Budgeting and Policy


Week Five - Decision Making and Policy


Week Six - Public v Private Management/Reinventing Government


Week Seven - Ethical Considerations and Organizational Culture


**Week Eight - Paradigms in Public Policy and Public Administration**


**Web Sites**

The APUS library offers a fabulous resource, the Library Course Guide! You can find the Guide http://apus.libguides.com/friendly.php?s=pubadmin

Please explore all the tabs. The Articles Tab contains many of the Public Administration Journal links and the web resources are extensive. The eReserves contain links to the article readings in the syllabus.

**Course Guidelines**

**Citation and Reference Style**

- Attention Please: Students will follow the APA Format as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the APA Format.

**Tutoring**
• **Tutor.com** offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours* of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

**Late Assignments**

• Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. The due date for each assignment is listed under each Assignment.

• Generally speaking, late work may result in a deduction up to 20% of the grade for each day late, not to exceed 5 days.

• As a working adult I know your time is limited and often out of your control. Faculty may be more flexible if they know ahead of time of any potential late assignments.

**Turn It In**

• Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. In some cases professors may require students to use Turnitin.com. This is automatically processed through the Assignments area of the course.

**Academic Dishonesty**

• Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

**Submission Guidelines**

• Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc) See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.

**Disclaimer Statement**

• Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

**Communicating on the Forum**

• Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting time after which the instructor will grade comments, it is not sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.

• “Substantive” means comments that contribute something new and hopefully important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says “I agree” is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.

• As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual’s own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
University Policies

Student Handbook

- Drop/Withdrawal policy
- Extension Requests
- Academic Probation
- Appeals
- Disability Accommodations

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation’s military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.