Course Summary

Course: PADM611  Title: Law and Public Policy  
Length of Course: 8  
Prerequisites: N/A  Credit Hours: 3

Description

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the law and legal system as it applies to public administration and policy. It covers the interrelation of norms, moral codes and formal laws. The attempt to address social concerns with new laws and regulations has created increased pressure in the courts and legislative chambers. This course examines the sources, influences, operation and consequences of law and public policy formation, and analyzes public policy initiatives from political and legal aspects as to their intentions, achievable aims, and intended and unintended outcomes.

Course Scope:

This graduate-level course will present students with a broad overview of the myriad intersections between law and public policy. This will include individual rights and their intersection with government, administrative law and practice, judicial review, and the rulemaking process, among other critical areas of study.

Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to

1. Analyze the nature of law and its limits for governing behavior utilizing Supreme Court decisions.
2. Evaluate the restrictions on federal government action under regulatory guidance or case law.
3. Evaluate the Constitutional restraints/requirements for public officials as they apply to the rights of the individual citizen.
4. Distinguish how an executive agency makes rules and regulations.
5. Examine Federal regulations and laws in the public policy process.
6. Critique the application of regulatory and case law guidance on complex legal and diverse cultural situations.
7. Interpret common constitutional issues presented in public service controversies and their ethical implications for solving public problems.

Outline
**Week 1: Public Law and How to Find It**

Course Objective(s)
Reading(s)
Szypszak Chapters 1, 15
Assignment(s)
Forum 1.1 (Self Intro)

**Week 2: Constitutional Principles, Due Process and ADR**

Course Objective(s)
CO1, CO2, CO3
Reading(s)
Szypszak Chapters 2, 3, 13
and
Assignment(s)
Forum 2
Post your proposed research topic on the paper topic forum

**Week 3: Freedom of Speech and Religion**

Course Objective(s)
CO1, CO2, CO3
Reading(s)
Szypszak Chapter 4
Assignment(s)
Forum 3
Oral Argument Paper

**Week 4: Freedom of Information**

Course Objective(s)
CO1, CO3, CO4
Week 5: Contracts and Employment Law

Course Objective(s)
CO3, CO7

Reading(s)
Szymaszak Chapters 7, 8

Assignment(s)
Forum 5
Case Brief/Oral Argument

Week 6: Torts and Criminal Law

Course Objective(s)
CO3, CO7

Reading(s)
Szymaszak Chapters 9, 10

Assignment(s)
Forum 6

Week 7: Administrative Law and Procedure

Course Objective(s)
CO4, CO6, CO8
Szypszak Chapter 11

Additional Reading on Rulemaking can be found at

and


and


Forum 7

Research Paper

Week 8: Ethics and the Law

Szypszak Chapter 12


Forum 8

Evaluation

Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade %</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral Argument Assignments</td>
<td>20.00 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Argument - Week 2</td>
<td>10.00 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Argument - Week 3</td>
<td>10.00 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forums</td>
<td>30.00 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 1</td>
<td>0.37 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 1.2</td>
<td>3.70 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 2</td>
<td>3.70 %</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Forum 3 3.70 %
Forum 4 3.70 %
Forum 5 3.70 %
Forum 6 3.70 %
Forum 7 3.70 %
Forum 8 3.70 %
Research Paper 30.00 %
Regulatory Analysis - Week 8 30.00 %
Library/Regulatory Assignment 20.00 %
Library/Regulation Assignment - Week 6 20.00 %

Materials

**Book Title:** Understanding Law for Public Administration  
**Author:** Charles Szypszak  
**Publication Info:** Jones and Bartlett  
**ISBN:** 9780763780111

In addition, this course will use web resources and instructor-provided citations as secondary course materials. You will find the article citation in the Outline section above. Some readings can be found by accessing the e-Reserves on the APUS library site’s Course Guide for PADM611 at [http://apus.libguides.com/PADM611](http://apus.libguides.com/PADM611) as well as copying the title of the article and searching via the search box on the APUS library site when you are logged in.

**Web Sites**


Please explore all the tabs. The Articles Tab contains many of the Public Administration Journal links and the web resources are extensive.

In addition to the required course texts, the following public domain web sites are useful. Please abide by the university’s academic honesty policy when using Internet sources as well. Note web site addresses are subject to change.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Web Site URL/Address</th>
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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
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
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.