Course Summary

Course: PADM699  Title: Public Administration Capstone  
Length of Course: 16  
Prerequisites: N/A  Credit Hours: 3

Description

Course Description: The capstone for the Public Policy program is the final course in the MPP program and involves submission of a master’s thesis which puts forth original research in the discipline. Guidance on the format of the thesis is contained in the APUS End of Program Manual. NOTE: This course may not be taken until all of your other courses are COMPLETED and you have a minimum 3.0 GPA. THIS COURSE IS 16 WEEKS.

Course Scope:

The course offers students an opportunity to examine a range of concepts and techniques across the discipline of public administration, bringing them to bear on an issue of importance to the field. It also equips students with a useful skill set for advanced practice or graduate work.

Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- Assess the leading approaches to managing public organizations
- Evaluate the moral, legal, and ethical aspects of decision-making in the public sector
- Evaluate the government budgeting process and funding of government programs and organizations
- Appraise the role of government organizations in public policy development and implementation
- Develop solutions to a public issue that take into account multiple stakeholders and decision-makers
- Implement the core concept of public service by providing evidence of service to the public or nonprofit sector
- Critique a difficult political situation and offer creative and innovative solutions that take into account multiple stakeholders and decision-makers
- Implement the core concept of public service by providing evidence of service to the public or nonprofit sector
- Assess the part diversity, or lack thereof, plays in public administration
Outline

Week 1: Introduction; Thesis Topic

Assignments

Please post an introduction in the Intro forum as well as your thesis topic in the second section of the week one forum. Please begin identifying relevant research literature.

Week 2: Thesis Proposal

Assignments

Please submit the Thesis Proposal in the assignment section

Post New Public Service Insights response in the forum this week. Don't forget to ask the librarian any questions you have on research as well this week in the forum section.

Week 3: Work on Literature Review

Assignments

Continue to work on your Literature Review

Week 4: Work on Literature Review

Assignments

Continue to work on your Literature Review

Week 5: Literature Review

Assignments

Your Literature Review is due by Sunday this week!

Week 6: Methodology/Theoretical Framework

Assignments

Your Methodology/Theoretical Framework is due by the end of the week!

Week 7: Work on Thesis

Assignments

Your first progress report is due in the forums this week!

Week 8: Work on Thesis
Assignments

Keep working on your thesis and be sure to let me know if you have any questions.

**Week 9: Work on Thesis**

Assignments

Your second draft is due in the Progress Reports in the forum section.

**Week 10: Work on Thesis**

Assignments

Keep working on your thesis!

**Week 11: Work on Thesis**

Assignments

This week is the final opportunity to submit a draft in the third progress report in the forum section.

**Week 12: Work on Thesis**

Assignments

Keep working on your thesis draft! Remember, the draft due next week should be in as close to final form as possible!

**Week 13: Draft Thesis**

Assignments

Submit a draft of the full, completed thesis including cover sheet, abstract, and all sections, references, and appendices by Sunday this week.

**Week 14: Review final comments**

Assignments

I will provide comments by the end of the week on your final draft. Please make sure to address them as you move toward your final submission.

**Week 15: Final edits**

Assignments

Please make all final edits this week! Your final submission next week should have all comments addressed, all grammar and citation correct and be in "perfect" shape for the library!

**Week 16: Final submission**
Assignments

Your final submission is due by the end of this week! Congrats!!!

Evaluation

Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sections</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methodology/Theoretical Framework</td>
<td>4.00 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Draft</td>
<td>20.00 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Draft paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Thesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
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Materials

**Book Title:** The New Public Service: Serving, Not Steering, 4th ed. (this title will be required in PADM500, PADM505, PADM520, PADM530, PADM610, PADM612, PADM697 and PADM699. Only one purchase required)

**Author:** J. Denhardt and R. Denhardt

**Publication Info:** Routledge

**ISBN:** 9781138891258

Required Readings


Web Sites

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 website addresses can change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Web Site URL/Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purdue</td>
<td><a href="http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/">http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/</a></td>
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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 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.