

Short Assignments by Dr. Milan Dluhy of the University of North Carolina Wilmington

Assignment or exercise: Go to library and review any text on public budgeting. Read chapters related to decision making or incrementalism. Alternatively peruse any of Aaron Wildavsky's books. In two pages or less explain the main features of budgetary decision making according to the incremental school of thought. Critique the incrementalists. Use bullets in your memo.

Assignment: Peruse at least three local budgets (either government or non-profit) and identify four or five services that are most likely to be privatized. Then explain why these services have been contracted out. Limit 2 pages.

Assignment: Write a two page paper indicating the five most telling characteristics of a local government or agency in fiscal distress. Be specific as to what the best indicators are.

Assignment: Pick one N.Y. Bond rating agency and review their criteria for rating local governments who seek to issue bonds. Limit two pages.

Assignment: In two pages illustrate what you think are the most effective ways of making a government or agency fiscally accountable. Be specific. New laws? Practices? Oversight groups?

Assignment: Pick two governments or two non-profits and compare and contrast their pension programs. For example, are they underfunded? Portable? Inflation proof?