

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION THEORY

Fall 2008
Mondays
317 Burnham Hall

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Office hours: Email me and we'll set up a mutually convenient time.

In this course we will discuss the development of public administration as a scholarly area of knowledge and as a professional practice.

The theme of this course is "Quality Public Management", a type of management which, I believe, is best for today=s public sector organizations. We will discuss this theme each class meeting. Our discussions will be based on the readings about public administration theory and on *QUALITY Public Management*.

Texts: Shafritz, Jay M., and Albert C. Hyde, eds., *Classics of Public Administration*, 6th ed. Belmont, Calif.: Wadsworth/Thompson., 2007. (This is the main text for this course.)

Beam, George. *QUALITY Public Management: What It Is and How It Can Be Improved and Advanced*. Lanham, MD.: Rowman and Littlefield (Burnham), 2001. (This text is central to the theme of the course.)

Written Assignments and Essays

1. Write 5 short Essays (each about 4 or 5 pages, or longer), one from each of the Five Parts in *Classics of Public Administration*, as indicated on the Essay Report Sign-up Sheet. (Part Five consists of nos. 48-57 of Part Four of *Classics of Public Administration*; see p. iv.). In each Essay summarize the article/excerpt selected, and also include your assessment of the author(s)'s main points. In addition, on a separate single page identify the author(s)'s Main Points. Hand in your Essays and the one page statements of the author(s)'s Main Points on the designated dates. Also, make copies of the one page Main Points and distribute to the class. After you hand in each Essay and one page statement, be prepared, when called upon, to restate the author's Main Points, and be prepared to respond to questions and comments. (60% of the course grade.)
2. Final examination (40% of the course grade): Dec. 8

Each class session consists of three parts: 1) Lectures/discussions of Public Administration Theory; 2) Discussion of the Main Points of the Essays; and 3) Theme of the Course: Quality Public Management.

Introduction to the Course

Aug. 25

Written Assignments, Essays, Discussions of the Main Points of the Essays,
Theme of the Course, and Additional Readings

Overview of the Syllabus

System Analysis
Behaviorism

Rules for Social Science Research

I

Sept. 8

Hand in Part One Essays

Sept. 8--Sept. 15

1. Public Administration Theory from the 1880s to the 1920s
Classics of Public Administration, Part One
Max Weber=s Ideal Type Bureaucracy
The Importance of Administration
Differences between Politics and Administration
2. Discussion of the Main Points of the Essays
3. Theme of the Course: The Quality Management Reform Movement
QUALITY Public Management, Preface, and, Part I

II

Sept. 22

Hand in Part Two Essays

Sept. 22--Oct. 6

1. Public Administration Theory from the 1930s to the 1950s
Classics of Public Administration, Part Two
Luther Gulick and the Orthodox,/Traditional View of
Administration
The Brownlow Commission and Its Recommendations
Informal Organizations
Organizations and Personality: Merton and Maslow

- Herbert Simon=s Views of Administration
 The Administrative State
 The Hoover Commission Report
2. Discussion of the Main Points of the Essays
 3. Theme of the Course: Processes and Quality Management
QUALITY Public Management, Ch. 3, 4, 5

Oct. 13

Hand in Part Three Essays

III

Oct. 13—Oct. 27

1. Public Administration Theory in the 1960s and 1970s
Classics of Public Administration, Part Three
 Budget Making and Incrementalism
 The American Federal System, Intergovernmental Relations, and
 Decentralization
 Policy Analysis and Public Administration
 Liberal Ideology and Administrative Reform
 Representative Bureaucracy
2. Discussion of the Main Points of the Essays
3. Theme of the Course: Structures and Quality Management
QUALITY Public Management, Ch. 6

IV

Nov. 3

Hand in Part Four Essays

Nov. 3--Nov. 10

1. Public Administration Theory from the 1980s to the 2000s
Classics of Public Administration, Part Four (nos. 39-45)
 Street-Level Bureaucracy
 Public Administration and the Separation of Powers
 Ethics and Public Administration
 Feminist Perspective in Public Administration
2. Discussion of the Main Points of the Essays
3. Theme of the Course: Personnel and Quality Management
QUALITY Public Management, Ch. 7

V

Nov. 17

Hand in Part Five (nos. 48-57) Essays

Nov. 17--Dec. 1

1. Public Administration Theory from the 1980s through the 2000s (cont.)
Classics of Public Administration, Part Five (nos. 46-54)
Cultures, Attitudes, and Organizations
Diversity and Public Administration
The New Public Management (NPM)
Reinventing Government and the National Performance Review
2. Discussion of the Main Points of the Essays
3. Theme of the Course: Improving and Advancing Quality Management
QUALITY Public Management, Ch. 8, 9

Dec. 8

FINAL EXAMINATION