

Instructor: Takashi Tsukamoto

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Office: GRAM 234

Office hours: T/Th after class 1:00pm-3:00pm (and by appt.)

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Days	Time	Room
T/Th	11:00 am - 12:15 pm	STAC 204

Fall 2009

PSC310: Public Administration

Course Description:

This course is designed to give students opportunities to review and analyze the functions, structures and practices of public administration. It aims to enhance your knowledge regarding the fundamental questions of public bureaucracy, such as: why do we have it? What are its roles in the American government system? How does it affect our communities and lives? And what values, interests and politics guide its course? A secondary purpose is to stimulate your interest in the public sector for your future career and further academic endeavors. We will achieve these aims through a combination of readings, lectures, discussions, case studies, and project works. The perspectives with which we will be studying the topic include:

- Political aspects of decision-making and organizational behavior
- The public sector management as oppose to the private sector management
- Various policy fields in which public administrations operate
- The relationship between politics and administration
- Competing values and ideologies behind administrative disagreements

Course Goals:

At the end of the semester, you will be knowledgeable about:

- The scope and functions of public administration
- Basic American administrative systems
- Values behind the purposes of the public sector
- Issues involved in public policy making and policy implementation
- Recent policy issues and administrative functions

Course Expectations:

Active student participation is expected in this course. You are expected to:

- Take all exams
- Conduct a student-led class discussion (as a team member)
- Submit your project paper by due date (an instruction will follow on later dates)
- Attend class regularly. The instructor reserves the right to conduct "pop-quizzes."
- Read the assigned course materials by the dates of the class sessions
- Active participation in class discussions
- Be punctual and respectful to others (no disruptive behaviors, no cell phones) and stay for the entire class.

Course Requirements and grade distributions:

- Two exams, one research paper, one student-led class discussion (as a group), class participation:
- Exam 1: 25%; student-led discussion 20%; research paper 25%; Final Exam 25%; class participation 5% of final grades.

NOTE:

- If you have special needs because of a learning disability, please feel free to discuss this with me.
- Blackboard (and email addresses recorded there) is used as the main source of telecommunication.
- No extra-credit work is offered.

Grading Policy:

Final grades are determined according to the following schedule.

A+	97-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A	93-96	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	60-66
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	F	Below 60

Required Books: The following books should be available at the school bookstore

- Michael C. LeMay, *Public Administration: Clashing values in the administration of public policy*

Other Required Readings:

- Papers and articles on e-reserves and Blackboard

Week	Topic and Reading (Tue)	Topic and Reading (Thu)
1	8/25 <i>Introduction</i> Course explanation	8/27 <i>Balancing values in the administration of public policy</i> Text: Ch.1 BB: Conte: "Deadly strain"
2	9/01 <i>Balancing values in the administration of public policy</i> BB: Wilson, "The study of administration" and Terry, "Public administration as theater metaphor"	9/03 <i>The social, political, economic and environmental context of administration</i> Text: Ch. 2 BB: Vizzard, "The impact of agenda conflict on policy formulation and implementation"
3	9/08 <i>The iron triangle and captive agency</i> <u>Student presentation - 1</u> Defense spending	9/10 <i>Bureaucratic power and politics</i> Text: Ch.3 BB: Schick, "Congress and the 'Details' of Administration"
4	9/15 <i>Bureaucratic power and politics</i> <u>Student presentation - 2</u> War on Iraq	9/17 <i>Administration in the Federal system</i> Text: Ch.4 BB: CQ, "Federalism under Reagan" and Krugman, "Reagan did it"
5	9/22 <i>Administration in the Federal system</i> <u>Student presentation - 3</u> Intergovernmental relations under the economic crisis	9/24 <i>Decision making in the administration of public policy</i> Text: Ch. 6 BB: Forester, "Bounded rationality and politics of muddling through"
6	9/29 Exam 1	10/01 <i>Market failure and government failure</i> CQ: Financial bailout
7	10/06 <i>Market failure and government failure</i> BB: Frank, "The invisible hand, trumped by Darwin?" and Glaeser, "A failure of regulation, not capitalism"	10/08 <i>Market failure and government failure</i> <u>Student presentation - 4</u> The financial crisis and administration
8	10/13 Fall Break	10/15 <i>Management and personnel system of bureaucratic organization</i>

		Text: Ch. 7 and 9 BB: Dilulio, "Principled agents"
9	10/20 <i>Leadership and public administration</i> Text: Ch. 10 BB: Terry, "Leadership in the administrative state"	10/22 <i>Leadership and public administration</i> <u>Student presentation - 5</u> Analyzing the presidential leadership
10	10/27 <i>Communication for administration</i> Text: Ch. 11 BB: Cleveland, "Government is information" and Koser, "Inside the presidential communication machine"	10/29 <i>Communication for administration</i> <u>Student presentation - 6</u> Executive leadership, communication and policy formulation
11	11/03 <i>Financial management</i> Text: Ch. 12 E-reserve: Anderson, "Budgeting and public policy"	11/05 <i>Financial management</i> <u>Student presentation- 7</u> Federal budgeting and national debt
12	11/10 <i>Public regulation</i> Text: Ch. 13 BB: Leonhard, "Washington's visible hand" and Lipton and Labaton, "Deregulator looks back, unswayed"	11/12 <i>Public regulation</i> <u>Student presentation - 8</u> Public regulation and services
13	11/17 <i>Government policy and interest group</i> Text: 14 BB: Johnson, "The quiet coup" and Dash, "It it's too big to fail, is it too big to exist?"	11/19 <i>Government policy and interest group</i> <u>Student presentation - 9</u> Interest groups, politics and administration
14	11/24 <i>Government policy and interest group</i> <u>Student presentation - 10</u> Energy and climate change	11/26 Thanksgiving Holiday
15	12/01 <i>Administration and democracy</i> BB: Meier, "Bureaucracy and democracy"	12/03 Course round-up and final exam review
16	12/08 Reading Day	
	12/15 Final Exam 12:00-3:00 PM	