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### PSC 523.01: Administrative Law

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Help



Logout

Announcements

Syllabus

Faculty Informati

Course Materials

Assignments

Communication

Tools

Course Documents

Tools

Communication

Course Tools

Course Map

Control Panel

Refresh

Detail View

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW (SECT: 50, FALL 2006) &gt; SYLLABUS

EDIT VIEW



## Syllabus



### Syllabus

Political Science 523

Administrative Law

Instructor - Professor James J. Lopach, Ph.D.

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University of Montana

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Introduction - Administrative Law is the part of American constitutional law that deals with the work of public administrators. Its principles are closely related to the doctrines of separation of powers and due process. The traditional divisions of administrative law are the delegation doctrine (the relationship of an agency to the legislature), judicial review (the relationship of an agency to the courts), rulemaking (the procedures an agency follows when it makes regulations that have the force of law), and adjudication (the procedures an agency follows when it resolves disputes with regulated parties). The learning goals of the course are student understanding of substantive administrative law principles, accurate case analysis, and coherent written expression of this understanding.

Text - Steven Cann, Administrative Law, 4th edition, Sage, 2006 (available through the UM bookstore, 406/243-1234, extension 663; [umtbookstore.com](http://umtbookstore.com) (textbooks))

Class format - Each week students will read the assigned pages in the text and the instructor's overview statement and answer related queries posted by the instructor. During each week, the instructor will respond to student e-mail inquiries and post announcements that address common problems the students have had with the readings. In addition to the written answers to the weekly posted queries, the other graded components of the course will be three writing assignments and a final examination.

Required reading - Reading assignments are posted for each of the course's 13 weeks. The assignments are short but at times difficult because of the nature of legal writing. Students should concentrate on the readings mentioned in the queries and, if necessary, read that material several times to get at its meaning.

Examination - The final examination will be posted as an announcement on or before December 1 and will be due via e-mail on or before December 9. It will be based on the overview statements and on the parts of the text referenced in each week's queries.

Grading (200 possible points)

Final examination - 62 points

1st writing assignment - 20 points

2nd writing assignment - 20 points