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PSC 501.01: Public Administration

Jeffrey D. Greene

University of Montana, Missoula, jeffrey.greene@umontana.edu

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S Y L L A B U S

PSc 501 Public Administration

Fall 1995

Wednesdays LA 344 4:10 - 6:30 p.m.

Professor: Jeff Greene

Telephone: 243-6181

Office: LA 356

Hours: 3-4 p.m. TWTh

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to allow students to develop an understanding of public administration as a field of academic study and an area of professional practice. Specifically, it focuses on the evolution of public administration as an academic discipline, the context in which public administration takes place, the meaning of public service in a democratic society, and the importance of personal and professional ethics. The course will be conducted as a seminar. Students must be prepared to discuss reading assignments and participate in analysis of case studies.

The specific competencies developed in PSc 501 are:

- 1) Knowledge of public administration as a field of study
- 2) Knowledge of the political and organization context of public administration
- 3) Knowledge of public administration as a profession
- 4) Written communication
- 5) Awareness of public service values
 - personal ethics
 - professional ethics
 - citizen responsiveness
 - social responsibility

REQUIRED TEXTS

Public Administration: Concepts and Cases (5th Edition) by Stillman

Public Management: The Essential Readings by Ott, Hyde, and Shafritz

PSc 501 Professor's Pack (Available in UC Bookstore)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for the class include a paper on

professionalism in public service, article summaries and oral presentations (articles will be assigned to groups), and a final paper. Students will also write a five page analytical paper on "professionalism" in public service. This paper should address the importance of professionalism in public administration and what the concept means to you personally. **This paper is due October 4.** The final paper is will be explained in greater detail on the first day of class. The paper involves selecting three concepts that you find interesting and describing why they are useful to you as a manager. The grade weights are specified below.

Summaries/Presentations...	20%	
Professionalism Paper ...	20%	(Due Oct. 4)
Final Paper	60%	(Due Dec. 13 -- Late papers will be reduced by one letter grade)

READING ASSIGNMENTS AND CLASS OUTLINE

Session 1 Introduction to Public Service

Session 2 Theme: The Discipline of Public Administration

#1 "Public Administration's Century in a Quandary"
by Nicholas Henry (Professor's Pack)

#2 "Public Administrative Theory and the Separation
of Powers" by David Rosenbloom (Professor's
Pack)

#3 "Five Great Issues in the Profession of Public
Administration" by Brian Fry (Professor's Pack)

Session 3 Theme: The Practice of Public Administration?

(Stillman: Chapter 1)

Reading: "The Study of Administration" by Woodrow
Wilson

Case: "The Blast at Centralia No. 5"

Articles:

#1 "The Roots of Public Management" by Perry and
Kraemer

#2 "Management Functions and PA" by Graham and Hays

#3 "What is Public Management?" by Garson and
Overman

Session 4

Theme: Professionalism in Public Service

#4

Readings: "The Public Administration Community and the Search for Professionalism" by John Gargan (Professor's Pack)

"ASPA Professional Code" (Professor's Pack)

Articles:

#1

"The Managerial Ethic and Productivity Improvement" by Brown

Session 5

Theme: The Relationship Between Ethics and Public Service -- Moral Ambiguities and Public Choice

(Stillman: Chapter 16)

Reading: "Ethics and Public Service" by Stephen Bailey

Case: "The \$150 Billion Calamity"

Session 6

Theme: The Organizational Context of Public Administration

(Stillman: Chapter 2)

Reading: "Bureaucracy" by Max Weber

Case: "The Rise of the U.S. Bureaucracy"

Articles:

#2

"Computing and Public Organizations" by Kraemer and King

#3

"Utilizing Information Technology" by Lucas

#4

"The Twilight of Hierarchy:" by Cleveland

Session 7

Theme: The General Environment of Public Administration

(Stillman: Chapters 3)

Reading: "The Ecology of Public Administration" by John Gaus

Case: "Dumping \$2.6 million on Bakersfield"

Articles:

#1 "The Concept of Rational Administration" by Meyer

Session 8 Theme: The Political Environment of Public Administration

(Stillman: Chapter 4)

Reading: "Power and Administration" by Norton Long

Case: "The Changing FBI -- The Road to Abscam"

Articles:

#2 "Management and Accountability Models" by Johnson and Lewin

#3 "Organizations and Change" by Brunsson

Session 9 Theme: The Complexities of Intergovernmental Relations

(Stillman: Chapters 5)

Reading: "American Federalism: Madison's Middle Ground" by Martha Derthick

Case: "Achieving a Negotiated Compensation Agreement in Nuclear Waste Disposal Siting: The MRS Case"

Session 10 Theme: The Concept of the Professional State

(Stillman: Chapter 7)

Reading: "The Professional State" by Frederick Moser

Case: "Politics, Professionals, and the President: Developing an Executive Tax Initiative"

Articles:

#4 "Decision Making in the Federal Government" by Held

Session 11 Theme: The Uniqueness of Public Management.

(Stillman: Chapter 10)

Reading: "Public and Private Management: Are They Fundamentally Alike in All Unimportant Respects?" by Graham Allison

Case: "The MOVE Disaster"

Articles:

#1 "Managing in Public and Private Organizations" by Yates

Session 12 **Theme: The Relationship Between Politics and Administration**

(Stillman: Chapter 14)

Reading: "Issue Networks and the Executive Establishment" by Hugh Heclo

Case: "Mayor Dinkins: Every Day a Test"

Session 13 **Theme: The Relationship Between the Public and Private Sectors**

(Stillman: Chapter 15)

Reading: "The Public and Private Spheres in Historical Perspective" by Thomas McGraw

Case: "Close Encounters or How to Create a Workable Partnership in Downtown"

Articles:

#2 "The Problems of Government Overmanagement" by Federal Executive Institute

#3 "The Changing Responsibilities and Tactics of the Federal Government" by Mosher

#4 "Changing Public-Private Sector Relations" by Smith

Session 14 **Papers due December 13**