Introduction:

This course is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of public service. This course will introduce a brief description of the history of public service in the context of American democracy, examine the current erosion of interest in public service, explore the diversity of action for public service, and allow the students to explore their personal perspectives and experiences.

Course Overview:

Public Service as Responsible Citizenship is designed to nourish students’ current and future commitments to the common good. Students will explore their personal values with respect to leadership service and diversity through critical analysis of social issues, reflection and practice. By the end of the course, students should be able to articulate an understanding of public service and apply theories and models of service and leadership to an issue of their choosing. This course critically examines the community service approach to “public work” and seeks to understand how service might be more effective in improving community life. Students will learn basic strategies and tactics utilized by individuals, groups, and organizations to maintain and improve the quality of life in their communities.

This course is constructed around a simple model of public service to describe the options for public service. This model includes participation in public service not only as a core responsibility for everyone of us as citizens and members of the community but also as a fulfilling desire to improve the conditions of living within the community and the society and to make a difference. This engagement cannot be restrained by the simplifying distinction between public and private sector.

This course also will focus on the impacts within the community of the diverse alternative of public service, whether through traditional political participation, personal volunteering, careers in public service, service on nonprofit boards, and socially-responsible engagement in corporate careers. The course will argue that all citizens have the chance to engage in public service during their lives – the question is therefore, how to improve the odds that they will both make and sustain their commitment?
Outcomes of the Course:

- Have a clear understanding of the notion of public service and its application within our modern democratic society
- Be able to apply theories of citizenship and social contract to current public service practices
- Be able to connect the theories of public service to practical public service experiences by becoming engaged within the community

Academic Integrity:

All students are expected to work independently. All assignments should be the student’s own work – unauthorized collaboration, plagiarism, copying from previous semester answer keys or assignments, and other forms of academic dishonesty are expressly prohibited. Rutgers University’s Office of Academic Integrity maintains a website explaining the university’s academic honesty procedures:

http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/

The web site also provides resources for students. It is the student’s responsibility to understand the definition of academic honesty, but if you are ever in doubt, please ask me before you do something that could put your academic career in jeopardy.

The following websites provides basic guidelines regarding the APA citation style:

http://www.lcc.edu/library/help/citation/apaonline.aspx
http://www.landmark.edu/library/citation-guides/landmark-college-citation-guides/apa-citation-style-guide/

For any further help with reading, writing or even research skills, students may reach out to the Rutgers, Newark Writing Center, which provides writing tutoring and writing workshops to all undergraduate students currently enrolled in classes on the Rutgers University, Newark Campus. The Newark Writing Center is located in Conklin 126. Contact information may be found on their website:

http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/writingcenter

Disability Services:

Students who are in need of disability-related academic accommodations must register with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). Students with authorized disability-related accommodations should provide me with a current Accommodation Authorization Letter from ODS. Accommodations are not provided retroactively, so please let me know about them as early as possible. Further information is available at the ODS web site:

http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/

Participation and Attendance:

Class attendance is required and expected. Two or more absences will hurt your grade. Students will be expected to share their knowledge and opinion of lectures, required readings and related materials. This is a course primarily based on class discussion and group participation so class attendance is required. Students who are missing class are responsible to individually obtain the content and the materials discussed for and during the class missed. Most of the communication will be done through Blackboard; students are individually responsible to properly access the information from the website.
Policies:

✓ Attendance: Required
✓ Syllabus: This syllabus serves as general outline. I reserve the right to deviate from any part of the plan as necessary. Students will be notified of any such modifications.
✓ Late Assignments: Submitting the required assignments is a prerequisite for this class. As such, late assignments will be applied a penalty, namely 10 percent of the assignment for each day between the due date and the submission date.
✓ Grade Disputes: If students have a grade dispute, they should submit a one-page memo to the instructor presenting evidence for their case. The instructor will review and reconsider the original assignment. This review may lead to a grade increase but equally may lead to a grade decrease based on the new overall evaluation.
✓ Class Etiquette: In order to make the class as enjoyable as possible for everyone, laptops and cell phones should be turned off during the class. Reading the outside material, talking during lectures, leaving the classes early, text messaging, emailing, and surfing the web are prohibited in class. Please arrive on time!

Grading

✓ Attendance & Participation – 20%
✓ Public Service Investigation – 25%
✓ Service Opportunity – 15%
✓ Journal – 40%

Books & Materials:


Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July 8, 2013</th>
<th>Introduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 9, 2013</td>
<td>Democracy and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ Journal Entry: What are the principles the Constitution and the American society advocate that support public service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 10, 2013</td>
<td>Public Service: Early Beginning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓ Journal Entry: How have religion, immigration, socio-economic development and urbanization influenced the early stage of public service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 11, 2013</td>
<td>Public Service: Professionalization of an Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 17, 2013</td>
<td>Reasons to Engage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18, 2013</td>
<td>A Range of Alternatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 22, 2013</td>
<td>Conceptualizing Public Service Today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 23, 2013</td>
<td>Voluntary Engagement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Part 2 – Public Service as an Engagement**
### July 24, 2013

**Political Participation**


**Journal Entry:** Have recent presidential elections changed the rationality to participate? Explore one fact or trends related to one voting issue related to the 2012 U.S. presidential election from the Pew Research Center

### July 25, 2013

**Service Opportunity**

*No Class – 2 hours Volunteer Experience within an organization of your choice*

### July 29, 2013

**Methods for Increasing Participation**

- **Journal Entry:** What can nonprofit organizations do to increase volunteerism? Local governments to promote participation?

### July 30, 2013

**Digital Citizenship**

- Tisch & Weber, *Citizen You*, Chap.6

- **Journal Entry:** How have Information and Communication Technologies changed the engagement of the public?

### July 31, 2013

**Driving Social Change**

- **Journal Entry:** What is social change? What are some of the recent examples of social change that have affected public service? How?

### Aug. 1, 2013

**A Career in Public Service**

- **Journal Entry:** What are you looking for in a job? A career? Have you ever had a public service internship? If so, how did it affect your interest in public service? If not, why not?

### Aug. 5, 2013

**Making a Difference in Nonprofit**


- **Journal Entry:** How do nonprofit organizations participate to public service? Should we have better control on their activities? How? Explore the information you may find about one nonprofit organization of your choice from one of the following websites (Guidestar, Charity Navigation)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Journal Entry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 6, 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Journal Entry:</em> How do government participate to public service? Should government be the ultimate public service provider?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 8, 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Journal Entry:</em> What is a foundation? How do foundations participate to public service? Do they restrain or expand the scope of public service? Explore one example of your choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 8, 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Journal Entry:</em> What is a social entrepreneurship? How does social entrepreneurship participate to public service? How is it different from nonprofit? Explore one example of your choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 12, 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Journal Entry:</em> Can business be associated to public service? If so, how? If not, should they?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 13, 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Journal Entry:</em> Is it rational to not get engaged? How does engagement promote our democracy?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 14, 2013</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Journal Entry:</em> How can public service be applied abroad? Should it be? Explore one program from one of the following organization (GlobalCitizenCorps, Gates Foundation, Amnesty International, Care, Medecins Sans Frontieres, WWF, Compassion International)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>