

Intellectual History of Public Administration (26:834:617) [3 credits]

Course Description

This course examines the intellectual history of public administration. It emphasizes the challenges that the field has faced and continues to face with respect to its theory, scope and methods. Each student will be required to write weekly “synthesis” papers and at the conclusion of the class formulate a “synthesis” on their view of the field of public administration.

Learning Objectives

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Express through writing and oral presentation understanding of the rich intellectual heritage of the field of public administration from theory to practice
- Develop writing skills for short and long essays

Requirements

Requirements will vary by instructor and may include:

- *Class sessions and discussions:* Students will actively engage in class discussions.

Schedule / Outline of Topics

- Week 1: Introduction and Overview
- Week 2: Why Public Administration?
- Week 3: The Genesis of Public Administration: What exactly is it?
- Week 4: Orthodoxy or the Classical Period
- Week 5: The "High Noon" of Orthodoxy: Toward a Science of Public Administration
- Week 6: Challenging the Orthodoxy
- Week 7: Public Administration and the Behavioral Sciences
- Week 8: Rediscovering: Politics and Administration AND Bureaucracy v. Democracy
- Week 9: The New Public Administration: The Importance of Social Equity to the Field
- Week 11: Public Administration, Public Policy & Public Choice
- Week 12: The New Public Management
- Week 13: Future directions for study and theory in the field
- Week 14: Final paper: What is Public Administration?

Texts / Materials / Resources

The selection of textbooks and readings will vary by instructor. Listed below are some of the possible textbooks, materials, and resources an instructor may select for this course:

- Simon, Herbert. *Administrative Behavior*, New York, 1957 (or any other edition).
- Waldo, Dwight. *The Enterprise of Public Administration*, Novato, CA: Chandler and Sharp Publishers, Inc., 1980.
- Riccucci, Norma M. *Public Administration: Traditions of Inquiry and Philosophies of Knowledge*. Washington, D.C., Georgetown University Press, 2010.
- A number of peer-reviewed articles (e.g., Jane Addams, “Problems of Municipal Administration;” Max Weber, “Bureaucracy;” Mary Parker Follett, “The Giving of Orders;” Paul Appleby, “Government is Different;” Camilla Stivers, “Toward a Feminist Perspective in Public Administration Theory.”