

**Public Administration 9916**  
**Theories of Public Administration**  
**Fall 2014**

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**Objective**

This course reviews the history of ideas in Public Administration and analyzes key challenges that the discipline and the practice of public administration face in the times of global interpenetration that we live today.

**Format**

Classes will be centered on discussions led by the instructor and presentations made by students.

**Student Assessment**

Participation: 30%  
Book reviews (2 books/10% each) 20%  
Essay: 50%

**Participation**

Students in this course are expected to master the assigned readings and to actively participate in the discussions that will take place throughout the semester. They will be invited to formally introduce the assigned readings for the second and third weekend sessions.

All students will be required to post a critical assessment of the readings assigned for the second and third weekend sessions on the *Theories of Public Administration Bulletin Board* that has been created for this purpose. To visit the Public Administration Bulletin Board on the web, go to:

<http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/publicadministration>

Critical assessments must be posted on or before the following dates:

Readings for October 24/25: October 18  
Readings for November 21/22: November 15

## Book Reviews

Students will be required to critically review two of the following books during the course:

Jocelyne Bourgon, *A New Synthesis of Public Administration: Serving in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Kingston/Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2011.

Camilla Stivers, *Governance in Dark Times: Practical Philosophy for Public Service*. Washington: Georgetown University Press, 2008.

Michael W. Spicer, *In Defense of Politics in Public Administration: A Value Pluralist Perspective*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2010.

The first book review will be due on October 24. The second book review will be due on November 21. Guidelines for this assignment will be provided by the instructor during the first weekend session.

## Essay

Each student will write an essay of a maximum of 4000 words. The essay will be due on **18 December 2014**. Guidelines for this assignment will be provided by the instructor during the first weekend session.

## Texts

Jocelyne Bourgon, *A New Synthesis of Public Administration: Serving in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Kingston/Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2011.

Brian R. Fry and Jos C. N. Raadschelders, *From Max Weber to Dwight Waldo: Mastering Public Administration*. Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press, 2014.

Camilla Stivers, *Governance in Dark Times: Practical Philosophy for Public Service*. Washington: Georgetown University Press, 2008.

Michael W. Spicer, *In Defense of Politics in Public Administration: A Value Pluralist Perspective*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2010.

Norma M. Riccucci, *Public Administration: Traditions of Inquiry and Philosophies of Knowledge*. Washington: Georgetown University Press, 2010.

**NB** The instructor will provide required readings not contained in the above books.

**Note on academic offences and plagiarism:**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_grad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf).

**Note for students with disabilities:**

Please contact [poliscie@uwo.ca](mailto:poliscie@uwo.ca) if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.

## TOPICS AND READINGS

### **PART I: THE STUDY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: PAST AND PRESENT**

#### **Friday, September 12: Objectives and structure of the course**

Lecture: Globalization, Democracy and the Administrative State.

Jocelyne Bourgon, *A New Synthesis of Public Administration: Serving in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Kingston/Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2011, 1-126.

Peter J. Taylor, "The State as a Container: Territoriality in the Modern World-System," in Neil Brenner et al., *State/Space: A Reader*. Malden MA: Blackwell Publishing, 2003, 101-113.

#### **Saturday, September 13: Substantive and Instrumental Reasoning in Theories of Public Administration**

Brian R. Fry and Jos C. N. Raadschelders, *From Max Weber to Dwight Waldo: Mastering Public Administration*. Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press, 2014.

Donald E. Klingner, "Globalization, Governance, and the Future of Public Administration: Can We Make Sense Out of the Fog of Rhetoric Surrounding the Terminology?" *Public Administration Review*, Vol. 64, No. 6, 2004, 737-743.

Jonathan S. Davies, "The Limits of Post-traditional Public Administration: Towards a Gramscian Perspective," *Critical Policy Studies*, Vol. 5, No. 1, 2011, 47-62  
[http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/19460171.2011.555682#.U\\_89mShH0Vs](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/19460171.2011.555682#.U_89mShH0Vs)

### **PART II: ETHICAL AND POLITICAL REASONING IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

#### **Friday, October 24: Morality and Pragmatism in Public Administration**

Camilla Stivers, *Governance in Dark Times: Practical Philosophy for Public Service*. Washington: Georgetown University Press, 2008.

J. Michael Martinez, *Public Administration Ethics for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger, 2009, 1-55.

#### **Saturday, October 25: The Politics of Public Administration**

Michael W. Spicer, *In Defense of Politics in Public Administration: A Value Pluralist Perspective*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2010.

Victor Bekkers and Arthur Edwards, "Legitimacy and Democracy: A Conceptual Framework for Assessing Governance Practices," in Jon Pierre, ed., Debating Governance: Authority, Steering and Democracy. Oxford University Press, 2007, 35-60.

Domonic A. Bearfield, "Equity at the Intersection: Public Administration and the Study of Gender," Public Administration Review, May-June, 2009, 383-386.

### **PART III: THE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF KNOWLEDGE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

#### **Friday, November 21: Knowledge for What? Knowledge for Whom?**

Norma M. Riccucci, Public Administration: Traditions of Inquiry and Philosophies of Knowledge. Washington: Georgetown University Press, 2010.

Claire Donovan, "Consuming Social Science," in Mark Bevir and Frank Trentmann, eds., Governance, Consumers and Citizens: Agency and Resistance in Contemporary Politics. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2007, 69-94.

#### **Saturday, November 22: The Future of Public Administration**

Richard C. Box, Critical Social Theory in Public Administration. New York: M. E. Sharpe, 2005, 1-31.

Guy Peters, "The Future of Public Administration," in James Bickerton and B. Guy Peters, eds., Governing: Essays in Honour of Donald J. Savoie. Kingston/Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2013, 203-221.

Sheldon S. Wolin, Politics and Vision: Continuity and Innovation in Western Political Thought. Expanded Edition. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004, 581-606.