

Carleton University
Fall 2019
Department of Political Science
<https://carleton.ca/polisci/>

PSCI 4408A/6408F
Public Affairs Management and Analysis
8:35 to 11:25 Wednesdays starting September 04, 2019
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Scott Edward Bennett
Office: D 672 Loeb Building
Online Office Hours: Fridays from 8:00 to 13:00 by appointment at least 48 hours in advance
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Office hours may not be held during the first week of classes and are sometimes cancelled due to conflict with various university meetings.

NOTE: Although nominal online office hours are available by advance appointment, students should use those hours only if absolutely necessary. Most matters can be dealt with in class or by email any time through your Carleton email account. Although the instructor is not available around the clock every day, you will find that he generally responds to emails rapidly and in detail. There are no in person office hours for this course as experience has shown that nearly all relevant matters can be addressed in class, through regular email or through email during online office hours.

Nature of Course

This is a seminar in public affairs management and analysis. It will provide you with appropriate background to pursue scholarship in that area of inquiry. For some students, it will also assist in their preparations for comprehensive examinations. Students should keep in mind that seminars are conducted differently than lecture courses, and most of the work in presenting material is done by the students.

The seminar should be attractive to several levels of students, graduate and undergraduate. Such mixed seminars have been proven to be successful in the past. In designing and presenting the course, it is recognized that graduates and undergraduates should be graded according to somewhat different criteria.

It will be evident that the field of public affairs management and analysis contains and goes beyond some traditional academic rubrics such as public administration and public policy. At its essence, the field is about the expertise used to manage public activities, broadly defined. Although some may think of this in idealized terms, more often than not it is about methods for the organized control of human communities.

The instructor usually chooses a focusing question for this course. This is something to use to think about the importance of theories to practical questions. This year, I would like to have students keep in mind the relevance of theories to understanding how responsive government can be to public preferences.

Main Text

The Public Administration Theory Primer (3rd Edition), Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari
Westview Press, 2016

You may want to purchase some of the books mentioned under topic 3 below, but it is not absolutely necessary.

Other sources are optional, readily available or on reserve.

Grading and Preliminary Comments on Course Work

Paper at End of Course (due December 4)	50%
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Participation	50%
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Details relating to the paper due at the end of the course will be provided in class. You will be given some choice as to the topic of the paper, but it should serve your future research and/or your preparation for comprehensives.

For graduate students, the due date for the paper is nominal as graduate students in a graduate course can usually defer the determination of a final grade. Undergraduates will be given some flexibility in terms of the final paper deadline, but the University does not allow anything major in this regard.

Details on participation will be provided after class begins. It will involve students accepting scheduled responsibility for presenting the course material. There will also be an attendance component and a discussion participation component. However, it would be inappropriate to decide on details of participation until we know the number of people enrolled in the course.

Overall grading will be managed in slightly different ways for graduates and undergraduates. In general, it is expected that graduate students will pay a bit more attention to the importance of theory and exploring aspects of the course in terms of additional literature. Undergraduates can certainly place on emphasis on those things as well, but it is expected that graduate students will be a little better prepared to do so.

Main Topics

Note that the instructor considers it to be bad pedagogy and probably bad administration to assign in advance specific dates to the coverage of specific topics. In general, we hope to reach topic 4.b no later than week 7 of the course. However, this is an expectation that can be altered in light of student background, interests and progress. We will cover as many of the topics as is appropriate and possible in the order listed below.

1. Introduction to the Course

This is just a description and discussion of the mechanics of the course.

2. A Preliminary Discussion of Legacies and Biases to Determine the Perspectives of the Students

Here, we will have a fairly free discussion of a number of orienting questions that are foundational in the course. No readings are necessary at this point. Some of the questions of interest are:

- a. Is the legacy of traditional public administration and public policy overly idealized for the modern study of public affairs management?
- b. Is the legacy of traditional public administration and public policy well placed in an overall understanding of all type of institutions used in managing human communities?
- c. What are the practical dimensions of managing human communities? For example, elite negotiations, managing public opinion, organizations and policies.

3. The Historical Context of Managing States and Alternatives to Hierarchical States

This is to provide a very broad overview of the governance aspect of public affairs management and to indicate how limited or how varied approaches to managing human communities have been in various contexts and periods. The readings will be divided up among the seminar participants.

The Origins of Political Order (primarily chapter 1, 29 and 30), Francis Fukuyama

Political Order and Political Decay (primarily chapters 1,2,3,35 and 36), Francis Fukuyama

Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action (primarily chapters 1 and 6), Elinor Ostrom

We also wish to raise the question of how public and private organizations tend to vary in the same contexts, but the answers here are not as obvious as some might think. We may suggest some background readings here.

4. Contemporary Theory and Its Immediate Predecessors

In some of the following, for those who are keen on Canadian content, we may wish to consider whether or not civil services in Canada have assumed the status of institutions similar to those institutions that have explicit constitutional status. Topics b. to e. are of most interest in this regard. Also keep in mind the focusing question for the course relating to whether change in government really responds to public preferences.

a. The Possibilities of Theory

Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari – Chapter 1

b. Theories of Political Control of Bureaucracy

Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari – Chapter 2

Savoie, Some selections from, What is Government Good At?: A Canadian Answer

c. Theories of Bureaucratic Politics

Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari – Chapter 3

d. Public Institutional Theory

Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari – Chapter 4

e. Theories of Public Management

Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari – Chapter 5

We may consider a Canadian treatment of this and related theories as in:

Johnson, Chapter 5 of Thinking Government: Public Administration and Politics in Canada (4th ed.)

f. Post Modern Theory

Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari – Chapter 6

- g. Decision Theory
Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari – Chapter 7
- h. Rational Choice Theory and Irrational Behavior
Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari – Chapter 8

And possibly:
“Are Bureaucrats Budget Maximizers?” Blais and Dion (1991)
- i. Theories of Governance
Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari – Chapter 9
- j. Summary of Theories
Frederickson, Smith, Larimer & Licari – Chapter 10

5. The Problem of Changing the Direction of Government

If time permits, and it may not, I would like to have a concluding discussion of whether or not it is possible to fundamentally change the direction and nature of government as a result of changes in the elected component of government. More broadly, this relates to the responsiveness of government to public preferences. There is some literature on this, but surprisingly little. It is a fundamental question to be addressed if there is any interest in properly managing and administering government.

Other Issues

Without going into great detail, various other course, departmental and university rules apply to the conduct of any course. You are expected to know them. From, my point of view, the important rules are:

1. Do your work on time as described in this outline and in class. As noted before, there is some flexibility in handing in the final paper.
2. Do not engage in plagiarism.
3. Do not disrupt the class.

4. Keep an open mind with respect to value systems and approaches to inquiry.
5. All short summary papers and the final research paper should be in WORD format and given to the instructor in that form.

Other rules of general interest from a departmental or university perspective are contained in the material that follows. The instructor only takes responsibility for the essence of the above material.

Academic Accommodations

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more

information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

Approval of final grades

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Carleton E-mail Accounts

All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society

"The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through our networking opportunities, academic

engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/> and our website <https://carletonpss.com/>, or stop by our office in Loeb D688!"

Official Course Outline

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.