

PSCI 3401A
Canadian Public Administration
Thursday 8:35-11:25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

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Office Hours: Thursday 12-2

This course provides an overview of public administration in Canada in its political and management contexts. It asks whether government can be run just like a private business, if bureaucracy is fundamentally good or bad, and whether or not more public services should involve private sector partners. It begins with the basic structures of government and theories of management and public policy, and discusses current issues such as public-private partnerships, e-government, gender and public administration, and recruitment challenges. While the focus is particularly on the federal government, we will look at broad themes found at all levels of government and in the broader public sector.

Text

Paul Barker, *Public Administration in Canada: Brief Edition* (Thomson Nelson: Toronto, 2008)

Grading

First Assignment	20%	- Due Oct 23
Second Assignment	35%	- Due Nov 27
Final Exam	40%	- to be scheduled during the formal exam period Dec 4-20th
Discussion Groups	5%	

As per early feedback guideline, the first assignment will be returned by October 31st.

Discussion Groups: The class will be split into discussion groups. Each week at the beginning of class you will meet in your groups to discuss the week's readings and discussion questions. Attendance will be kept.

First Assignment - Briefing Notes

In the first assignment, you will write two separate briefing notes of 750-1000 words, arguing two sides of the same issue. The two arguments are:

Government reform has become too caught up in innovation and fads, and we need to return to traditional structures and processes.

Government reform has failed to achieve real change because traditional structures and processes constantly prevent innovation.

The notes are due **October 23**. They should be based on information in class lectures and the textbook, although other sources are encouraged. More information will be given in class.

Second Assignment -

The second assignment involves writing a 1500-2000 word paper on one of the following topics.

The Impact of Public-Private Partnerships
Implications of the 2006 Federal Accountability Act
Recruitment and Renewal in the Federal Public Service
Gender and Race in Canadian Public Administration
E-government - Just About Faster Service?

Papers are due **November 27** and require outside research. More information will be given in class.

Schedule, Topics and Readings

Sept 4 Introduction

Sept 11 What is Public Administration? Competing Themes and Ideas

Barker, Chapter 1 "What is Public Administration?" Barker, Chapter 4 "Public Administration and Organization Theory: The New Public Management"

Sept 18 Organization and Management Theories

Chapter 2 "Public Administration and Organization Theory: The Structural Foundation"
Chapter 3 "Public Administration and Organization Theory: The Humanistic Response:"

Sept 25 Structures and Power

Chapter 5 "Government Departments and Central Agencies"
Chapter 11 "The Executive and the Bureaucracy"

Oct 2 Accountability and Ethics

Chapter 9 "Frameworks, Values and Bureaucratic Power"

Chapter 10 Responsibility, Accountability and Ethics”

Oct 9 Alternative Service Delivery and Public-Private Partnerships I

Chapter 8 “Alternative Service Delivery”

Oct 16 ASD and P3s II

B. Mitchell Evans and John Shields "The Third Sector: Neo-Liberal Restructuring, Governance, and the Remaking of State-Civil Society Relationships" in C. Dunn, ed., *Handbook of Canadian Public Administration*, (Oxford: Toronto, 2002)

Oct 23 Policy and Decision-Making

Assignment 1 Due

Chapter 13, “The Legislature and the Bureaucracy”
Chapter 16 “Nongovernmental Actors and the Bureaucracy”

Oct 30 Representation and Gender

Chapter 18 -“Representative Bureaucracy and Employment Equity”

Nov 6 E-government

On-line reading to be assigned.

Nov 13 Budgeting and Financial Management

Chapter 19 “The Budgetary Process”
Chapter 20 “Management of Financial Resources”

Nov 20 Recruitment and Human Resources

Chapter 17 “The Management of Human Resources”

Nov 27 - Review for Exam

Assignment 2 Due

Academic Accommodations

For students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your letter of accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations**. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **November 7, 2008 for December examinations**, and **March 6, 2009 for April examinations**.

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as: "to use and pass off as one's own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another." The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another's work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student's own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student's own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department's Style Guide is available at: <http://www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/Essay%20Style%20Guide.html>

Oral Examination: At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be handed directly to the instructor 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. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

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.

Course Requirements: Students must fulfill all course requirements in order to achieve a passing grade. Failure to hand in any assignment will result in a grade of F. Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors

may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available ONLY if the student is in good standing in the course.

Connect Email Accounts: The Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See <http://connect.carleton.ca> for instructions on how to set up your account.