

**PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

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Main objective of the course is to provide an introduction to public administration as an interdisciplinary field of study with a primary emphasis on public management and public policy.

After the successful completion of the course, candidates are expected to understand the variety of explanations of structure and behavior in public organizations and to be able to identify, analyze, criticize and formulate arguments about public administration.

Through the course, candidates will be exposed to key areas of public administration with reference to different institutional contexts, including traditional public agencies and international organizations. Topics include governance and governing at the national and supranational level, public sector reforms, as well as dynamics of public policy making.

Class participation entails being on track with the course load. Class debates develop critical thinking and the ability to argue in public. Acting as discussant of selected papers prepares candidate for meaningful participation in academic colloquia and conferences. The journal review enables a first-hand understanding of dominant themes and methodological choices that characterize current public administration scholarly debates. Last, by drafting the final essay, candidates will develop analytical skills needed to summarize, analyze and discuss salient public administration issues.

The course mixes formal lectures and class discussions based on readings. *Participants are expected to be prepared on the readings before class.* You will be asked on the spot for your opinions and reasons for your arguments. In order to maximize the learning experience and maintain a good learning environment both in class and outside the classroom, it is important to keep in mind the following points:

- Express your opinions clearly.
- Tolerate and celebrate differences in opinions.
- Make an effort to participate.
- Never be shy to ask questions, no matter how difficult or simple they are.
- Please switch off your mobile and use your laptop only for learning purposes.

**Course Evaluation:**

<i>Class participation 20%</i>
<i>Journal review 30%</i>
<i>Final essay 50%</i>

- CLASS PARTICIPATION includes attendance, acting as discussant\* of a selected papers, and meaningful contribution to class debates.
- JOURNAL REVIEW. This assignment is aimed at developing your familiarity with the PA scholarship and your critical analysis of existing literature both from a substantive and from a methodological perspective. Instructions will be given in class.
- FINAL ESSAY consists of a theory essay. Instructions will be given in class.

## COURSE SYLLABUS

# and date	THEME	Topic	Readings
#1 Thu March 30 12.00-13.30	PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION <i>Course presentation &amp; overview</i>	<i>The publicness of public administration</i>  <i>An introduction to public administration/ management as a discipline and as a substantive area.</i>	Pollitt, C. (2016). <i>Advanced introduction to public management and administration</i> . Edward Elgar Publishing. Preface. xi-xiv
#2 12.00 - 13.30 Mon April 3 DATE TO BE CONFIRMED 14.45-16.15	THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN POLITICS AND ADMINISTRATION	<i>Politics and administration: traditional public administration.</i>	Wilson, W. (1887) The Study of Administration. <i>Political Science Quarterly</i> , 2(2): 197-222.  Hughes, Owen E. <i>Public management and administration: An introduction</i> . 2012. The traditional model of public administration (chapter 3).
#3 Thu April 13 10.15-11.45		<i>Politics and administrative decision making: from muddling-through to garbage can.</i>	Lindblom, C.E. (1959) The Science of "Muddling Through" <i>Public Administration Review</i> , Vol. 19(2):79-88.  Kingdon, J. W. (1984). <i>Agendas, alternatives, and public policies</i> . Boston: Little, Brown. Chapter IV and IX.
#4 Thu April 13 12.00-13.30		<i>Politics, administration, and civil servants: representative bureaucracy</i>	Sowa, J. E., & Selden, S. C. (2003). Administrative discretion and active representation: An expansion of the theory of representative bureaucracy. <i>Public Administration Review</i> , 63(6), 700-710.
#5 Thu April 20 10.15-11.45	POLICY IMPLEMENTATION, MANAGEMENT, & TECHNOLOGY	<i>Street-level bureaucracy and administrative discretion</i>	Tummers, L., & Bekkers, V. (2014). Policy implementation, street-level bureaucracy, and the importance of discretion. <i>Public Management Review</i> , 16(4), 527-547.  Maynard-Moody, Steven, and Michael Musheno. "State agent or citizen agent: Two narratives of discretion." <i>Journal of public administration research and theory</i> 10.2 (2000): 329-358.

#6 Thu April 20 12.00-13.30		<i>The advent of NPM and its disciplinary implications.</i>	Hood, C. C. 1991, A Public Management for All Seasons? <i>Public Administration</i> pp. 3-19.
#7 Thu April 27 10.15-11.45		<i>Technology and remote work in public organizations</i>	Mele, V., Bellé, N., & Cucciniello, M. (2021). Thanks, but no thanks: Preferences towards teleworking colleagues in public organizations. <i>Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory</i> , 31(4), 790-805.
#8 Thu April 27 12.00-13.30	GOVERNANCE AND GOVERNANCE MODES: NETWORKS, STANDARDS AND GOVERNING THROUGH EVIDENCE	<i>The shift from government to governance.</i>	Mayntz, R. 2006. From <i>government to governance: Political steering in modern societies</i> . Greenleaf Publishing, 18-25.
#9 Thu May 4 10.15-11.45	NETWORKS, STANDARDS AND GOVERNING THROUGH EVIDENCE	<i>Collaborative governance and networks.</i>	<p>Ansell, C., &amp; Gash, A. (2008). Collaborative governance in theory and practice. <i>Journal of public administration research and theory</i>, 18(4), 543-571.</p> <p>Saz-Carranza, Angel, and Sonia M. Ospina. "The behavioral dimension of governing interorganizational goal-directed networks—Managing the unity-diversity tension." <i>Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory</i> 21.2 (2011): 327-365.</p>
#10 Thu May 4 12.00-13.30		<i>Governing through standards</i>	Timmermans, S., & Epstein, S. (2010). A world of standards but not a standard world: Toward a sociology of standards and standardization. <i>Annual review of Sociology</i> , 36, 69-89.
#11 Thu May 9 12.00-13.30		<i>Standard settings, evidence, and transnational governance</i>	<p>Djelic M.L., Sahlin-Andersson K., eds. (2006), <i>Transnational Governance: Institutional Dynamics of Regulation</i>, Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, Chapter 18 (Institutional dynamics in a re-ordering world: pp-375-384).</p> <p>Baccaro, L. and V. Mele. 2011 "For Lack of Anything Better. International Organizations and Global Corporate Codes". <i>Public Administration</i>. 89(2).</p>
# 12 Thu May 11 12.00-14.00		<i>Journal Review. Course conclusions and instructions for the final essay.</i>	Pollitt, C. (2016). Advanced introduction to public management and administration. Chapter 1.