

PAD 605 PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & THE POLITICAL PROCESS

Fall Semester, 2006 Tuesdays, 6 – 9:50 p.m.

Instructor: Madeline A. Cain M.P.A.

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Office Hours by Appointment

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Course Description: This course focuses on public administration as a subsystem of the larger political system. We will identify and examine the politics and process of public policy decision making, the use of power and influence within the agenda setting and policy making process and the political realities that often influence the implementation of well intentioned public policy.

Instructor's Goal: To develop in students an understanding of the meaningful roles federal, state and local policy makers, public administrators and other stakeholders have in both the development of public policy and the implementation of policy through public programs and services.

Texts: Three Texts are required:

- Allison, Graham and Philip Zelikow. 1999. Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis. New York: Addison Wesley.
- Kingdon, John W. 2003. Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policies. Second Edition. New York: Addison Wesley.
- Pressman, Jeffrey L. and Aaron Wildavsky. 1984. Implementation. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press

Course Requirements:

- Attendance and Class participation. This is a graduate level class. Students are required to participate in class discussions and to demonstrate that they are reading the material and following urban policy issues currently being debated/deliberated/implemented at the local, state and national levels.
- Reading of text, case studies, hand outs prior to class
- Each student will be asked to make a presentation.
- Final Exam

Student Presentations

Class I: Students will be asked to sign up for both topic and date. Presentations must apply the theories, models and strategies presented in the assigned text to a specific public program and the issues, policies, decision makers and stakeholders involved. Student presentation will be graded on content, demonstrated understanding of material, presentation style/visuals and/or handouts etc., and hard copy material submitted to the instructor.

Grading System:

ATTENDANCE and CLASS PARTICIPATION	20%
STUDENT PRESENTATION	40%
FINAL EXAM	40%