**York University**

**School of Public Policy and Administration**

**AP/PPAS-POLS 3190 6.0 C Fall/Winter 2019-2020**

**Public Administration**

Course Director: **Dr. Sirvan Karimi**

Class Hours: **Wednesday(s): 4:00-7:00 PM**

Class Location: **DB 1004**

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Office Hours and location: **Wednesday(s): 2-3PM, 133 McLaughlin College**

**Tel☹416)736-2100 E XT 22782**

Email: **dalaho@yorku.ca**

**Course Description:**

The state has become a major force in the life of Canadians and their institutions. The roles and responsibilities of state officials are evolving rapidly as governments adjust to the changing social, economic and political environment. This course is designed to address the contour of public administration in Canada. During the first semester, the course commences with an exploration of some definitions of public administration and compares the public and private sectors. During the fall semester, the focus will be on two central themes of the course; how organizational theories have affected and continue to affect the practice of public administration. The second theme involves the tension between democratic representation and bureaucracy. To explore this theme, the course provides an overview of democratic theory, a detailed examination of the real world of organizations and the machinery of government.

During the second semester, the focus will be on issues of management in the public sector beginning with the theories and practices of public policy decision-making and the policy cycle. Issues related to the management of human resources, fiscal and economic planning, program evaluation, ethics and accountability will be examined. The course concludes with an exploration of the major challenges facing public administration and public policy decision makers at the beginning of the twenty-first century.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

After the completion of the course students will be able to:

a. Acquire a foundational understanding of the theoretical tools of public administration as a field of study.

b. Evaluate alternative theoretical approaches to the examination of public administration and of their respective strengths and limits

c. Analyze and critique the complexity of public administration in terms of mixes of values, interests, competing orientations, and other factors, and of the ubiquity and effect of the evaluation of policies

d. Gain a comprehensive understanding of different types and functions of public originations in Canada

e. Gain an appreciation for complexity of issues and challenges facing public sector organizations and public sector professionals

f. Aanalyse public administration issues and to present the results of those explorations clearly, concisely, and in compelling form in written and oral communication.

g. Develop analytical and research skills that are essential for pursuing advanced studies in the field of public administration.

**Format:**

The course will consist of lectures, interactive discussion of the readings, and occasional audio-visual presentations. **Lecture notes and course announcements will be posted on the course moodle.** Course lecture takes place during the first part of class. During the second part of class there will be class discussion. In order to facilitate class discussion and policymaking simulation, students are expected to read the assigned readings.

**Required Textbooks:**

**Parker, Paul and Tim A. Mau. 2016. Public administration in Canada. Second Edition, Toronto: Nelson Publishing**

**Howlett, M., M. Ramesh and Anthony Perl (2009). Studying Public Policy: Policy Cycles and Policy Subsystems. Third Edition. Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press**.

**Suggested Books:**

Barbara Carroll, David Siegel and Mark Sproule-Jones (2005). Classic Readings in Canadian Public Administration. Toronto: Oxford University Press

Johnson, David. (2011). Thinking Government: Public Administration and Politics in Canada. 3rd Edition. Toronto: University of Toronto Press

Inwood, Gregory J. (2012). Understanding Canadian Public Administration: An Introduction to Theory and Practice. Fourth Edition. Toronto: Pearson Prentice Hall.

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**\*\*\*In the Course of study, additional readings may be assigned or recommended.**

**Course Requirements:**

**Participation ---------- 10%**

**Mid-term exam--------30% (December)**

**Research paper -------30% (March 18th)**

**Final Exam --------------30% (April) Is not cumulative**

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