POLITICAL SCIENCE 558:
THE POLITICS OF ADMINISTRATION

Spring 2013
W 1:25-4:25
BEC 301
dhouston@utk.edu

David J. Houston
809 McClung, 974-5278
M 1:30-3:30; R 2:00-4:00

Course Description

Examination of public administration in context of American political systems, policy making and political roles of public administrators and agencies.

Course Requirements

The grade that a student earns will be based on his/her performance on written projects and class participation. The participation portion of a student’s grade will be based on contributions to class discussions and in-class activities. The breakdown of a student's grade for the semester is given below.

- Administrative rule paper 30%
- Article summaries 10
- Final exam paper 40
- Class Participation 20

Students with Disability

Students who have a disability that may require individualized accommodations should inform me of these needs at the beginning of the semester. I will make every effort to accommodate your needs. Also, please take advantage of support provided by the University.
Required Texts

Additional readings will be placed on the class Online@UT site.

Changes to Course Requirements and Schedule

Any changes to course assignments, readings, or schedule will be announced in class.

Schedule of Topics

Course Introduction (1/9)

**Topic #1: Working in a public bureaucracy (1/16)**

Issues:
- Nature of the public bureaucracy
- Environment of the public bureaucracy
- Behavior of public bureaucrats

Required Readings:

**Topic #2: Bureaucratic Power (1/23, 30)**

Issues:
- Politics-administration dichotomy
- The Administrative State
- Nature of bureaucratic power
- Exercise of bureaucratic power

Required Readings:

**Topic #3: A Normative Debate over Bureaucratic Power (2/6)**

**Issues:**
- Bureaucratic discretion: Necessary and problematic
- New Public Administration & discretionists
- Critics of bureaucratic delegation and discretion

**Required Readings:**

**Topic #4: Legislature—Bureaucracy Relations (2/13,20,27)**

**Issues:**
- Delegation
- Congressional tools
- Principal-agent theory

**Required readings:**
- Waterman, Rouse, and Wright book. All.
Topic #5: Executive-Bureaucracy Relations (3/6)
Issues:
• Executive tools
• Effectiveness
Required Readings:
• Wilson book. Ch. #14.

Topic #6: Judicial—Bureaucracy Relations (3/13)
Issues:
• Judicial Review
• “New Partnership”
Required Readings:
• Wilson book. Ch. #15.

Topic #7: Interest Groups—Bureaucracy Relations (3/20, 4/3)
Issues:
• Participation in rule making
• Capture theory
• Lobbying
Readings:


• Daniel Carpenter. Detecting and Measuring Capture. In *Preventing Capture: Special Interest Influence in Regulation, and How to Limit It*. The Tobin Project.

• Richard Posner. The Concept of Regulatory Capture: A Short, Inglorious History. In *Preventing Capture: Special Interest Influence in Regulation, and How to Limit It*. The Tobin Project.

• Susan Webb Yackee. In *Preventing Capture: Special Interest Influence in Regulation, and How to Limit It*. The Tobin Project.

**No Class—Spring Break** (3/27)

**No Class—IRSPM Conference** (4/10)

**Topic #8: Internal Influences on the Public Bureaucracy** (4/17)

**Issues:**
• Representative bureaucracy
• Professional values

**Required Readings:**


**Topic #9: Bureaucratic Reform** (4/24)

**Issues:**
• Reform efforts

**Required Readings:**
• TBD
ADDITIONAL READINGS

Topic #2: Bureaucratic Power

Topic #3: A Normative Debate over Bureaucratic Power
- Charles T. Goodsell. The Case for Bureaucracy.

**Topic #4: Legislature—Bureaucracy Relations**

- Fiorina. Congressional Control of the Bureaucracy.
Topic #5: Executive-Bureaucracy Relations
- Stuart Shapiro. Politics and RWEgulatory policy analysis Regulatory 29 (Summer 2006):40-45. (pres review of rulemaking)

Topic #6: Judicial—Bureaucracy Relations
**Topic #7: Interest Groups—Bureaucracy Relations**


**Topic #8: Internal Influences on the Public Bureaucracy**


• David K. Hart. 1984. The Virtuous Citizen, the Honorable Bureaucrat, and “Public” Administration. Public Administration Review 44(Special Issue): 111-120.


• Public sector values

**Topic #9: Bureaucratic Reform**


