San José State University POLS/MPA Program PADM 214, Public Management, Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Professor: Leonard L. Lira

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Office Hours: Tue & Thur @ 4:30 – 5:45 PM, or by Appointment

Class Days/Time: Wednesday, 6-8:45 pm

Classroom: On Zoom (←Click this hyperlink)

Password is: 398497

Prerequisites: Statistics

Course Format

On-Line Hybrid (Synchronous and Asynchronous); Seminar Style; Technology Intensive; Access to Adobe, Microsoft Office Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, Zoom, and Canvas required

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on <u>Canvas Learning Management System course login website</u> at http://sjsu.instructure.com. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through <u>MySJSU</u> at http://my.sjsu.edu (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates. It is required that you set your Canvas email to the email you use so that you do not miss any updates or announcements.

Course Description

A study of current principles and practices of effectively managing public service organizations. Emphasis on critical thinking, project management, and implementation processes.

This seminar examines contemporary theory, techniques, and practices necessary for management of public service organizations. It emphasizes planning, implementation, and evaluation processes. Students will assess and plan to develop their managerial skills.

The course involves key readings in the public management and the analysis of cases, concepts, theories, methods, and procedures in managing public organizations. Readings and lectures will orient students to basic concepts and research that inform our thinking on public management. Each student is responsible, through self-study, reading assignments, and class interaction, to learn relevant public management theory, concepts and applications. Another key component of the course involves familiarity with the processes of public management in San Jose, Santa Clara County, the state of California, and the federal government in general. Students are responsible for reading the Mercury News, LA Times, and Washington Post on a regular basis. Other sources of public management related news, such as GovExec.com, or similar websites or podcasts are recommended. As the course progresses and students become more familiar with the relevant theory, we will draw on current events for lecture and discussion. We will try to identify problems of leadership, planning, decision-making, and motivation in real-world public management situations and discuss ways in which theory may be used to inform practice. Finally, through readings, discussion, lecture, and potential guest lecturers, students will come to understand important research in the field. This is a seminar style course. This means that students will be responsible for reading, digesting, and discussing the readings and topics in the classes. There will be very little lecture. If necessary, I will assign student lead discussants.

Course Goals

To educate public administration and non-profit professionals about critical thinking, decision-making, leadership and project management in public and non-profit organizations. This course covers key management competencies such as strategic planning, performance management, incentives and human motivation, team processes, decision-making, leadership and ethics. Through the material in this course students will build capacity in the National Association of Schools of Public Administration and Affairs Core Competencies.

University Learning Goals (ULGs), Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) & Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

The overall course goal is to educate public administration and non-profit professionals in public budgeting, theory, processes, and procedures so they achieve the SJSU University Learning Goals (ULGs) and demonstrate mastery of the NASPAA/SJSU MPA program learning outcomes. Upon graduation, San José State University students will have developed:

ULG 1: Social and Global Responsibilities

ULG 2: Specialized Knowledge

ULG 3: Intellectual Skills

ULG 4: Integrative Knowledge and Skills

ULG 5: Applied Knowledge

Upon completion of the Master of Public Administration program, the student will be able to:

PLO 1: Lead and manage in public governance;

PLO 2: Participate in and contribute to the policy process;

PLO 3: Analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make decisions;

PLO 4: Articulate and apply a public service perspective;

PLO 5: Communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO1: Lead and manage in public governance: Students will understand core competencies necessary for helping to shape the organizational environment (broadly defined) in which they operate and for managing individuals, groups, clients, and programs and well-founded direction and guidance to changes in the public sector. This is assessed through the assessment of Team project and Staff Report;

CLO2: Participate in and contribute to the policy process: Students will understand how to evaluate relevant stakeholders to public management issues and know how to participate as a member of a public policy design team. This is assessed through participation in a team project and the Staff Analysis Report;

CLO3: Analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make decisions: Students will be aware of managerial tools and strategies and the conditions under which certain practices may be enacted for improving programmatic results and overall organizational effectiveness. Students will be able to be able to independently identify issues concerning management in the public sector and develop and subsequently defend well-founded proposals/solutions. This involves all phases of the management cycle: preparation, development, implementation, and evaluation. This is assessed through class discussions of cases, analytical memos, team project Decision Paper, the team project and the staff report;

CLO4: Articulate and apply a public service perspective: Students will understand how public, private, and nonprofit organizations are similar and different from one another. Students will know how to diagnose problems and develop feasible solutions through the application of theories and frameworks to "real world" problems. This is assessed through student ethics elevator pitch, presentation of current events and analysis using theories discussed in class, and through the individual and team projects;

CLO5: Communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry: Students will learn how to effectively summarize, appraise, and communicate technical and professional information, through both oral and written media communications. This is assessed by the topical staff report and analytical memos that will be presented both verbally and in written format.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbooks

- Emerson, Menkus and Van Ness. (2011). *The Public Administrator's Companion*. Washington, DC: CQ Press. ISBN:978-0-87289-909-4.
- *Rainey, H. G. (2014). *Understanding and Managing Public Organizations* (5th ed.), San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. ISBN: 9781118583715; Available online @ MLK <u>Library</u>
- *Ashworth, Kenneth. (2001) Caught Between the Dog and the Fireplug, or How to Survive Public Service. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press. ISBN: (Paperback: 9780878408474; E-book: 9781589012936).
- *Levitt and Dubner. (2014). *Think Like a Freak*. New York, NY: Harper Collins. ISBN (Paperback: 9780062278418; E-Book: 9780062218360).
- Kopser, Joseph, and Bret Boyd. 2018. *Catalyst: Leadership and Strategy in a Changing World*. Seattle, Washington: Amazon Digital Services LLC. ISBN 978-1-5445-1015-6.

Other Assigned Readings will be provided on Canvas.

Recommended Readings:

Letourneau, Tamara Sue. *Mastering the Art: A Step-by-Step Guide to Writing a Quality Staff Report*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017.

Swain, John W., Kathleen Dolan Swain, and Kathleen Dolan Swain. 2015. *Effective Writing in the Public Sector*. Routledge.

Library Liaison

Paul Kauppila. Paul.kauppila@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

Plagiarism tutorial:

All students must complete the Plagiarism Tutorial on the library's website at http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/tutorial/plagiarism/index.htm. Through this activity you will learn the SJSU rules regarding the use of quotations, paraphrases and citations. You will be expected to **know this material** and **apply it throughout the rest of the class**. When you have finished, you will receive a grade from the library's automated system. Print the screen showing your grade in pdf format. Then submit the pdf file on Canvas by the due date. All students must pass the tutorial with a **grade of 80 or better** or re-take it. This is a contribution to learning assignment. If you have taken this quiz in the last 12

^{*}Books may be borrowed from the library.

months (i.e. for PADM 210), then show me your grade and you will be excused from taking the quiz.

Contribution to Learning:

Students learn at least as much from one another as from their instructors in a collaborative learning community. I will probably learn as much, if not more from you. I consider each student's contribution to be a critical component of every course, so it also is a critical component of your grade. Students will contribute to learning via discussion and other in-class (albeit online) activities over the course of the semester. Attendance is not the primary method of measuring participation. But if students do not attend scheduled lesson meetings, they cannot make a contribution to learning. Student contributions in online discussion boards will count.

There is no "recipe" for conducting or evaluating class contribution, but we can isolate some of the characteristics of relatively successful or unsuccessful performances in this category. There will be a rubric attached to this assignment in Canvas. It provides a profile, or composite of characteristics within graded performances in class contribution. Not all characteristics must be uniformly presented by each student in every class session. The conduct of individual participants over the weeks of a term frequently will combine attributes from multiple performance profiles. Therefore, while these profiles begin to speak to criteria at work in evaluating class contribution, they are not offered here as definitive benchmarks (hence not made to coincide exactly with numerical scales or grade equivalents) and are furnished only to elaborate some nuances of in-class contribution behaviors, as well as distinctions made in assessing performances.

In the end, I score contribution using a combination of three modes of assessment: individual assessments (a student's development and progress during the term), comparative assessments (what members of the same section, or class, demonstrate is possible), and contextual assessments (what students whose work I have evaluated over the years suggests about the full spectrum of class contribution performances). You may not agree utterly with my scoring of your performance (and I do not ask you to agree), but I want you to have clarity about how I understand the process of assessing class contribution. See the Course Canvas Assignment page for a rubric on this assignment.

Professional Development Assignments: FEMA Independent Certificate Courses

Students will complete four FEMA Independent Study Courses as part of the course instruction. These can be found at https://training.fema.gov/is/crslist.aspx Select the appropriate course for the section, complete the course, take the final exam. When you receive your certificate save it as an electronic file (preferably pdf) and submit a copy of the certificate on Canvas.

Analytical Memo:

The purpose of the analytical memo is to distill a large amount of information down to the bare necessary pieces of information without losing any essential qualities of information necessary to inform decisions of leaders. This is a highly prized skill, that takes practice to develop. To support your practice in this skill each student will read three topical books related to the assignments. You will write an analytical summary for

two of the three books, which will be due one week after the night that the topic is discussed, as noted in the class schedule below. The analytical summaries are **not to exceed 2 pages each**, **single spaced**. An example of an analytical summary format is at the end of this syllabus (See Appendix A). One cannot achieve a grade of "A" on the summary without relating the book being analytically reviewed to the relevant issues presented in the textbooks, other provided readings, and classroom lectures and discussion on the topic. This is an analytical summary, not just a summary or book review.

See the Analytical rubric on the Canvas Course Assignments page for how these assignments will be graded.

Team Project, Decision Memo, and Project Management Presentation:

While most professional work is done independently, team work is required in some settings, and collaboration on projects is required in many organizations. Therefore, we will form 2 teams that will each carry out a project. Students will rate their teammates on their teamwork in the development of answers to the project's questions and in-class leadership. The average score for each student will become part of the final grade. The team scoresheet is attached to this syllabus.

The class will form two teams. One team will use the project management approach to manage the Planning Department's move from the Old City Hall to the New City Hall. The second team will use the project management approach to manage the installation and implementation of a new telephone system in City Hall, including a phone tree and call center, but not including the PSAP/9-1-1 center.

Each team will create a plan that documents the exact steps to be taken, following the project management steps and elements. A project management checklist/guide is at the end of the syllabus that lists the steps and their elements. Each team will jointly create a report documenting choices that were considered (better, faster, cheaper), the selected work plan for each project and all its required elements, as appropriate for a public agency.

On the night assigned the team will present their plan to the other team and professor. Each team may use charts, PowerPoint or other materials to support the presentation. A budget, risk management document, timeline and staffing plan will be submitted to the professor. The team members will each grade all team members, using the attached form.

See the Team Project Presentation rubric on the Canvas Course assignment page for how this assignment will be evaluated.

To complete the Team Project Management assignment each student will write a decision memorandum recommending the decision that the individual student would recommend if he or she were the team leader. Lastly, each student will evaluate the performance (participation and contribution) of their teammates and themselves.

Ethics Elevator Speech:

The ability to effectively present complex ideas in a succinct way is essential for today's public managers.

For your presentation, imagine that you are interviewing for a City Manager position, and the city council has asked you about your personal code of ethics. You will have 5 minutes to present your Ethics Statement to the city council. [This presentation is worth 100 points.] When your time is up (signaled by a timer) you must stop and sit down. Enthusiastic applause by the city council (your classmates) in response to your presentation is encouraged.

Each presenter will be graded based on the quality of their elevator speech. This includes the content of your presentation, as well as how well you communicated your ideas clearly and succinctly. Your peers also will provide you feedback. **There will be no slides or ppt for this assignment.**

Information Memo, Staff Report Presentation, and Staff Report

The class will form into 4 person staff analysis groups. Each group will identify a public management problem that local and state governments are facing and conduct a staff analysis of the problem. Individual members will write an information memorandum that provides facts in a clear and concise format that both informs the members of the staff analysis group and the professor about the topic of the staff report. The professor will authorize the topic after submission of the info paper. After collection of data and analysis, the groups will report the analysis in staff group report (i.e. white paper) and staff group presentation. See the appendices at the end of this syllabus for potential topics. Groups will conduct joint research, do a joint presentation of the research at the end of the course, and write a joint staff report. The staff report constitutes the culminating assessment experience, in lieu of a final exam. It will be due at midnight of the date that this course would be scheduled to complete a final exam.

See the information memo, staff report presentation & report rubrics on the Canvas Course assignment page for how this assignment will be evaluated.

Final Examination or Evaluation

This course uses the Staff Report as the final Culminating evaluation. Students are expected to apply all learning objectives into the completion of this assignment. The assignment is due by the end of the period as designated for the course's final exam scheduled period, found on the Registrar's website: https://www.sjsu.edu/classes/final-exam-schedule/fall-2020.php. (Thursday, DEC 9th, 1715-1930).

Grading Information

Graded Items	Grade	Due
Contribution to Class Learning (other assignments as necessary added	15 %	
Student Profile	100 Points	Aug 26
Plagiarism Tutorial	100 points	Sep 30
Contribution to class discussion & learning	100 points	Dec 7
Analytical and Professional Development Assignments:	25%	
FEMA Independent Studies x 4	100 points	Sep 9, 16, Oct 21, &
Analytical Memo - Think Like a Freak	100 points	Sep 9
Analytical Memo – Between a Dog and A Fire Plug	100 points	Nov 11
Ethics Elevator Speech	100 points	Oct 28
TEAM Project Assignments:	30%	
Presentation (Group Grade)	100 points	Nov 18
Team Project Decision Memo (Individual Grade)	100 points	Nov 18
Team Peer Evaluations	100 points	Nov 18
Staff Analysis Group Assignments:	30%	
Staff Report Information Memo (Individual Grade)	100 points	Oct 7
Staff Report Presentation (Group Grade)	100 points	Dec 2
Staff Report Paper (Individual Grade)	100 points	Dec 9
Total	100%	

Mapping Assessments to CLOs,	PLOs, & ULGs in P	ADM 214	
Assessment	Course Learning Outcomes	Program Learning Outcomes	University Learning Goals
Contribution to Learning	1 - 5	1 - 5	1 & 3
Professional Development	1 & 4	1 & 4	2
Written Memo Assignments	1, 3, 4, 5	1, 3, 4, & 5	1 & 3
Ethics Elevator Pitch	1	1	1
Team Project	1, 2, 4	1, 3, 4 & 5	3 & 4
Staff Report	1 - 5	1 - 5	1, 3, 4, & 5

Grade Values A plus 97 and above 94 to 96.99 A minus 90 to 93.99 B plus 87 to 89.99 В 84 to 86.99 B minus 80 to 83.99 75 to 79.99 \mathbf{C} 70 to 75.99 D

69 and below

F

Make-up Policy & COVID-19 Clause

Serious personal or dependent family illness that can be documented is the only acceptable excuse for not turning in work on time. If you are ill, you will be given a reasonable extension for submission of missing work. There are no make-ups for missed presentations or in-class case work where you have not informed the instructor prior to or immediately after. Incompletes are discouraged. If you know you will be absent during a presentation or when an assignment is due, coordinate with your workgroup to make your contribution complete, make a video recording of your individual presentation, or complete the assignment in advance and submit prior to the absence. As with all policies, extreme circumstances may beg for exceptions. Please see me in advance before you miss an assignment. Requests afterward, serious exigent personal or dependent family emergency where prior communication was not feasible notwithstanding, will not be approved.

That being said, there is a Global Pandemic going on that has upturned all of our lives. If you have a problem stemming from COVID 19 that will prevent you from attending class, or turning in an assignment on time, let me and your staff group, and Team, know immediately so we can develop a work-around solution. Documentation is not required...just do the professional thing and talk to me and your peers. My goal, as is your goal, is to get you to graduation, by training you and educating you to be the best public administrator possible.

Use of Cameras in Class

- I expect students to turn on their cameras in Zoom when attending class. Classroom engagement, peer-to-peer network development is critical to your success in the program. Further, seeing facial expressions and reaction is important feedback for both the instructor and students during lectures and discussion. If you have special needs or requests for any individual accommodations, please let me know.
- Also, if you are concerned about appearing on camera, for disability-related or religious reasons, or concern for other family members,

including children, who live with you in close quarters, let me know. The privacy of a student's home life and access to a room for privacy should not be a barrier to a student's success in a particular course.

Recording of Zoom Classes

- Since the pandemic may cause students to miss class, I intend to record the course and post the recordings on Canvas.
- University policy (S12-7) requires consent from all individuals who will appear in a class recording. You will be asked to confirm consent at the beginning of each class meeting. If a student does not wish to be identified in a class recording, I will allow an "anonymous" option (e.g., student temporarily turning off identifying information from the Zoom session, including name and picture, prior to recording). You must get permission from me in advance.

Participation

Students may be called upon by name to address concepts from the readings. Students should take the time and effort to read the materials when they are assigned and be prepared to actively participate in discussion of the topics, using both citations of the readings and their own defended views. Small group discussions during class will only enhance learning if each participant is prepared to contribute to the group's learning. Regular attendance is expected and will enhance your grade simply because you will have knowledge necessary to complete assignments that might not otherwise be available except from class discussion. If you will miss a lesson it is expected that you will notify the professor before the lesson and that you will post a significant comment about the lesson topic on the Canvas Discussion Board.

Classroom Protocol

It is expected that when you come to class you will give the material your undivided attention. Please ensure that communication devices are on vibrate, and quietly leave the learning space if you need to take a call during class. Do not engage in any behavior that will detract from a positive learning environment for other students. To develop a collegial working environment, students may address me by my go-by name, Len.

Required Policy Statements

Please review of the following sources and policies:

- *University Syllabus Policy S16-9* at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf.
- Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' <u>Syllabus Information web page</u> at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/

The <u>University Policy S16-9</u>, Course Syllabi (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) requires the following language to be included in the syllabus:

"Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus."

PADM 214 Public Management, Fall 2020, Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 19	Topics: Welcome & Course Introduction; Leadership & Management: From Theory to Practice
		Readings: 1. Syllabus, 2. Rainey Ch. 1 3. Dunleavy, P. "New Public Management Is DeadLong Live Digital-Era Governance." Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory 16, no. 3 (2005): 467-94. 4. Osborne, Stephen P, Radnor, Zoe, and Nasi, Greta. "A New Theory for Public Service Management? Toward a (Public) Service-Dominant Approach." American Review of Public Administration 43, no. 2 (2012): 135-58. Assignment & Deadlines: Complete required readings; Be prepared to lead a discussion on any of the articles (in detail) in class.
2	Aug 26	Reading: Emerson et al, App. B; Course Syllabus Appendices, Optional readings: Letourneau, <i>Mastering the Art</i> ; Swain et al., <i>Effective Writing in the Public Sector</i>
		Assignment & Deadlines: Canvas Student Profile
3	Sep 2	Topic: Critical & Creative Reasoning Thought questions: Why does good critical thinking matter? What aspects of public management require good critical thinking skills?
		Readings: 1. Rainey, Ch. 4; 2. Paul & Elder, Critical Thinking: Concept and tools; 3. Levitt & Dubner, <i>Think Like a Freak</i> Assignment & Deadlines: Staff Groups prepared to actively participate in the Class discussion of <i>Think Like a Freak</i>
4	Sep 9	Topic: Decision Making, Planning, and Strategy

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		Readings: 1. Rainey, Ch. 7; 2. Emerson et al, Ch. 5, 6 & 11; 3. *Optional: Review the Diagram on page 48 in H. R. Yarger, Chapter 3: "Toward a Theory of Strategy: Art Lykke and the US Army War College Strategy Model," in the <i>US Army War College Guide to National Security Issues</i> 1, edited by J. Boone Bartholomees, Jr. (2010): 45–51. Assignments Due: <i>Think Like a Freak</i> Analytical Memo; FEMA Course 241.B – Decision Making and Problem-Solving Certificate
5	Sep 16	Topic: Project Management & Risk Management:
		Readings: 1. Emerson, Ch. 9 & 11; 2. Review the PMBOK Guide, Sixth Edition. Assignments Due: FEMA course 454 – Fundamentals of Risk Management. Certificate due at 6pm today; Request library study rooms for team work.
6	Sep 23	Topic: Research resources For Public Managers
		Library Orientation – Paul Kauppila ************************************
7	Sep 30	Topic: Negotiations, Collaboration and Team Building Readings: Rainey, Ch. 5, "Collaboration in Public Management, pgs. 141-144; Rainey, Ch. 12; Emerson et al., Ch 10, "The Negotiation Process", pgs. 190-195; Vincent Gooden, "Contracting and Negotiation: Effective Practices of Successful Human Service Contract Managers," <i>Public Administration Review</i> 58, no. 6 (December 11, 1998): 499–509.
		Assignments Due: Plagiarism Tutorial

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
8	Oct 7	Topic: Project Management Meeting 2
		Complete/assign all remaining Planning items.
		Readings: N/A
		Assignments Due: All Team Designated Due outs from 1 st Project Meeting. Staff Report Information Memo.
9	Oct 14	Team Project meeting 3
		In place of class the teams will each meet to develop the presentation on the assigned project using the Project Management format provided. Teams may meet in the classroom or in any other mutually agreed upon venue. Participation in the team meeting and the project development is part of your grade. Each team member will use the team grading sheet to evaluate himself and the other team members. Stop the process at the documentation point where you can show the complete plan for the project, including personnel, costs, time, and risk. Documents for class presentation and submission to the instructor include budget, risk analysis, time line/critical path, staffing, and phased work plan. Show at least 3 alternatives for managing the activity – the fastest, the cheapest and most effective - and why you chose this one (effectiveness/work disruption, time, cost?)
		Readings: N/A
		Assignments Due: All Team Designated Due out from 2nd Project Meeting.
10	Oct 21	Topic: Civic Engagement and Cultural Competency
		Readings: 1. Rainey Ch. 5; 2. Emerson Ch. 4
		Assignments Due: FEMA Course IS-242.B – Effective Communication;
11	Oct 28	Topic: Ethics and Integrity
		Readings: Emerson Ch. 3. Hubbard, E. (2017). Message to Garcia. Message to Garcia, 1. Retrieved from https://search-ebscohost-com.libaccess.sjlibrary.org/login.aspx?direct=true&db=ulh&AN=21213188&site=eh . (Audio: https://youtu.be/p4pgzs2C8jk) Assignments Due: Ethics Elevator Pitch
12	Nov 4	Topic: Leadership and Influence
		Class discussion of <i>Caught Between the Dog and the Fireplug</i> Thought questions: What is the role of the public manager as a leader? How does this relate to the elected officials? How does a senior staff work in a city? How can project management advance leadership and influence?

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
		Readings: 1. Emerson et al., "Leadership Management Development," pgs. 184-188; 2. Rainey Ch. 11 and Rainey Ch. 12; 3. Ashworth, <i>Caught Between the Dog and the Fireplug</i> Assignments Due: FEMA course IS 240.B. – Leadership and Influence Certificate due at 6pm today. Team score sheets and Team Reports due by 6pm
13	Nov 11	today. ***No Class meeting*** Veterans Day***
13	NOVII	Assignments Due: Caught Analytical Memo due by 6 pm today;
14	Nov 18	Topic: Team Project presentations:
		 Moving the planning department to the New City Hall Installing new VOIP phones in City Hall
		Readings: N/A
		Assignments Due: Team Presentation & Individual Team Project Decision Memo
15	Nov 25	****Thanksgiving Break****No Class
16	Dec 2	Staff Report presentations 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

Syllabus Appendices

Appendix A: Writing Assignment Descriptions

Information Paper

As stated earlier, an information paper provides facts in a clear and concise format to briefly inform leaders. Information papers are often used for used in a discussion paper or trip book to bring the leader up to speed on a particular issue. They are normally only 1 page long and provide enough information for the leader to digest and understand the issue on a cursory level.

Format:

INFORMATION PAPER

Office/Agency

Name Full Date

SUBJECT: Information Paper Format

1. Purpose: To provide guidance on the preparation and use of an information paper.

2. Facts:

- a. An information paper provides facts in a clear and concise format (e.g., for use in a discussion paper or trip book.) The format may be altered to meet a specific need.
- b. Include the subject and the purpose. Paragraphs will contain only the essential facts concerning the subject. Papers will be self-explanatory and will not refer to enclosures except for tabular data, charts, or photographs.
- c. Papers should not exceed one page in length and need not be signed but must include the staff member's name and telephone number in the lower right corner. Include an approval line below the staff member's name and number to indicate agency approval by principal, deputy, or director (initial, if possible).
- d. Avoid using acronyms and abbreviations. Except for those that are familiar outside of your agency/office (e.g., DoD, US, CA, etc.)
- e. Avoid using sensitive or classified information when it does not contribute to understanding the issue.
 - f. The preparing agency will furnish the requesting official an original and one copy.
- g. The information paper is also a medium used to provide data for trip book for government leaders and officials.

h. Each local, state, or federal agency will have their own format for an information paper. Modify this one to match the requirements of your agency.

Staff Members Name / Phone # Approved by: Name / Phone

Analytical memo:

An analytical memo isn't a summary. Though this may seem obvious in theory, it's more difficult in practice. If you read your memo and it sounds a lot like a book report, it's probably only summarizing events or issues.

One way to figure out if you're summarizing instead of analyzing is to look at your support. Are you simply stating what happened, or are you providing a critical analysis of the information?

In short, this type of memo requires you to apply critical analysis of a topic or source material and distill it for more than a cursory level of information by leaders or heads of agencies. This helps shed light on the larger picture, and inform future decision making processes. A well-written analytical memo reflects attention to purpose; it is well organized; and it has a clear, concise style.

Determining and responding to your audience

In most cases, you will know the audience for your work because you have been hired by that individual or organization. Think carefully about the needs and expectations of your audience. For example, if your audience is an elected official seeking analysis on a highly technical matter, you should generally assume that the official lacks substantial technical expertise. You will need to define technical terms and provide enough background about the situation you are discussing that such a "lay" audience can grasp your arguments. On the other hand, if you are writing for a technically trained audience, you will waste time and energy providing background information that your readers already know.

Organizing an effective analytical memo:

Introduction

One distinguishing characteristic of an analytical memo is that a summary of the document's conclusion(s) and/or recommendation(s) is placed right at the beginning of the memo.

Remember that the purpose of the document is generally to provide your audience advice about a particular topic, decision, project, or policy stance. Thus, you open the memo by summarizing the problem or situation about which you are writing, and by providing a very brief summary of the conclusions/recommendations you have reached during your analysis. The rest of the memo is designed to support the conclusions or recommendations you present.

Background

Keeping in mind that different audiences need different amounts of background information (see above), follow your introduction with a concise summary of any historical or technical information that your audience needs to understand the arguments you are building. (It may be that no background information is needed at all.)

Supporting arguments or analysis

Once you have set the stage for your audience, show how this information leads logically to the conclusions/recommendations you have provided. For every statement made, ensure you demonstrate the critical relevance of that statement/assertion.

Style and format

Your ideas will be no more meaningful to the reader of your memo than you are able to make them. Meaning is not just embellished by style; rather, the two must function together. Muddled writing reflects hazy thinking. Your prose should be simple, clear, and easy to read; you will confuse, not impress, your readers with sophisticated vocabulary. Your reader should be able to describe your conclusions and the general arguments you used to reach them after only one reading of your memo.

Some tips on achieving an effective writing style:

- (1) Choose the simplest words available to express your ideas. When discussing technical information avoid the use of jargon--or at least define your terms clearly.
 - (2) Make your sentences "active"; avoid phrases such as "there are" or "it is."
- (3) Use one paragraph to develop one idea or argument. Make that idea or argument explicit within the first one or two sentences of the paragraph.
- (4) PROOFREAD CAREFULLY. Don't distract your readers from the content of your memo with poor spelling or grammar.

The format of the memo should be as follows:

- (1) Memos must be typed on 8.5 X 11" or A4 paper with margins of one inch on all sides. (digital version for this course only please).
- (2) Paragraphs should be single-spaced and should be separated by a double space.
- (3) **Analytical memos may follow the Information paper format**. You may use any standard conventions for the layout of your memo, as long as it includes alpha numeric paragraphing (which includes numbering paragraphs, lettering sub-paragraphs, bullets, indentation, etc.) Do address the analytical memo to your audience at the top of the page.

Length

The length of your policy memo assignment will be no more than 2 pages. Do not exceed this length limit! I am enforcing this rule for several reasons:

- (1) I assume that you will continue to write persuasive documents for clients and/or colleagues in the future. Like you, most of these people are busy. They rarely have time to review lengthy documents; these generally wind up unread in a filing cabinet or waste basket. I'm hoping to help you craft documents that are concise and of use to your clients or colleagues.
- (2) Confining yourself to a particular page limit encourages careful editing, establishing priorities, and paring your arguments down. In general, these practices also improve the flow and impact of your writing.

(3) Tightly written memos have a much better chance of influencing others toward a particular point of view.

Decision Memorandum:

Use a decision memorandum to obtain decisions from a Director, Agency Head, or Board of Directors. Prepare this special-purpose action in plain paper memorandum format in accordance with your jurisdictional agency's policies or standards of operating procedures. For this class you will use the San Jose City Format (found on their website). Do not exceed two pages, excluding supporting documents.

- a. General. Use of 1-inch margins for the plain paper memorandum. Font should be Times New Roman, size 11 or 12. The memorandum content should represent the complete situation, without relying on enclosures. Summarize issues and reserve enclosures for a detailed analysis or explanation of the summary presented in the memorandum. If enclosures are necessary, identify enclosures contained at tabs in the body of the decision memorandum. Keep information in the memo brief, with a purpose statement, short background summary, and coordination.
- b. Format of the decision memorandum can follow any standard convention for memos. An acceptable example is described below:
- (1) Office/Agency name. Type the office symbol of the proponent office at the left margin, 1-inch below the top of the page.
- (2) Date. Type or stamp the date of the decision memorandum at the right margin on the same line as the office symbol.
- (3) Address. Address the decision memorandum FOR the person making the decision.
- (4) Paragraph 1, Decision. Paragraph 1 states: FOR DECISION. Indicate who is the decision maker.
- (5) Paragraph 2, PURPOSE. In one concise sentence state the action to be taken (for example, "To gain Director's approval of the issues developed at the Watershed Conference held at Santa Clara convention Center, 23-24 Oct 20XX).
- (6) Paragraph 3, RECOMMENDATION(S). This paragraph contains specific recommendations; for example, "The Director sign the enclosed memorandum." Under each recommendation type:

"APPROVED	DISAPPROVED	SEE ME	,,
MITROVED	DISALLICALD	OLL IVIL	

- (7) Paragraph 4, BACKGROUND. This paragraph explains the origin of the action and conveys assumptions and facts necessary to understand the recommendation. Present facts as a chronological summary of actions or events leading to or bearing on the issue.
- (8) Paragraph 5, DISCUSSION. This paragraph lists/assesses the alternatives considered. Assess the alternatives considered for the decision in terms of advantages and disadvantages. Include documents that support the recommendation as enclosures at tabs. Summarize their key points in the decision memorandum.

- (9) Paragraph 6, IMPACT. This paragraph indicates impact of the recommended decision. A staff action may have an impact on personnel, equipment, funding, stationing, etc.
- (10) Paragraph 7, COORDINATION. This paragraph indicates with whom and when the action was staffed. Indicate concurrence/nonconcurrence by lining through the word that does not apply. Type or write the name and title of the individual who gave the feedback on the blank to the left of CONCUR/NONCONCUR. Type or write the date the individual provided feedback in the blank before DATE. Prepare each line as follows:

ORG CONCUR/NONCONCUR I	DATE
------------------------	------

- (11) Paragraph 8, Point of Contact. Include POC name, title, telephone number, and e-mail address.
- (12) Second page. If a decision memorandum is longer than one page, at the top of all continuation page, type the office name at the left margin, 1 inch from the top edge of the paper, and the subject line on the next line below the office name. Begin typing the text on the third line below the subject line.

Appendix B

Team Project Management Guidelines

Team Project Evaluation Sheet

TEAM Move Phones	Participation in research	Contribution to the plan	Contribution to the presentation development	Participation in the presentation	Total
Maximum Point Value	20	30	30	20	100
<my name=""></my>					
STUDENT SURNAMES					

Instructions:

Circle your team's topic.

Type your last name in the box provided

List the last name of each student on your team, including yourself, in alphabetical order under the heading

Consider the following factors in assigning a numerical value:

- 1. The value of this student's participation in each element
- 2. This student's contribution was on time

Give each team member – including yourself – a score of 0 to maximum based on your evaluation. Team Project Guide

For the purposes of this document the term *project management* is defined as the application of knowledge, skills, tools, and techniques to achieve a specific goal, with a discrete beginning and end. Project management is accomplished through the appropriate application and integration of 47 logically grouped project management processes, such as human resources and risk management, which are categorized into five process groups. These five process groups are: initiating, planning, executing, monitoring and controlling, and closing. Due to the tremendous variance in organizational form, the supporting structures may exist in a variety of designs to support the five basic activities. This guide uses the five processes as the framework for managing the project development and implementation from beginning to end.

A sample checklist is provided to demonstrate the application of the project management methodology to the project development activities.

As with all project management-driven activities, the project development starts with the Initiation Process, which ends with the creation of the project's charter. The second phase is the Planning Process, which theoretically remains open until the closing process. However, due to the short time frame for the execution process, modification of the plan is not recommended except as an evolutionary process. Therefore, additional effort is required during planning to ensure the highest likelihood of success. This can be accomplished by including details of the project, as soon as they are identified, in the planning process.

Development of a project is a complex process that requires the coordinated participation of several departments within an organization, and possibly also outside organizations. The method for spreading this work among various groups is called the work breakdown structure (WBS). The project development work may be conducted using a WBS based on either a model previously created by your organization, or the Incident Command System's five part organization structure: management, operations, logistics, planning/intelligence and finance/administration.

Some organizations use project management for construction or development work, and may already use a project management software product. An internally known software package may provide structured guidance for organizing the various streams of work that have to be done in concert by different groups. Alternatively, a timeline can be constructed using Excel, paper and pen, or any method that adequately collects the needed data.

Because there are multiple agencies involved in many projects, it is important to determine exactly which knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) will be used by each participant in this project. As the planning progresses it is possible that participants may wish to augment their KSAs, which may make the planning process unmanageable. Therefore, documentation of KSAs and scope during charter development is critical.

When using the project management approach, the project must be evaluated for its likelihood of success. This evaluation is known as *risk management* and informs the project developer about

whether the project as designed is worth the investment in time and cost, and whether it is likely to achieve the desired outcomes. The location, equipment and activities should all be reviewed to ensure that all personnel involved can be successful during all phases of the project. The evaluation may include not only the risk management personnel but all participating personnel with knowledge of operational practices related to the project. Application of risk management will ensure that adequate staffing, resources and experienced safety and oversight personnel are present. If this level of support is not available for cost reasons, it is recommended that the scope of the project be narrowed.

Suggested Meeting Agenda Topics – Moving/VOIP Project

Meeting 1

Goal and Objectives – Develop Location – Identify options for phasing, overlap; hot site/cold site Logistics/Support – Identify issues specific to this project

Meeting 2

Location – Report on the options, then select best option Manager – Discuss evaluation tools for goal and objectives Logistics/Support – Identify resources

Meeting 3

Location – Confirm date, time and point of contact for move/installation Activity timeline – Complete and finalize Manager – Ensure evaluation tools are synchronized and identify assignments Logistics/Support – Confirm entities and commitment]

Team Project Decision Brief: (See PPT format on Canvas)

Project Closing Report (Use the general outline below or search the internet for an appropriate template online and modify to use)

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Facts and Assumptions
- Key Data and Methodology of Analysis
 - o COA developed
 - o COA Testing
 - FAS analysis results
 - Evaluation Criteria for remaining COAs
 - COA comparison
 - o COA Selection
 - COA Analysis (Wargaming)
- Required Resources
- Projected Budget
- Project Timeline
- Risk Analysis and Risk Management Plan

- Other Challenges and solutions
- Report Conclusion

PROJECT CHECKLIST

Initiation Process

☐ Identify Driver(s)
☐ Contract
☐ Specific wording concerning project.
☐ Grant
\Box What was stated in the grant/application?
☐ Code/Legislative Requirement
□ What does the code/legislation state and require?
☐ Political
☐ For what specific purpose?
☐ Internal
☐ What is motivating this change?
☐ Identify Stakeholders
☐ Establish Stakeholder's List
□ Name
□ Organization
☐ Contact Information
Position
☐ Identify Funding Streams
☐ Discretionary ☐ General Fund Budgeted for project
☐ General Fund - Budgeted for project☐ Grant Funding
_
☐ Identify Scope of Project ☐ Who will be the lead agency?
Who are the participants?
☐ General Services
☐ Telephone company
☐ Planning Department
☐ All city departments
☐ Moving company
☐ Equipment vendor
□ Call center
□ Residents/businesses
□ Public Service Center
□ Other?
☐ Establish Charter
☐ Identify Project Director
☐ Internal and External Restrictions
Funding restrictions
☐ Timing restrictions
☐ Identify Goal and Objective(s) of Project

Planning Process – Project

☐ Establish Design Team	
☐ Technical (field)	
☐ Procedural (management)	
☐ Legal	
☐ Resources List and Their Sources	
☐ Handouts	
□ Project sponsor	
☐ Location Description/Map	
☐ Existing Plans	
□ Budget	
☐ Plan Development	
☐ Goal/Objective(s) Addressed	
☐ Phasing?	
☐ Able to be accomplished within resources	
☐ Human Resources Analysis	
☐ Where will the personnel come from for each task?	
☐ Which personnel will perform each task?	
☐ Risk Analysis	
☐ List all possible risks to the success of the project	
For each risk identify the mitigation measure: insurance, redundancy, other	r
☐ Location Set-Up and Tear-Down plan	
(who brings what; sets it up/takes it down)	
Personal desk items	
☐ Break room items, including refrigerator	
Computers	
Phones	
Copy machines	
☐ IT-related wiring	
☐ New phone sets	
Old phone sets	
Project Documentation	
☐ Print	

Execu	ting Process – Project	
	☐ Issue Project Documentation (as required)☐ Begin Project	
	☐ Document time project begins	
	☐ Follow timeline, resource use	
	☐ Terminate Project☐ Document time project ends	
Contr	olling Process – Project	
	☐ Controllers ☐ Monitor and adjust project implementation	
	☐ Interact with participants to address additional information requests	
	Project Hot Wash	
	Conducted by Project Director I halve all participants, project staff, managers, project planners	
	 ☐ Include all participants, project staff, managers, project planners ☐ Discuss project goal(s), objectives, actions taken, what went right/wrong, and areas for improvement 	ıf
	Document discussion	
	☐ Thank participants for attendance	
	Collect Participant Feedback Form	
	Controller Debrief	
	☐ Conducted by manager immediately following Hot Wash☐ Ensure all management team are included	
	☐ Discuss course of project events	
	☐ Document conversation	
	☐ Submit findings to Project Director	
Closin	ng Process – Project	
	☐ Project Director Reviews Documentation	
	☐ Participant Feedback Forms	
	Evaluator Observation Forms	
	□ Notes from Manager Debrief	
	 □ Notes from Hot Wash □ Prepare Draft Closing Report (Use the general outline below or search the internet for an appropria 	ıto
l	template online and modify to use)	ш
	Executive Summary	
	 Introduction 	
	• Facts and Assumptions	
	Key Data and Methodology of AnalysisRequired Resources	
	 Required Resources Projected Budget 	
	Project Timeline	
	 Risk Analysis and Risk Management Plan 	
	Other Challenges and solutions	
	 Report Conclusion Above format based on "How to Write a Project Management Report" @ 	
	https://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Project-Management-Report	
	integral in a minimum module in the de l'hopet management report	
	☐ Incorporate comments related to goal and objectives	
	☐ Convene Closing Conference	

Invite management team
☐ Review draft Report
☐ Create final Report
☐ Establish list of action items for inclusion in the Improvement Plan
Project Director Creates Improvement Plan
☐ Each improvement element is tied to one of the core actions
☐ Each improvement action is assigned to a specific organization with start/ending dates
Project team uses improvement plan in future project execution

Appendix C

Staff Analysis & Evaluation Report Guidance

Staff Report Presentation: Each Staff Analysis Group must prepare no more than 5 PowerPoint slides to guide the oral presentation of the Council Report topic in class. This is a seminar presentation that is designed to engage the class with the topic and increase their knowledge of this area of public policy and programming. Therefore, the presentation will end with a discussion of the topic facilitated by the staff group with the class. Staff group should engage the class with questions. Students without prior experience making PowerPoint slides may receive a tutorial guide from the professor upon request. The presentation must be no more than 20 minutes, with questions developed for an additional 10 minutes of discussion. If presenting in person, in class, and not on Zoom remotely, then all groups should submit PPT presentations on CANVAS by noon on the day prior to the presentation to class. This will allow for loading the slides on the professor's laptop to conserve class time.

Staff Report format (in memo format, following Letourneau's format):

- Recommendation
 - o What your agency should do, adopt, continue, change or eliminate about the program/policy
- Background
 - o Problem statement & description of issue or program. This must include all the facts on which you will base your analysis.
- Analysis
 - The impacts of this issue in the context of the political situation, community situation, societal concerns, preceding/ existing policies or programs; who were the stakeholders involved in the policy making and how was the balance of power represented in the final policy development outcomes? Demonstrate thorough and mature critical thinking. Be sure to acknowledge the pros and cons of your position and the existence of opposition, if any.
- Alternatives
 - It is necessary to thoroughly analyze all alternatives and state the consequences of such actions as objectively as possible.
- Budget/Fiscal Review
 - Ocosts and benefits to the agency of this policy, and how these are reflected in the community's/ organization's budget (1-1 1/2 pages- need not have specific dollar amounts if they are difficult to calculate.)
- Public Outreach
 - Was the public involved in the original decision? If so, how? If not, who made the decision and how was the public informed? Was there a Council presentation or discussion? Was there a vote taken in public? If so, was the voting body split or unanimous? Much of the voting information will be in the official minutes of the public meeting, usually available at the City Clerk or Clerk of the Board's web page. How should the public be involved and informed this time?
- Legal Review
 - o As much factual legal information that you are aware of that is pertinent to the issue
 - o A Determination if a legal review is necessary. Why or why not?
- Conclusion
 - Summation of analysis in support of recommendation regarding the city/county's future policy/program: enlarge, stay the same, down size, eliminate/stop? DO NOT INTRODUCE NEW INFORMATION. (1 paragraph)