

Bureaucracy, Politics, and Public Policy

POLI 4011 Spring 2014 Louisiana State
University

Instructor:
Roy L. Heidelberg
Assistant Professor
royh@lsu.edu
225-578-1397
Office: BEC 2053
Office hours: Wednesdays 9:00-12:00

Course Meetings
Tuesday and Thursday 12:00–1:20 pm in Tureaud 213

I. Course Description

We live in what has been described as the Age of Organizations, the Administrative State, and the Institutionalized Society. However it is described, there is broad recognition that organizations and institutions are key aspects of mass society. Among the most well-theorized of these organizational forms is bureaucracy, a formal arrangement that is both praised and derided in popular sentiment. This course will explore the meaning of bureaucracy and how it fits as a political-economic form into modern society.

II. Course Requirements

Although this is not a seminar course, you are expected to attend all sessions and participate. Participation means engaging with the instructor and guest speakers and asking thoughtful questions.

The reading material is very important for this class. You must come to class prepared to answer questions about the readings. There are two exams (mid-term and final) and a paper & presentation on a book of your (limited) choice. Both of the exams will be comprehensive up to what has been covered in class.

Books

Economy and Society by Max Weber, Ed. Guenther Roth and Claus Wittich (U of California Press)

The Political Forms of Modern Society by Claude Lefort (MIT Press)

Administrative Behavior by Herbert Simon (Free Press)

Seeing Like a State by James C. Scott (Yale University Press)

The Promise of Politics by Hannah Arendt, Ed. Jerome Kohn

III. Assignments

Attendance and Participation:	10%
Book Review:	30

Mid-Term Exam:	30
Final Exam:	30

IV. Course Objectives

- To gain an understanding of bureaucracy as a system of order and as a theory of organization
- To appreciate the intersection and dichotomy of politics and bureaucracy
- To understand the dependence of public policy upon forms of organization in order to manage and control situations.

V. Course Schedule

Week of	Tuesday	Thursday	Readings
20-Jan	Rationality	cont'd	Weber Chpt 2 of <i>Economy and Society</i>
27-Jan	Authority Weberian	cont'd	Weber Chpt 3 of <i>Economy and Society</i>
3-Feb	Bureaucracy	cont'd	Weber Chpt 11 of <i>Economy and Society</i>
10-Feb	Separating Politics	Arendt and the perils of Bureaucracy	Wilson "The Study of Administration"; Goodnow Chpt 1,2,4,5; Arendt "Introduction Into Politics"
17-Feb	Seeing like a state	Legibility, order and predictability	Scott Chpts 1-4, 9-10
24-Feb	Bureaucracy and Democracy	Claude Lefort on Democracy	Lefort Chpts 3 & 7
3-Mar	MARDI GRAS	<i>Review Session</i>	
10-Mar	<i>Mid Term Exam</i>	Progressive Era Regulation	Federal Regulation in Historical Perspective pp.1-66
17-Mar	Booming 20s and the New Deal	Regulation and the Public Interest	Federal Regulation in Historical Perspective pp.67-end
24-Mar	Administrative behavior	Muddling Through	Excerpt from Simon <i>Administrative Behavior</i> ; Lindblom "Muddling Through"
31-Mar	Street-level Bureaucrats and Control	Choice and Markets	Rowe 2012; Lipsky Chpt 2; Thaler, Sunstein, Balz; "Behaviour Changes in the UK"
7-Apr	New Public Management	Accountability and Responsibility	NPM Encyclopedia Excerpt; Hood "A Public Management for all Seasons"; Dunleavy et al 2006; Dubnick and Frederickson
14-Apr	SPRING	BREAK	
21-Apr	Presentation Week		
28-Apr	REVIEW WEEK		
5-May	FINAL	EXAMS	

VI. Grading Scale

92-100	A
83-91	B
75-82	C

64-75 D
below 64 F

VII. Academic Integrity

Students are encouraged to work and study together. However, all tests and written reports are to be done independently. Violations of academic integrity will be dealt with according to their severity and within the guidelines of LSU policy.

VIII. Special Accommodations

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services, 112 Johnston Hall, (225) 578-5919, as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Reading List for Book Review (select options)

Essence of Decision by Graham Allison (and Philip Zelikow)

Bureaucracy by James Q. Wilson

Eichmann in Jerusalem by Hannah Arendt

The Economy of Cities by Jane Jacobs

Bowling Alone by Robert Putnam

Policy Design for Democracy by Anne Schneider and Helen Ingram

Politics and Markets by Charles E. Lindblom

Implementation by Aaron Wildavsky

The Trial by Franz Kafka

The Plague by Albert Camus

Rationality and Power by Bent Flyvbjerg

The Public and its Problems by John Dewey

Discipline and Punish by Michel Foucault

The Administrative State by Dwight Waldo

Pragmatist Democracy by Christopher Ansell