

POLI 3251
Canadian Public Administration
Department of Political Science
Dalhousie University
Fall 2012

Instructor: Michelle Coffin
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Class Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:05-11:25
Location: LSC Common Area C 332
Office Hours: Wednesdays 9:00-11:00 or by appointment
Henry Hicks Room 357

Course description

This is an introductory course to the study of Canadian public administration. The main objective of the course is to introduce students to the theories, institutions and actors at play in the practice and study of public management.

The course will cover topics such as the organization and structure of the public service and its administrative institutions, public policy making, the constitution and the law, the management of human resources, public administration reform, ethics and accountability in the public service and the ever-changing relationships between the public service and politicians, the public, the media and interest groups.

A major focus of the course will be an examination of the *Commission of Inquiry into the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities* as well as the *Federal Accountability Act*, the government's response to the sponsorship "scandal" and the commission's conclusions.

Required readings

- Inwood, Gregory, *Understanding Canadian Public Administration*, fourth edition, (Toronto: Pearson, 2012).
- Savoie, Donald (ed), *Commission of Inquiry into the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities*, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2005 & 2006)
 - *Who is Responsible? Fact Finding Report*
 - *Restoring Accountability*
 - *Parliament, Ministers and Deputy Ministers*, Volume 1
 - *The Public Service and Transparency*, Volume 2
 - *Linkages: Responsibilities and Accountabilities*, Volume 3

Found at: <http://epe.lac-bac.gc.ca/100/206/301/pco-bcp/commissions/sponsorship-ef/06-02-10/www.gomery.ca/en/openingstatement/default.htm>

- *Federal Accountability Act*

Found at: <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/F-5.5/index.html>

Course evaluation

- **Grading**

Individual presentations:	25 per cent
Take home exam:	35 per cent
Roundtables participation:	15 per cent
Final Exam:	25 per cent

- **Individual Presentations**

Each student is required to prepare one presentation during the term. Presentations will be synopses of the chapters of the Commission of Inquiry material. Presentations are to be approximately 15 minutes. Hard copies are required and are to be submitted to the instructor on the day of the presentation. Presentations will take place throughout the term.

- **Take home exam**

Students will be given 48 hours to respond to a question that focuses on one of the major themes of the course. The exam should be approximately three single-spaced pages in length. The take home will take place between Oct 30 and Nov 9. The 48 hour time frame will be determined in advance by students and the instructor.

Submission guidelines for take home exams: Students are required to email their response to the take home exam question to the course instructor. Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 2 per cent per day, including weekends.

- **Roundtable Discussions**

Toward the end of the term two classes will be dedicated to discussions on the *Federal Accountability Act*. As the term progresses we will discuss the particulars of this assignment.

- **Final exam**

A final exam will take place during the last class. The exam will focus on the major themes of the course.

To achieve a passing grade students must complete all four assignments.

Grading scheme

As per the Dalhousie undergraduate academic calendar:

Student Accessibility and Accommodation

Students may request accommodation as a result of barriers related to disability, religious obligation, or any characteristic under the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act. Students who require academic accommodation for either classroom participation or the writing of tests and exams should make their request to the Office of Student Accessibility & Accommodation (OSAA) prior to or at the outset of each academic term (with the exception of X/Y courses). Please see www.studentaccessibility.dal.ca for more information and to obtain the Request for Accommodation – Form A.

A note taker may be required to assist a classmate. There is an honorarium of \$75/course/term. If you are interested, please contact OSAA at 494-2836 for more information.

Please note that your classroom may contain specialized accessible furniture and equipment. It is important that these items remain in the classroom so that students who require their usage will be able to participate in the class.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

All students in this class are to read and understand the policies on academic integrity and plagiarism referenced in the Policies and Student Resources sections of the academicintegrity.dal.ca website. Ignorance of such policies is no excuse for violations.

Any paper submitted by a student at Dalhousie University may be checked for originality to confirm that the student has not plagiarized from other sources. Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offence which may lead to loss of credit, suspension or expulsion from the University, or even to the revocation of a degree. It is essential that there be correct attribution of authorities from which facts and opinions have been derived. At Dalhousie there are University Regulations which deal with plagiarism and, prior to submitting any paper in a course, students should read the Policy on Intellectual Honesty contained in the Calendar or on the Online Dalhousie website. The Senate has affirmed the right of any instructor to require that student papers be submitted in both written and computer-readable format, and to submit any paper to be checked electronically for originality.

Course Organization

Date	Topics and readings
Sept 6	Review of course material and assignments
Sept 11	<p><i>Introduction: The Nature of Public Administration</i></p> <p>Chapter 1</p> <p><i>Public Administration and Democracy</i></p> <p>Chapter 2</p>
Sept 13	<p><i>Theories of Organization</i></p> <p>Chapter 3</p> <p><i>Organization Theory and Canadian Public Administration</i></p> <p>Chapter 4</p>
Sept 18	<p><i>Public Administration and Institutions: The Real World of Organizations and the Machinery of Government</i></p> <p>Chapter 5</p>
Sept 20	<p><i>Commission of Inquiry, Fact Finding Report</i></p> <p>Chapters I,II,III</p>
Sept 25	<p><i>Public Administration, the Constitution, and Law</i></p> <p>Chapter 6</p>
Sept 27	<p><i>Commission of Inquiry, Fact Finding Report</i></p> <p>Chapters IV, V</p>
Oct 2	<p><i>Public Administration and Public Policy</i></p> <p>Chapter 7</p>
Oct 4	<p><i>Commission of Inquiry, Fact Finding Report</i></p> <p>Chapters VI, VII</p>
Oct 9	<p><i>Public Administration and the Management of Human Resources</i></p> <p>Chapter 8</p>
Oct 11	<p>Peter Dobell and Martin Ulrich, “Parliament and Financial Accountability,” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies, Volume 1</i>, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).</p> <p>Jonathan Malloy, “The Standing Committee on Public Accounts,” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies, Volume 1</i>, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).</p>
Oct 16	<p><i>Public Administration, Management Reform, and Financial Management</i></p> <p>Chapter 9</p>
Oct 18	<p>David Smith, “Clarifying the Doctrine of Ministerial Responsibility as it Applies to the Government and Parliament of Canada,” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies, Volume 1</i>, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006)</p> <p>Laine Benoit, “Ministerial Staff: The life and Times of Parliament’s Statutory Orphans,” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies, Volume 1</i>, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006)</p>

Oct 23	<u>Public Administration and Ethics</u> Chapter 10
Oct 25	<p>Jacques Bourgault, “The Deputy Minister’s Role in the Government of Canada: His Responsibility and His Accountability” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i>, Volume 1, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).</p> <p>Peter Aucoin, “The Staffing and Evaluation of Canadian Deputy Ministers in Comparative Westminster Perspective: A Proposal for Reform” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i>, Volume 1, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006)</p> <p>Peter Aucoin and Donald Savoie, “The Politics-Administration Dichotomy: Democracy versus Bureaucracy?” in O.P. Dwivedi, Tim A. Mau and Byron Sheldrick, (ed.), <i>The Evolving Physiology of Government</i>, (Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, 2009), pp. 97-117.</p>
Oct 30	<u>Public Administration and Accountability</u> Chapter 11
Nov 1	<p>Sossin, Lorne, “Defining Boundaries: The Constitutional Argument for Bureaucratic Independence and its Implication for the Accountability of the Public Service,” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i>, Volume 2, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).</p> <p>Kenneth Kernaghan, “Encouraging ‘Rightdoing’ and Discouraging Wrongdoing: Public Service Charter and Disclosure Legislation,” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i>, Volume 2, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).</p>
Nov 6	<p>Alasdair Roberts, “Two Challenges in Administration of the <i>Access to Information Act</i>,” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i>, Volume 2, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).</p> <p>A Paul Pross, “The Lobbyists Registration Act: Its Application and Effectiveness,” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i>, Volume 2, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).</p>
Nov 8	<p>Liane Benoit and C.E.S. Franks, “For the Want of a Nail: The Role of Internal Audit in the Sponsorship Scandal,” in ,” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i>, Volume 2, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).</p> <p>Ian R Sadinsky and Thomas K Gussman, “Federal Government Advertising and Sponsorships: New Directions in Management and Oversight,” in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i>, Volume 2, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).</p>

Nov 13	NO CLASS
Nov 15	S L Sutherland, "The Role of the Clerk of the Privy Council," in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i> , Volume 3, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).
Nov 20	James Ross Hurley, Responsibility, "Accountability and the Role of Deputy Ministers in the Government of Canada," in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i> , Volume 3, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006). C.E.S. Franks, "The Respective Responsibilities and Accountabilities of Ministers and Public Servants: A Study of the British Accounting Officer System and its Relevance for Canada," in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i> , Volume 3, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).
Nov 22	Stan Corbett, "Ministerial Responsibility and the Financial Administration Act: The Constitutional Obligation to Account for Government Spending" in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i> , Volume 3, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006). B Guy Peters, "Public Accountability of Autonomous Public Organizations," in Donald Savoie (ed.) <i>Commission of Inquiry to the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities, Restoring Accountability, Research Studies</i> , Volume 3, (Ottawa: Public Works and Government Services, 2006).
Nov 27	<i>Federal Accountability Act</i> Roundtable
Nov 29	<i>Federal Accountability Act</i> Roundtable
Dec 4	In Class Final Exam