

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

Public Budgeting and Finance

Political Science 5310

Summer II, 2016

Instructor: Jim Case
Telephone: 837-8036 Office
Office: 203 Briscoe Hall
FAX: 432-837-8028

Office Hours: 2-3:00p M-Th
By Appointment
E-mail: jcase@sulross.edu

Required Texts: Budgeting: Politics and Power by Carol W. Lewis and W. Bartley Hildreth (Oxford University Press: New York), 2013.

Course Description: PS5310 focuses upon the development and the execution of various public budgeting systems with special attention given to the political content of the budgetary process in the public sector. PS5310 will look at both national and local government financial management.

Distance Education Statement: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, such as online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

Course Objective: The objective of this course is for the student to master the study of public budgeting through developing the following proficiencies:

The student will be able to conceptualize major concepts in budgeting, e.g., risk management, reduction management, as assessed in writing assignments;

The student will be able to analyze the issues in public budgeting by relating major theories to the issues as assessed in response narratives to issues in public budgeting;

The student will demonstrate competence in research in public budgeting as assessed by a monograph on a topic significant to public budgeting, e.g., law, agency, budgeting system, that the student will write.

Student Learning Objectives (SLO): The Student Learning Objectives for the Master of Arts in Public Administration degree are:

1. The graduating student will demonstrate the ability to critique significant theoretical approaches of public administration.
2. The graduating student will demonstrate the ability to evaluate domestic and international administrative processes.
3. The graduating student will demonstrate the ability to apply appropriate statistical tools for quantitative analysis.

Course Evaluation: The student will be evaluated upon performance in the following areas:

1. We will handle each chapter by using a two-step process: On day one, you will work the major concepts of the chapter. I will give you a list of terms to conceptualize. On the next day I will give you a theoretical question from the chapter to answer and a discussion board question. You will be evaluated, therefore, on your conceptualizations, your narrative response to the question of theory, and on your participation in the blackboard discussion.
The conceptualization of political and budgeting concepts. What I want to do here is help each student develop a budgeting vocabulary. I will give the students a list of terms I want to have conceptualized. The student will conceptualize the term and then give the significance of the concept in public budgeting, *i.e.*, give the meaning of the concept and tell why it is important. (30% of grade)
Narrative response to an issue of theory in public budgeting. I will give you a question of theory related to public budgeting. You will respond to the topic by writing a 500 word response to the question. (40% of grade)
2. You also will have a ***six-page monograph*** to write for the course. It will be our version of a “term-paper”—just a shorter one than usual. A monograph is just a writing on one topic. The topic could be:
 - a particularly significant piece of budgeting legislation, such as the Budgeting and Accounting Act of 1921;
 - a particularly significant budgeting system, such as the Program Planning Budgeting System (PPBS) or Zero-Based Budgeting (ZBB) or Performance Budgeting; or
 - a particularly significant budgeting agency, such as the Office of Management and Budget or the Legislative Budget Board.The paper will be double-spaced and will be formal in nature. You will be asked to use APA style. You will have to have in-text citations, as well as a works-cited page regardless of which style-sheet you use. (30% of grade)

Attendance: The student is expected to access Blackboard daily.

Disabilities Accommodation: It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodation because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact Accessibilities Services Coordinator, in Ferguson 112 or at (432) 837-8203.

| Course Calendar, Summer 2016 | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Date | Chapter | Daily Assignment <i>Assignments will be posted under the Assignments link on Blackboard</i> | Due Date for Assignment <i>Assignments due 11:55 p.m.</i> |
| July 6 | <i>Introduction: Budgeting and Democracy</i> | Concept Clarification Submit topic for monograph to professor Monograph Over Public Budgeting Topic | July 9 July 14 August 8 |
| July 8 | <i>Introduction: Budgeting and Democracy</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | July 11 |
| July 11 | Chapter 1, <i>Follow the Money</i> | Concept Clarification | July 13 |
| July 12 | Chapter 1, <i>Follow the Money</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | July 14 |
| July 14 | Chapter 2, <i>We the People: Power and Participation</i> | Concept Clarification | July 16 |
| July 15 | Chapter 2, <i>We the People: Power and Participation</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | July 18 |
| July 17 | Chapter 3, <i>Fairness and Trust in Budgetary Politics</i> | Concept Clarification | July 19 |
| July 18 | Chapter 3, <i>Fairness and Trust in Budgetary Politics</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | July 21 |
| July 20 | Chapter 4, <i>Process Matters</i> | Concept Clarification | July 22 |
| July 21 | Chapter 4, <i>Process Matters</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | July 24 |
| July 23 | Chapter 5, <i>Putting the Puzzle Together</i> | Concept Clarification | July 25 |
| July 24 | Chapter 5, <i>Putting the Puzzle Together</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | July 28 |
| July 26 | Chapter 6, <i>Spending Public Resources</i> | Concept Clarification | July 29 |

| | | | |
|----------|--|------------------------------------|-----------|
| July 28 | Chapter 6, <i>Spending Public Resources</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | July 30 |
| July 29 | Chapter 7, <i>A Taxing Subject: Raising Public Resources</i> | Concept Clarification | July 31 |
| July 31 | Chapter 7, <i>A Taxing Subject: Raising Public Resources</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | August 2 |
| August 1 | Chapter 8, <i>Politics and Capital Budgeting</i> | Concept Clarification | August 3 |
| August 2 | Chapter 8, <i>Politics and Capital Budgeting</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | August 5 |
| August 4 | Read Chapter 9, <i>How To Read a Local Budget</i> | Concept Clarification | August 6 |
| August 5 | Read Chapter 9, <i>How To Read a Local Budget</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | August 8 |
| | Monograph due | | August 9 |
| August 7 | Chapter 10, <i>The Bottom Line</i> | Concept Clarification | August 9 |
| August 8 | Chapter 10, <i>The Bottom Line</i> | Essay Response to Issues in Theory | August 10 |