



University  
of Victoria

# POLI 350/ADMN 311 Introduction to Public Administration

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**Instructor Spring 2023:** Dr. Sean Darling

**Course delivery:** POLI 350/ADMN 311 will be delivered on campus and face-to-face.

## **Course description:**

Public administration encompasses a changing structural and value context within which public officials work. This course explores external and internal factors affecting contemporary public sector management in Canada. We will discuss the various legislative, executive and judicial processes which engage public officials and citizens. The course sets the theoretical and institutional context and examines emerging trends in public administration. We then proceed with an analysis of how various layers of the public sector function. This includes federal, provincial, local and Indigenous forms and modes of governance. We will examine current and emerging debates about public institutions, laws, policies and diversity. Course material includes a range of text and visual materials that integrate diverse perspectives on how to advance public goods and interests. We will examine the functioning of various institutions and their responses to the contemporary challenges of our time.

**Prerequisites:** None

## **Course outcomes/objectives:**

- Develop written and verbal communication through essay writing and discussion
- Debate and evaluate techniques of public administration
- Understand the policy-making process, forms of engagement and decision-making
- Understand the various approaches, processes and organization of public administration

## **Topics may include:**

Westminster model

Public Service

Decision making models

Levels of government including local government

Indigenous governance

*This summary provides an overall sense of the course and is not an official course outline. Detailed course outlines will be available for all registered students on the first day of class.*