POLI 350/ADMN 311
Introduction to Public Administration

Instructor:
TBA

Course delivery:
In the Summer 2021 term, this course will be delivered online.

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 in which public officials and citizens are engaged. 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.

Over the course of the semester, students will gain insights into the theory and practice of government as well as acquire skills in policy analysis. 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 online summary is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.