City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course
offered by Department of Public Policy
with effect from Semester B in 2013/2014

Part I

Course Title: International Public Management
Course Code: POL6101
Course Duration: One semester
No. of Credit Units: 3
Level: P6
Medium of Instruction: English
Prerequisites: Nil
Precursors: Nil
Equivalent Courses: Nil
Exclusive Courses: Nil
Part II

1. Course Aims:

This course aims to
- Identify significant recent and current international trends and developments in public management theories and practices;
- Examine the processes and related debates about the nature and impact of globalization, internationalization, diffusion and transfer in public sector management and reform;
- Illustrate and analyse the diversity, complexity and dynamics of public sector management through the study of key public management reforms in the international arena and in the Asia-Pacific and European regions in particular;
- Recognize the importance, strengths and weaknesses of the activities of transnational and regional organizations such as the World Bank, OECD, etc., in the development, dissemination and evaluation of public management reforms; and
- Encourage the development of the academic skills needed to organize, summarize, interpret, evaluate and discuss critically, both orally and in writing, scholarly articles, factual information and official data relating to the development and implementation of specific public management developments in a variety of different jurisdictions.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>CILOs</th>
<th>Weighting (if applicable)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Compare critically the changing nature of strategies, trends and international practices, and processes entailed in successful public management in recent decades;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Recognize and deconstruct critically key ideas/themes from current debates about the nature and impact of globalization, internationalization, diffusion and transfer in public sector management and reform;</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Identify and critically appraise the specific challenges facing public managers internationally;</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Identify and critique the importance, influence, benefits and problems associated with the public management-related activities of transnational and regional organizations such as the World Bank, ADB, OECD, European Union, UNDP, ASEAN, EUROPA, etc;</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Present in a structured and integrated manner findings of analyses of the nature, implications and applications of selected key developments in public management theories and practices outside of Hong Kong.</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Summarize, interpret critically and discuss international developments in public management theories and practices.</td>
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3. **Teaching and learning Activities (TLAs)**
*(designed to facilitate students’ achievement of the CILOs)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CILO No</th>
<th>TLAs</th>
<th>Hours/week (if applicable)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All CILOs</td>
<td>Readings: Students are encouraged to read widely. Core required readings from the recent literature on international public management will be assigned. For their written papers students will be required to engage in a critical analysis of developments in international public management.</td>
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<tr>
<td>All CILOs</td>
<td>Lectures: lectures will help students to acquire knowledge and to improve their understanding of key public management definitions, concepts, theories and methods.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CILO 1,2,3,5,6</td>
<td>Seminars: During seminars, individual students will present key points from their written papers, based on a critical analysis of relevant academic materials on key recent developments and practices related to international public management. They will answer questions raised by other seminar participants.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CILO 1,2,3,5,6</td>
<td>Oral and Written presentations: Students will demonstrate their ability to communicate clearly their critical analysis for developments related to international public management both orally to the class and by writing two papers that adhere to all academic conventions.</td>
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4. **Assessment Tasks/Activities**
*(designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs)*

Students are required to pass BOTH the coursework assessment AND the examination before they can be awarded an overall passing grade of the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CILO No</th>
<th>Type of assessment tasks/activities</th>
<th>Weighting (if applicable)</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CILO 1,3,5,6</td>
<td>Individual written term paper (2,300-2,500 words)</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>CILO 1,3,5,6</td>
<td>Individual oral presentation of term paper + seminar attendance</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>All CILOs</td>
<td>Examination (3 hours)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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5. **Grading of Student Achievement:** Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grading criteria in relation to CILOs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Strong demonstration of well-developed capacity to interpret critically perspectives related to international developments in public management theories and practices. Present effectively and clearly understandings and analyses of key ideas / themes and issues concerning transnational and regional organizations, and contemporary international public management practices and processes. A conceptually sound understanding of important debates in the academic literature on international public management developments and trends.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>A generally good demonstration of the ability to interpret with some degree of critical insight perspectives related to international developments in public management theories and practices. A sound ability to present an analysis of key ideas / themes and issues concerning transnational and regional organizations, and contemporary international public management practices and processes. Generally competent research, writing and communication skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>A rudimentary understanding of how to interpret critically perspectives related to international developments in public management theories and practice. A weak ability to express either verbally or in writing fundamental ideas / perspectives related to international public management developments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Poorly demonstrated understanding of how to analyze key issues / themes and ideas concerning transnational and regional organizations and contemporary public management practices and processes. Very little ability to present even a fundamental understanding of ideas / perspectives related to international public management developments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Poorly demonstrated understanding of how to analyze key issues / themes and ideas concerning transnational and regional organizations and contemporary public management practices and processes. Very little ability to present even a fundamental understanding of ideas / perspectives related to international public management developments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>Poorly demonstrated understanding of how to analyze key issues / themes and ideas concerning transnational and regional organizations and contemporary public management practices and processes. Very little ability to present even a fundamental understanding of ideas / perspectives related to international public management developments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>A very limited and poorly developed ability to demonstrate any understanding of fundamental concepts / ideas related to any aspect of international public management practices and processes. No demonstration of even a basic understanding of the principles and ideas covered in POL6101. A failure to complete the required coursework and/or examination assessments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>A very limited and poorly developed ability to demonstrate any understanding of fundamental concepts / ideas related to any aspect of international public management practices and processes. No demonstration of even a basic understanding of the principles and ideas covered in POL6101. A failure to complete the required coursework and/or examination assessments.</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>A very limited and poorly developed ability to demonstrate any understanding of fundamental concepts / ideas related to any aspect of international public management practices and processes. No demonstration of even a basic understanding of the principles and ideas covered in POL6101. A failure to complete the required coursework and/or examination assessments.</td>
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Part III

Keyword Syllabus:

International public management; globalization and public sector reform; privatisation, private sector involvement and partnerships, social enterprise, contractualism and de-regulation; transnational organizations; modernising and world class government; consumerism; risk management; information technology and e-government; corporate governance; standards in public life and the control of corruption; ‘best value’ and best practices; performance management; managing change.

Recommended Reading:


Online Resources:

World Bank (various) *The World Development Report*, at:

7. http://www.oecd.org/maintopic/0,2626,en_2649_201185_1_1_1,1_1_1_1,00.html
9. http://www.oecd.org/document/15/0,2340,en_2649_201185_35405455_1_1_1_1,100.html
10. http://www.oecd.org/document/12/0,2340,en_2649_201185_37688524_1_1_1_1,100.html

Additional, specific topic reading lists will also be supplied by the lecturers concerned