

PIA6305: PRACTICE IN PUBLIC MANAGEMENT

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Practice in Public Management

Subject Code

PIA - Public and International Affairs

Course Number

6305

Academic Unit

Public and International Affairs (PIA)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

The course provides hands-on experience in tackling the changing demands and expectations of the public and the increasingly complex public problems. The course will provide students with theoretical and practical knowledge in

decision analytics leadership, performance evaluation, financial budgeting, and community engagement based on practical cases. At the end of this course, students will be able to 1) develop competencies in communication skills, institutional knowledge and organizational financial management and analytical problem-solving skills in public administration; 2) translate research into policy and practice for effective public and non-profit management. The course will be taught by experienced public affairs professionals and practitioners.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Understand how decisions and results in public affairs are evaluated	x	x	
2	Develop management and communication skills in public and non-profit management		x	x
3	Distill specific research findings and insights to inform practice		x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Structured seminar	Theories and practices on public management	1, 2
2	Comprehensive analyses of budget documents	Students are required to examine transparency, accountability and efficiency in government budgeting practices in HK	2, 3
3	Program evaluation report	Participate in co-produced community service programs; examine the program effectiveness and provide recommendations	2, 3

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?	
1	Class attendance & participation	1, 2, 3	10	-	No

2	Individual digital literacy assessment	2, 3	25	-	Yes
3	Presentation (group-based)	2, 3	20	-	No
4	Individual project	3	45	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Class participation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Participate in the discussion of given cases

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Actively speaking in class with insightful ideas

Good

(B+, B, B-) Actively participate in class discussion

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Rarely participate in class discussion with no absences

Marginal

(D) Rarely participate in class discussion are absent

Failure

(F) Never participate in class discussion are absent

Assessment Task

Individual digital literacy assessment (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Take home problem set financial statement of given department of HK government

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Points are given based on completion.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Points are given based on completion.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Points are given based on completion.

Marginal

(D) Points are given based on completion.

Failure

(F) Points are given based on completion.

Assessment Task

Presentation (group-based) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Giving a team-based oral presentation of the policy case analysis

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent ability to participate in the team and play the proper role as a team member in the group project of case study

Good

(B+, B, B-) Good ability to participate in the team and play the proper role as a team member in the group project of case study

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Basic ability to participate in the team and play the proper role as a team member in the group project of case study

Marginal

(D) Poor ability to participate in the team and play the proper role as a team member in the group project of case study

Failure

(F) Inadequate ability to participate in the team and play the proper role as a team member in the group project of case study

Assessment Task

Individual project (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Participate in co-produced community service programs with program evaluation reports

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent ability to apply what has been learned over the semester to analyse or address issues in real-world scenarios.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Good ability to apply what has been learned over the semester to analyse or address issues in real-world scenarios.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Basic ability to apply what has been learned over the semester to analyse or address issues in real-world scenarios.

Marginal

(D) Poor ability to apply what has been learned over the semester to analyse or address issues in real-world scenarios.

Failure

(F) Inadequate ability to apply what has been learned over the semester to analyse or address issues in real-world scenarios.

Assessment Task

Class participation (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Participate in the discussion of given cases

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Actively speaking in class with insightful ideas

Good

(B+, B) Actively participate in class discussion

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Rarely participate in class discussion with no absences

Failure

(F) Never participate in class discussion are absent

Assessment Task

Individual digital literacy assessment (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Take home problem set financial statement of given department of HK government

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Points are given based on completion.

Good

(B+, B) Points are given based on completion.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Points are given based on completion.

Failure

(F) Points are given based on completion.

Assessment Task

Presentation (group-based) (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Giving a team-based oral presentation of the policy case analysis

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent ability to participate in the team and play the proper role as a team member in the group project of case study

Good

(B+, B) Good ability to participate in the team and play the proper role as a team member in the group project of case study

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Basic ability to participate in the team and play the proper role as a team member in the group project of case study

Failure

(F) Inadequate ability to participate in the team and play the proper role as a team member in the group project of case study

Assessment Task

Individual project (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Participate in co-produced community service programs with program evaluation reports

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent ability to apply what has been learned over the semester to analyse or address issues in real-world scenarios.

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Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Basic ability to apply what has been learned over the semester to analyse or address issues in real-world scenarios.

Failure

(F) Inadequate ability to apply what has been learned over the semester to analyse or address issues in real-world scenarios.

Part III Other Information**Keyword Syllabus**

Leadership, Performance Evaluation, Financial Budgeting, Community Engagement

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

	Title
1	Agranoff, R., & McGuire, M. (2001). Big Questions in Public Network Management Research. <i>Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory</i> 11, 295-326.
2	Ansell, C. & Gash, A. (2008). Collaborative Governance in Theory and Practice. <i>Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory</i> 18(4), 543-571.
3	George, B., Walker, R. M., & Monster, J. (2019). Does strategic planning improve organizational performance? A meta - analysis. <i>Public Administration Review</i> 79(6), 810-819.
4	Milakovich, Michael. 2012. <i>Digital Governance: New Technology for Improving Public Service and Participation</i> . New York: Routledge.
5	Nabatchi, T., Sancino, A., & Sicilia, M. (2017). Varieties of participation in public services: The who, when, and what of coproduction. <i>Public Administration Review</i> 77(5), 766-776.
6	Osborne, S. P., Brown, L., & Walker, R. M. (Eds.). (2017). <i>Innovation in Public Services: Theoretical, managerial, and international perspectives</i> . Routledge.
7	Reddick Christopher G. (2012). <i>Public Administration and Information Technology</i> . Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett.

8	Zhu L., Witko, C., & Meier, K. J. (2019). The public administration manifesto II: Matching methods to theory and substance. <i>Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory</i> 29(2), 287-298.
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Additional Readings

	Title
1	Frederickson, G. H. (1991). Toward A Theory of the Public for Public Administration. <i>Administration & Society</i> , 22, 395-423.
2	Lipsky, M. (1980). <i>Street-Level Bureaucracy: Dilemmas of the Individual in Public Services</i> . Russell Sage Foundation.
3	O' Toole Jr, L. J. & Meier, K. J. (2004). Public Management in Intergovernmental Networks: Matching Structural Networks and Managerial Networking. <i>Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory</i> 14(4), 469-494.
4	Perry J. L., & Hondeghem, A. (2008). <i>Motivation in Public Management: The Call of Public Service</i> . Oxford University Press.
5	Schiavo-Campo, S. & McFerson H.M. (2008). Public Management in Global Perspective. M. E. Sharpe. Chapter 10 ("Managing for results: performance, monitoring, and evaluation").