

Fall 2015

PADM 5220

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University of New Orleans

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Overview of the Nonprofit Sector
PADM 5220
Fall 2015

PROFESSOR: Alessandra Jerolleman, PhD, MPA, CFM

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Overview

This course is an introduction to how nonprofit organizations provide solutions to community problems locally and worldwide. Therefore, we will focus our attention and efforts on the following topics and issues:

- Understanding the importance of nonprofit organizations
- Familiarization with various roles nonprofit organizations fill
- Developing a broad knowledge of challenges and opportunities the nonprofit sector faces
- Studying how the nonprofit sector relates to the rest of society
- Understanding how the nonprofit sector interacts with local government
- Familiarization with philanthropy within the United States context as opposed to the international context

Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the various roles which nonprofit organizations fill
2. Explain how the nonprofit sector relates to the rest of society
3. Articulate the importance of nonprofit organizations
4. Demonstrate advanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by the nonprofit sector
5. Explain how the nonprofit sector interacts with local government
6. Demonstrate advanced understanding of philanthropy within the United States context as opposed to the international context

Required Texts

- Payton, Robert L. & Moody, Michael P. (2008). *Understanding Philanthropy: Its Meaning and mission.*
- Powell, Walter W. & Steinberg, Richard. (2001). *The Nonprofit Sector: A Research Handbook, Second Edition.*

Additional readings may be posted on Moodle.

Grading

The grade for the semester for graduate students is based on the following criteria:

- Case Study 10%
- Weekly Responses (12 @ 2.5% each) 30%
- Mid-term 10%
- Literature Review 20%
- Research Paper: 20%
- Final Exam: 10%

The following scale will be used to evaluate students:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	less than 60

IMPORTANT REQUIREMENTS:

- Exams and assignments are due when scheduled.
- Late assignments will be reduced by one letter grade for each day late.
- “Extra credit” is not an option for poor performance. .

It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. For more information, please go to <http://www.ods.uno.edu>.

DON'T CHEAT! – CONSEQUENCES OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further information. The Code is available online at <http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu>.

To ensure academic integrity, all students enrolled in distance learning courses at the University of New Orleans may be required to participate in additional student identification procedures. At the discretion of the faculty member teaching the course, these measures may include on-campus proctored examinations, off-site or online proctored examinations, or other reasonable measures to ensure student identity. Authentication measures for this course are identified below and any fees associated are the responsibility of the student.

Course Requirements: Grading in assignments will be based on the quality and thoroughness of presentation. Assignments are due on the day indicated.

Guidelines for the Case Study: Each student will select a local nonprofit to research and write up a case study: (1) all nonprofits must be approved by the professor; and (2) each student must choose a different nonprofit (in other words, two or more students cannot choose the same organization.) In case of any dispute regarding this issue, a “first-come, first served” rule will be applied. More information about the requirements of this assignment will be provided during the semester. Your case study is due no later than September 25th at 6:00pm.

Guidelines for the Weekly Responses: All students are expected to actively participate in discussions on Moodle. This includes posting a detailed response to the discussion prompts prior to 4pm on Thursday. All discussion prompts for the week will be posted by the Instructor prior to 9am on Tuesday. Students are also expected to provide well thought out responses to at least two other postings each week. For example, the first series of discussion prompts will be posted on 9/1 for the week of 8/31. Responses will be due by 4pm on 9/3. Students may submit their responses to other student posts at any time before the beginning of the next week. In this case, 9/7.

Guidelines for the Research Paper: The final writing product for this course will consist of a research paper prepared by each student. Each student will be free to choose their topic, with two important criteria: (1) all topics must be approved by the professor; and (2) each student must choose a unique topic (in other words, two or more students cannot choose the same topic.) In case of any dispute regarding this issue, a “first-come, first served” rule will be applied. More information about the requirements of this paper will be provided during the semester. Your research paper is due no later than November 27th at 6:00pm.

Guidelines for Literature Review: Graduate students will be expected to complete an additional assignment. This exercise will consist of a brief literature review for a comparative research paper focusing on the unique characteristics of philanthropy within the United States context as opposed to the international context. The first three pages will trace the aggregate findings and research in the field and coherently report it. The fourth page will lay out the outline of the proposed research paper, and the remaining pages will be a list of citations used in the literature review. Your Literature Review is due no later than December 4th at 6pm.

Class Schedule

Week of Aug 17	Course Overview
Week of August 24	Voluntary Action for Public Good Payton, Ch. 1-2 Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of August 31	Filling a Need Payton, Ch. 3 Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of September 7	Improving the World Payton, Ch.4 Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of September 14	Social History of Nonprofits Payton, Ch.5 Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of September 21	History and Scope Powell, Section 1 Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of September 28	Philanthropy and Democracy Payton, Ch.6 Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of October 5	Mid-Term
Week of October 12	Nonprofits and the Marketplace Powell, Section 2 Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of October 19	Nonprofits and Polity Powell, Section 3 Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of October 26	Key Activities of Nonprofits Powell, Section 4 Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of November 2	Participants Powell, Section 5 Selected Readings on Moodle

Week of November 9	Mission and Governance Powell, Section 6 Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of November 16	The Future of the Nonprofit Sector Selected Readings on Moodle Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of November 23	Nonprofits in New Orleans Selected Readings on Moodle Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of November 30	International Philanthropy Selected Readings on Moodle Selected Readings on Moodle
Week of December 7	Final Exam